

- (10) The Commission shall consider all the information available, taking particular account of its specific policy on apportionments. If it is satisfied there is sufficient information available to allow it to decide on the application and:
- (a) if the Commission is satisfied that the application should be granted, and no valid submissions have been received, it may grant the application.
 - (b) where the Commission is not satisfied that the application should be granted, or where valid submissions have been submitted to the Commission and not withdrawn, prior to deciding the application –
 - (i) The Commission shall serve copies of any additional information or further evidence obtained by the Commission including, where applicable, the SGRPID report (along with the application form) on the applicant and other interested parties, and will allow them the opportunity to comment on this additional information or further evidence within 21 days. This is not however, an opportunity for parties to submit new objections or to raise substantive new issues.
 - (ii) Any comments received and accepted by the Commission will be taken into consideration by the Commission when deciding on the application.
 - (iii) the Commission may direct that a site inspection and meeting with the applicant, shareholders and owner of the grazings¹ is held before deciding on the application and shall consider any new information obtained at the inspection and meeting.
- (11) The decision on the apportionment application) will be taken at the appropriate level as set out in the Commission's Instrument of Delegation. It must decide the application by: –
- (i) granting it² (this may be the area applied for or a modified area as agreed with the applicant);

¹ For further information please see separate Rules of Procedure on *Hearings and the Opportunity To Be Heard Following Representations*.

² The granting of an apportionment application will be in the form of an offer of apportionment.

