



Finance Working Group – Meeting 7
20th January 2022
14:00-16:00
Virtual Meeting

Attendees

Chairs:

Gerry Kiely, Chair TB Finance Working Group, Michael Cronin, Chair TB Stakeholder Forum;

Farming Organisations:

Lorcan McCabe, ICMSA; Paul Smyth, ICMSA; Hugh Farrell, ICSA; Eddie Punch, ICSA; TJ Maher, IFA; Tomás Bourke, IFA, John Keane, MACRA

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine:

Trish Reilly, Conor O'Mahony, Aishling Cronin, Sharon Walshe

Minutes

Item	Minutes
Grant Thornton OFMV Review – DAFM update on recommendations	<p>The Department presented an update on the following recommendations:</p> <p>Recommendation 1 There is no GDPR issue, in fact GDPR creates an onus on PVPs to do so if requested by the herdowners. The Department will put an item in the next PVP newsletter to remind/inform them of this.</p> <p>Recommendation 2 The V8 & ER26X are now accessible online and can be submitted digitally.</p> <p>Recommendations 4 & 8 The recommendations have been progressed through the Technical Group Report.</p> <p>Recommendation 6 A new Mart App has been developed and is in its final stages of testing at Marts and it is aimed to launch in the coming weeks. Data will continue to be captured by Department staff, but now electronically through a tablet and uploaded to its servers for analysis and calculation of market prices.</p> <p>Recommendation 11 The Department noted that a number of new policies have been discussed at the TB Forum and its implementation working group, including: Provision for cattle to be purchased under permit into restricted herds without having to undergo one clear herd test first once a risk mitigation plan is implemented. This new policy enables the business of farming to continue while controlling the TB risk</p> <p>Introduction of new software to improve the service and response to restricted herdowners making contact with RVOs</p> <p>The rolling out of TB Targeted Advisory Service on Animal Health visits by Animal Health Ireland, whereby DAFM pays for the herdowner's own vet to visit the farm and provide practical TB biosecurity advice</p>

<p>Technical Working Group Submission</p> <p>Further discussion on estimated cost of proposed changes to the TB programme</p>	<p>Recommendation 12 & 13 Work is ongoing as part of the Implementation Working Group and Communications subgroup</p> <p>Farming body comments: Concern was expressed at the Mart App referred to under Recommendation 6</p> <p>DAFM comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertook to send on the information that will be used in the App • Confirmed information put on the app is no different to current information sent from SAOs in the marts to the Dept. and emphasised that it doesn't change the current information captured from Marts to the Department <p>Members of the Finance Group were circulated with the Technical Group Submission in October 2021, a document agreed by members of that Group. A work plan of future meetings was also circulated at that time. The Department presented the recommendations of the Submission.</p> <p>Farming body comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queried the order of the work plan and requested that sufficient time be allocated to discussing Commercial animals as a large proportion of time in the Technical Working Group to date was centred around the quality scoring of Pedigree and Elite animals. <p>DAFM comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the pedigrees is very much led by members • Will amend workplan to take comments into account • Welcomed the agreement to continue with the Technical Group and noted that the Report is a success of the overall Financial Working Group <p>Discussion continued on from meeting 6 with regard to the original funding option circulated and also the alternative option circulated after the last meeting which proposed levies based on the cost of compensation, research and wildlife only.</p> <p>Farming body comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stated that test costings were nearer to €27m than €41m • Have to look at broader costs of the scheme to the farmer • Percentage of overall exchequer expenditure that is spent on the TB programme has reduced due to spend on the Covid19 pandemic • Need to understand what TB programme will look like in 5 – 10 years in terms of costing and testing before funding can be agreed, sought breakdown at lower level of overall costs of TB Programme • Need to see what other beneficiaries are paying • Need to update costings based on IWG recommendations <p>DAFM comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can look at providing breakdown/costings at lower level, asked that farming bodies can give queries on costings to Aishling Cronin in order to provide information required <p>Chair comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be useful to seek Ministers view on funding
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