

## Minister Muir sets out proposals for future of Environmental Governance in NI

DAERA Minister Andrew Muir is seeking agreement for the establishment of an independent Environmental Protection Agency in Northern Ireland following publication of expert independent panel report.

---

## O'Dowd announces new procurement guidelines to cut bureaucracy and save money

Finance Minister John O'Dowd has announced updated guidelines to simplify arrangements for grant recipients.

---

## Department for the Economy 2024–25 Accounts

Permanent Secretary at the Department for the Economy, Ian Snowden, has commented on the 2024–25 Group Annual Report and Accounts, which were laid in the Assembly today.

---

## Lyons: Memorandum of Understanding with the US cements unique relationship with Northern Ireland

Communities Minister Gordon Lyons has signed a historic Memorandum of

Understanding with the US Semiquincentennial Commission at the Ulster American Folk Park.

The document was signed by Minister Gordon Lyons and America250 Commissioner Joe Crowley and will ensure that Northern Ireland is the first nation to receive special status in recognition of its unique contribution to the foundation of the United States of America.

---

## [Archibald visits high-tech learning spaces at Ulster University Derry~Londonderry](#)

Economy Minister Dr. Caoimhe Archibald today visited the new teaching and learning spaces in Timber Quay at Ulster University Derry~Londonderry.