



Meeting: Bovine TB Stakeholder Forum's Implementation Working Group (IWG) – Meeting 27.

Date: 02 May 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:

Kevin Twomey, Farmer; Des Morrison, Paul Smyth, ICMSA; Hugh Farrell, John Barron, ICSA; James O'Donnell, Ray Doyle, ICOS; James Lynch Animal Health Ireland; Tomás Bourke, Anna Daly IFA.

Chair of TB Forum: Michael Cronin

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

Damien Barrett, Conor O Mahony, Rosanne Greene, Yvonne McRedmond (Mayo RVO)

Bovine TB Forum Secretariat:

James O'Keeffe; Donal Mooney, Anthony Stringer, Mary Hynes.

Apologies: Niall Feery NPWS

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. Reactor numbers and herd incidence have increased in comparison to last year. An overview of the public consultation on the management of deer was provided. Farming organisations thanked the IWG and the Chair for bringing the suggestion of reconvening a forum for deer management to the Minister.
Communications	The Department presented current Communications since the last IWG meeting. The next communications subgroup meeting will take place on 16 May 2023.
Animal Health Law Implementation	The Department gave a presentation on the progress of the implemented European Animal Health Law (AHL). The AHL has been in effect since the 1 st February 2023. Discussion and question and answers followed.

RVO Presentation	Yvonne McRedmond, Superintending Veterinary Inspector, Mayo RVO, gave a presentation on a case study of a TB cluster breakdown involving four herds. The case study focused on residual infection, quality of testing, contiguous testing and animal movements. The recommendation was to encourage the farmer to insist on good quality testing.
Any Other Business	The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6 th June at 11 AM

Action Points

1	DAFM to provide timeframes involved for reporting of TB Skin Tests.
2	DAFM to provide a detailed breakdown of figures per county on Badger Setts, Capture and Vaccination.
3	DAFM to check since introduction of AHL if the number of Private tests (other than for export) before animal movement has increased.