



**Meeting:** TB Stakeholders Forum: Implementation Working Group (IWG) – Meeting 32.

**Date:** 31 October 2023

**Time:** 16:00 – 18:00

**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

**Chair of TB Forum:** Michael Cronin

### **Organisations:**

John Joe Fitzgerald, INHFA; Hugh Farrell, John Barron ICSA; Des Morrison, Paul Smyth, ICMSA; Tomas Bourke, TJ Farrell IFA; Ray Doyle, Vivian Buttimer ICOS; David Graham, AHI; Kevin Twomey, Farmer; Joe Patton, Teagasc; Hazel Mullins, Veterinary Ireland.

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

Damien Barrett, Conor O Mahony, James O’Keeffe.

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

David Quinn, Aishling Cronin.

### **Bovine TB Forum Secretariat:**

Donal Mooney, Anthony Stringer, Mary Hynes.

**Apologies:** Rosanne Greene

### **Minutes**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b>Introduction by Chair</b>	The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and thanked everyone for their time and contribution.
<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	Minutes of meeting thirty-one were agreed. The Chair discussed the action points from the last meeting.
<b>Communications Update</b>	The Department gave an update on the programme’s communications since the last meeting. Please see circulated presentation.
<b>High and Low Risk Herds Policy Update</b>	The Department presented information and data on the High and Low Risk Herds policy. Discussion followed. Farm organisations asked that the position on wildlife programme needs to be fully clarified in respect of this policy. Policy around relapse herds needs to be examined in greater detail so it is clearly defined

	when they are no longer considered a relapse herd. Meeting agreed further discussion and clarity required on this policy.
<b>Whole Genome Case Study</b>	The Department presented a WGS case study around three Cavan herds. Discussion followed. Our WGS database needs to continually grow. WGS be of major benefit to assist with TB situation in relapse herds and therefore needs to be prioritised. Queried if DNA analysis can be used to assist in identifying source of the problem.
<b>Any other business</b>	None
<b>Date of next meeting</b>	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023, 14.30.

#### Action Points

1	IWG group request a Ministerial reply to be provided to Chair, Sean Brady's letter to Minister re wildlife resources.
2	Copy of Chair, Sean Brady's letter to Minister re wildlife resources to be circulated to IWG group again.
3	DAFM circulate two new video links re Preparing for your Annual TB test and TB Training for Veterinary Practitioners.
4	DAFM to provide for next meeting detail around notification of badger setts.