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Minister for Finance, Local Government
and Communities

DP 340 / 99-03

All Assembly Members

3 April 2003

Following my motion on Tuesday 25 March to make changes to Main Expenditure Groups (MEG) for the 2002-03 financial year, I promised to provide a detailed note, about the transfers relating to the Agriculture and Rural Development MEG, and place a copy in the Library.

The details relating to the 2002-03 provision of the Agriculture and Rural Development Main Expenditure Group, are as follows:

	£ million	Notes
Initial MEG provision	238.635	1
MEG to MEG transfers	-1.151	2
<i>Sub total</i>	<i>237.484</i>	
End-Year Flexibility provision	+5.520	3
<i>Sub total</i>	<i>243.004</i>	
Annually Managed Expenditure provision	+16.675	4
Revised MEG provision	259.679	

Notes

1. The provision agreed by the Assembly, following an in-year motion proposed by the Finance Minister on 17 December 2002.
2. This sum is made up of the following 2 transfers:
 - ◆ £0.800 million to the Environment, Planning and Transport MEG to cover the cost of the Environment Agency's work with freshwater and salmon fisheries; and
 - ◆ £0.351 million to the Central Administration MEG to cover the cost of the staff working for the Farming and Rural Conservation Agency.
3. This additional provision is to cover the cost of compensation to farmers whose cattle are slaughtered following the incidence of TB.
4. This reflects the latest estimate of spend on market support and agri-environmental schemes. This additional provision has been funded by the Treasury.

David Ian Jones also raised the transfer of £1.38 million between the budgets within the Agriculture and Rural Development Main Expenditure Group. I