

# Farmer convicted at Strabane Magistrates' Court

Alistair Thompson (54), Ballee Road, Artigarvan, Strabane, Co Tyrone was convicted today at Strabane Magistrates' Court for an offence under Article 7(1)(a) of the Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 as amended.

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# Asylum seekers should be to be able to work while application is being decided, say Greens

20 August 2025 / 20 August 2025 by [Green Party](#)

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"This is where the legacy of 14 years of Conservative government has led us. They allowed a massive backlog of asylum claims which has resulted in local hotels being used for accommodation.

"The Green Party embraces the right to claim asylum, in any country, as set out in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. And we need a fast and fair process to assess asylum applications.

"It is inhumane, as well as costly to UK tax payers, to have to wait years for a decision.

"The UK Government quite rightly created safe and legal routes for people fleeing Ukraine. They need to offer the same to others seeking safety from similarly dangerous situations.

"We also want to see those seeking asylum and protection to be allowed to work while their application is being decided. That's the way to get them out of hotels and able to look after themselves and contributing to local communities."

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## Kimmins welcomes £3.6m investment in Bellaghy’s wastewater system

Infrastructure Minister Liz Kimmins has announced that NI Water would be taking forward a £3.6m investment programme of works on the wastewater network in the Bellaghy catchment during a visit to the area.

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## **0'Dowd appoints members to the Board of the Utility Regulator**

Finance Minister John 0'Dowd has appointed two new members to the Board of the Utility Regulator.