



Meeting: Bovine TB Stakeholder Forum's Implementation Working Group (IWG) – Meeting 24.

Date: 07 February 2023

Time: 11:00 – 13:00

Location: Online Meeting.

Purpose: The stated purpose of the IWG is to consider the details and modalities for the policies set out in the bTB strategy.

Attendees

Chair:

Sean Brady

Organisations:

Des Morrison, ICMSA; Hugh Farrell, John Barron, ICSA; Ray Doyle, James O'Donnell, ICOS; TJ Maher, Tomas Bourke IFA; James Lynch, David Graham, Animal Health Ireland; Kevin Twomey, Farmer, Padraic Fogarty, Irish Wildlife Trust, Pat Neville Coillte; Kate O Dwyer Veterinary Ireland; Fiona Tyrrell, INHFA, John Keane, Macra.

Chair of TB Forum: Michael Cronin

Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM):

Damien Barrett, Conor O Mahony, Rosanne Greene, Aishling Cronin, David J Quinn, Karina Wrigley.

Bovine TB Forum Secretariat:

Donal Mooney, Anthony Stringer.

Apologies: Nil Received

Minutes

Item	Minutes
Introduction by Chair	The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and thanked everyone for their time and contribution.
Minutes of last meeting	Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. The Chair listed and discussed the action points from the last meeting.
Disease Trends	The Department presented current disease trends. The Targeted Advisory Service on Animal Health (TASAH) has been approved for five hundred herds not in a breakdown. Progress on targets for 2022 were also provided. See the presentation.
Communications	The Department gave an update on communications since the last meeting. See the presentation. The most recent communications subgroup meeting highlighted the very low uptake of the online V8 form. Reactor removal times have been on target, however, the Department asked to be emailed at Erad@agriculture.gov.ie about specific cases where it has been delayed.

Wildlife Programme	The Department presented an update on the wildlife programme. The update focused on staffing resources. See the presentation.
Risk Mitigation Plans	The Department presented proposed updates to the Risk Mitigation Plan policy. These proposals were originally circulated in July 2022. The proposed policy changes were outlined along with possible next steps. The proposed changes will be circulated again to members for suggestions.
Any other Business	The next TB Forum Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 28 th February at 10.30am. Next IWG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7 th March at 11am.

Action Points

1	Michael Cronin Chairman TB Forum is to write to the Minister to raise the issue of AI stations promoting the use of TB resistant bulls.
2	DAFM to set targets for 2023 on WGS, badger capture and PVP supervisions.
3	DAFM to provide a breakdown of the total number of wildlife TAOs per county.
4	Analysis of reactor removal timeframes to be reviewed by Finance Working Group.