

From the Office of the Minister
Michelle O'Neill MLA



Department of
**Agriculture and
Rural Development**

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AN ROINN

**Talmhaíochta agus
Forbartha Tuaithe**

MÁINWYSTRIE O

**Fairms an
Kintra Fordèrin**

John Martin
Secretariat of the 'High
Nature Value Farming Coalition'
c/o RSPBNI HQ
Belvoir Park Forest
Belfast
BT8 7QT

Room 438
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Ballymiscaw
Belfast BT4 3SB
Telephone: 028 9052 4140
Fax: 028 9052 4170
Email: private.office@dardni.gov.uk

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John, a chara

Thank you for your letter of 31 May 2013, in which you request a meeting to discuss support for High Nature Value farming systems.

I am aware that my officials are engaging with stakeholders on CAP reform and proposals for the next Rural Development Programme, and that they recognise the importance of HNV farming systems.

I know that my officials attended a farm visit in Fermanagh in April which was hosted by the RSPB. I understand that they found that event useful and informative and that issues associated with HNV farming were discussed.

I am also aware that some members of the HNVFC have provided information to my Department in relation to HNV farming systems.

While I am not going to take up your kind offer of a meeting, I know that my officials will continue to engage with you as CAP reform progresses and schemes for the next Rural Development Programme are developed.

Is mise le meas

MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

If you have a hearing difficulty you can contact
the Department via the textphone on 028 9052 4420

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