### <u>Statement from Health Minister on</u> <u>COVID-19 response</u>

The letter clarifies that childcare – both day care and childminding – will continue in Northern Ireland to meet the needs of parents who are key workers and vulnerable children.

### DAERA introduces new measures across forests and country parks in response to Covid-19

DAERA Minister Edwin Poots MLA has temporarily closed some public-facing facilities at DAERA-owned forests, country parks, nature reserves and fisheries offices until the end of May 2020.

# <u>CAFRE ceases face-to-face delivery of</u> <u>all education programmes</u>

DAERA Minister Edwin Poots has announced that the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (CAFRE) is ceasing face-to-face delivery of all education programmes as part of the broader effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

#### EFS agreements must be accepted by 27 March 2019

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has urged farm businesses to accept their Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) agreement online by 27 March 2019 in light of the reduction in face-to-face meetings at

# DAERA Minister puts measures in place to protect citizens and maintain delivery of support and advice

Agriculture Minister Edwin Poots has put measures in place to protect citizens and staff by reducing the public facing services offered by DAERA Direct Offices.