



Finance Working Group – Meeting 11
12th May 2022
11:00 – 13:00
Virtual Meeting

Attendees

Chairs:

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

Farming Organisations:

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

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine:

Conor O'Mahony, Aishling Cronin, Gemma O'Malley

Apologies:

Hugh Farrell, ICSA; Lorcan McCabe, ICMSA, Patricia Reilly; DAFM

Minutes

Item	Minutes
TB Programme Funding	<p>The minutes for previous meeting were agreed. An Inconclusives document was circulated prior to the meeting for information purposes, not for discussion.</p> <p>The Department presented a recap on the TB Funding Programme. The cost of proposed policies included Income Supplement, Depopulation Scheme and Hardship Grant. It was proposed to introduce a cap on compensation payable for very large herds i.e. multiples of a hundred. DAFM sought</p> <p>(a) feelings/thoughts on the proposed cap? (b) an appropriate cap limit?</p> <p>Also discussed was Date of Restriction Vs Date of Removal</p> <p>Farming body comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concern over how the Herdowner is going to be supported• Open to careful discussion on this topic• Stressed that the numbers defined as very large herds is important• Requested that rates and eligibility of payments are discussed• Not replacing like for like, would like something to reflect this.• Funding model to be reassessed• Concern was expressed re Date of Restriction Vs Date of Removal, Enhancement to IS scheme was sought by IFA <p>DAFM comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very large herds deemed higher risk• DAFM is not excluding herds; DAFM proposes to apply a ceiling, no different to other eligibility or ceiling criteria. It is DAFMs proposal to cap where no further compensation is payable• In every eventuality the right thing will be done but it cannot be ignored that the budget will suffer• Possible saving of €420,000 annually

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At present, no room to move on rates and eligibility. Principle payment to cease when production loss is replaced• With regards to like for like, to match every animal 3, 4 lactation is difficult to do. Better genetic merit; exact replica hence animal for animal• The proposed cap would be across all compensation schemes• DAFM to request figures from Teagasc regarding costing for Hardship Grant (not to be depicted as full picture as not an accurate calculation) |
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Chair comment

- Is insurance against TB losses available
- Matter at hand is to look at different elements of programme to improve and then how are they going to be financed
- Rates are a separate issue.
- Financing of TB Programme to be addressed at next meeting
- Date for next meeting 9th June 2022