#### Cases of variant confirmed in NI

The Department of Health has been notified by the Public Health Agency of seven confirmed cases of the VUI B.1.617.2 (India) Coronavirus variant in Northern Ireland.

#### £4.6million DAERA rural development success across Mid and East Antrim

Rural Affairs Edwin Poots has visited the Mid and East Antrim area where £4.6million has been invested in projects that support rural businesses, communities and villages and have created 63 jobs.

## Poots announces £270,000 investment in the future of farming

Agriculture Minister, Edwin Poots, MLA has announced a £270,000 grant to provide agricultural-related education/training, personal development and rural development promotion among young people.

### Update on payment recognition scheme for HSC staff

Department of Health is currently finalising the recognition payment scheme for HSC staff. As soon as further information is available, it will be immediately published by the Department of Health.

# Finance Minister visits Usel following award of social value contract

Finance Minister, Conor Murphy has visited Usel which has been successful in being awarded one of the first tender opportunities reserved for organisations whose main aim is supporting disabled and disadvantaged people in the workforce.