



HORTICULTURE FORUM FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

The Horticulture Forum for Northern Ireland
- working together for the local horticulture industry -

What is the Horticulture Forum?

The Horticulture Forum is an umbrella organisation that provides a means of communication between all the horticulture sectors on collective horticulture issues. Members of the forum meet about four times per year depending on industry issues.

Representing the industry

Representatives from all the key edible and amenity horticulture organisations participate on the Horticulture Forum. Organisations represented include the Association of Landscape Contractors (ALCI), Growers NI, UFU Vegetable Committee, NI Fruit Growers Association (NIFGA), Fruit Industry Federation (FIF), Northern Ireland Flowers and Foliage Association (NIFFA), Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) and Lantra. The mushroom sector is also represented. The forum chairman is selected from one of the participating organisations. Secretarial support is provided by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).

Background to the Horticulture Forum

The Horticulture Forum for Northern Ireland was established in 2005 following a recommendation within the *DARD Strategic Review of the Northern Ireland Commercial Horticulture Sector* carried out by PricewaterhouseCoopers in 2002.

The review recommended the creation of a small and dedicated horticulture representative body to focus on the needs of the entire industry and create a stronger lobbying body for horticulture with local government.



Department of

**Agriculture and
Rural Development**

www.dardni.gov.uk

AN ROINN

**Talmhaíochta agus
Forbartha Tuaithe**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Fairms an
Kintra Fordèrin**



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**



Over the last number of years the Horticulture Forum has been involved in a number of key issues impacting on the horticulture industry. A few examples include:

- Participating in the Supply Chain Development Programme leading to the production of the *Review and Strategic Priorities for the Development of the Horticulture Industry in Northern Ireland* document.
- Developing a closer working relationship between the Horticulture Development Company (HDC) in GB and the horticulture industry in Northern Ireland.
- Providing horticulture input to the current Agri-Food Strategy Board.
- Presenting the case for horticulture to the NI Assembly Environment Committee on the Goods Vehicle (Licensing of Operators) legislation.
- Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development on a number of occasions to address industry issues.

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Horticulture Forum contact the secretary, Elaine Chapman, on 028 9052 4236, email: elaine.chapman@dardni.gov.uk.

