Examination Period 3: 2017/18

LEM300218N

Module Title: Rural Development Policy and Practices
Level: Six
Time Allowed: Three hours

Instructions to candidates:
- Enter your student number not your name on all answer books.
- Answer Section A and two questions from Section B.
- Begin each question on a separate page; label each page clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- Neither books nor notes may be taken into the examination.

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Section A

Answer the compulsory question in Section A.

1. Countryside Stewardship has been reviewed and streamlined into four offers. Critically evaluate how these four new offers, along with Mid and Higher tier offers complement each other and support the Government responsibility of integrating farming with the environment.

   (40 marks)

Section B

Answer two out of three questions in Section B.

2. BREXIT: a threat or an opportunity for the British countryside and rural sector? For decades rural policy in Britain has focused on subsidising farmers, but with BREXIT the British government will need to decide between recreating these subsidies, or allowing market forces to drive the sector.

   Produce and critically evaluate a SWOT analysis for rural Britain post-BREXIT.

   (30 marks)

3. The Farm Power Project’s vision for 2020 is that UK farms and rural communities will be making a significant contribution to a resilient, low-carbon energy system.

   Evaluate the mechanisms and subsidy support that is available to farms to invest in renewable energies.

   (30 marks)
4. The LEADER (Liaison among Actors in Rural Economic Development) pillar two rural development scheme aims to provide funding for rural businesses and farmers wishing to diversify their enterprises. The Local Action Group (LAG) for North and West Northamptonshire supports the following six priorities:

- Increase farm productivity
- Micro and small businesses (non-agricultural) and farm diversification
- Rural tourism
- Rural services
- Cultural and heritage activity
- Increasing forestry productivity

Evaluate each of these priority themes and whether they meet LEADER expectations within the local area and how LEADER funding can build resilience for rural businesses.

(30 marks)

Total: 100 marks