

1.1 Library of Technical Notes – An A to Z library of technical notes for key diseases would be made available online and as hard copy documents, available through local vets or advisors. Farmed animal health and welfare topics covering cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, game birds, deer, camelids and goats would be included.

Link or share info from: Nadis website (online bulletins), disease bulletins, for all sectors. Cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, dairy co. website, dairy, NMR, CIS, Defra- exotic disease, IGO benchmarking data.

Key issues are to signpost websites, vet or check newsletters, deliver face to face- specific visit by vet/consultant, one to one or small group training with vet.

Information already widely available – internet, vets, Defra, NE, Kingshay, Milklink, Levy bodies. If any expenditure on this it should be minimal, 1% of £12m.

Already libraries in existence- Nadis and Eblex but they need signposting. Why a south West library for a national? Duplication. Nadis information available but rarely used. It could be useful in Mole Valley but there could be a lot of wastage with printing.

We see the main note as 'signposting' to all the already available information eg Eblex, Dairy Co. etc. Also make full use of SW Reg as a signposting service. Be careful not to duplicate – the issue is how to get the information out there.

Welcomed but...The source needs to be clearly identified, careful to avoid commercial advantage by (eg drug companies), use to build bridges between vet and farmer, don't dumb down ie identify audience.

Already available. Needs to be more accessible. Needs economic justification as to cost saved. As a result of action. Weather proofers/lamination etc, would make materials more effective EG Dairy Co.'s could lead the initiative. Needs illustration.

Not sure if it should be just SW. Not a high % of farmers online. Subsidiary to other options – part 2 and 3. Should not take a huge amount of money, information already out there.

Info. Already exists but needs pooling /review. Online and hard copy needed for major issues and for the A-Z diseases. Must be linked with other packages and relevant. Must be updated. £100k max.

Has to be at the right pitch. Most already there – no need for more. Communicate delivery – papers and magazines eg Farmers Weekly, Vet newsletters. Problem is not the information, it is delivering it. Case studies may be useful: but how do you incentivise farms to be open about disease.

Duplication – Eblex, Dairy Co. Information already available. Low on list of priorities. Farmers will only look if they have a problem. 'preaching to converted'.

Is this repeating what is already out there? Defra, Farmers Weekly, Vet Companies. Instead of re-doing work already out there link website to those places where this information is already available.

Could also include general advice on timing/dose rate/suitability of drugs for various purposes. Does it imply a copy of Black's Vet Directory? Useful to have online, hard copies get quickly out of date and are expensive to produce. Online easier to update. Funding after SWHLI? List of drenches by active ingredient.

Signposting index- most up to date information.

Information from Nadis available and other systems eg Myhealthyherd.com, VLA, NADIS, RBS Duchy College. Needs to be sustainable online system but printable and updated regularly. Printable for those without access to internet.

Fantastic Idea- already done to some extent through Nadis, look at and develop, need to ensure farmers have access and are aware, Eblex doing something, need to bring it all together like confused.com

Good Idea. Keep in simple, basic form. Easily understood by the layman. Clear illustrations. Freely available to farmers and stockmen.

What exists- NADIS, VLA reports, BPEX A4P Health (BPHS), the pig site. These are online already. Signpost from the SWHLI website.

Library is an excellent idea. Suggest a page per disease-giving symptoms, treatment, management, seasons etc. Farming community involved in compilation to ensure easily understood and user friendly. Displays of info at markets, retail outlets (eg Mole Valley Farmers), vet newsletters.

Good idea, but who will compile it and keep it current? A lot of these materials/information is already available and people would need to find the gaps or the professional organisation that can give more detailed advice. Project 'wikivet' (Steven van Winden) evolves over time. Discussion forum for farmers to contribute their own experiences. May cause animal health hypochondria and self diagnosis- would it cut out the vet role. Must be peer/expert reviewed.

Already available elsewhere. If funds allow a nice to have note must to have. Online links to existing info could be set up.

National should be on database. Information already available – google it or ask a vet. Don't need a separate data base for SW. Think the danger is that this fund will set up another department to administer this project/fund. Hard earned knowledge on individual farms- don't necessarily want to pass onto competitors.

Resource already available? Better signposting to existing information sources needed. Production of pictorial / photographic guidance to early signs of disease/good health. Cross reference with points 1.2 and 1.3. Concerns that there is too much reliance / assumption about no's of people able to have access to internet. Hard copy ie posters/booklets would be helpful.

Eblex and NFU provide up to date technical information. And NBA weekly newsletter- online. Hard copy expensive to produce. Not good value for money.

1.2 Forecast and early warning system - this can provide reasonably accurate predictions of parasite burdens from weather data. For example, this year remains a high risk of liver fluke disease, given the potential levels of rainfall and evaporation and estimated ground moisture.

Parasite Bulletins – via nadis

Use national and local farming press-needs to be timely/seasonal. Feedback from abattoirs – subclinical disease- Jaspers abattoir, lung and liver scoring- builds history.

Signpost to existing systems eg IAH, VLA, Met office. Integrate by key diseases eg H5NI, Bluetongue, Fluke

Pump prime an organisation to establish this as a service. Legacy = a self funding forecast and early warning system.

Nadis forecasts already available but aimed at vets. Nadis are doing a good job - need for farmer summary. It is already in farming press, perhaps because they choose to feature it. Perhaps it could be a regular and formal feature. A localised forecast (more than Devon and Cornwall as current might be beneficial but distribution should still be Nadis. Or after the surf forecast after the weather!

Nadis do all of this already and disseminate to Eblex and other – so, a signposting issue again. Alternatives for those not on line: texting service (for those with mobile phones), use Duchy College to provide internet training, encourage local/village dissemination.

Avoid creating alarm/panic. Care corporate bias. Systemise means by which information is disseminated: currently hit and miss, VLA good conduit, help capacity build vet practices? One message but disseminated via multiple outlets, don't reinvent the wheel.

Already feel it is available. Needs pushing more, good thing.

Does this not already come through Dairy Co., Eblex etc. Expect to get it through vets.

Farmers should do this as health plan via vet. Vet should inform clients as a service – email/text etc. Practice should be proactive. Nadis-not known. Implement a KT system to aid transfer rather than spread on more info.

Systems already exist: do not need more. Do farmers change their behaviour as result of forecasts? – probably yes. Information needs distribution to those that need to know. Emerging probably most important to detect and publicise.

Proactive service would be of value. Bridging the gap between the forecaster and the intended recipient is a priority but how to get through is the question.

Think this would work well online with a traffic light warning system. County related as SW is a large area.

Very useful. Needed. Must not be associated as produced by pharmaceutical companies. Ie reliable and trusted source.

Already available? From Nadis and Defra. Updated and published monthly and available on internet.

Make more regionally specific, would like to introduce monitor farms back into forecasting, parasite forecasting linked to promotion of scops, feed back from abattoirs.

This is a good idea. The science is in place but it needs to be much better publicised. Farmers attention must be drawn to this info. Notification could be via newspapers – Western morning News on Wednesdays and Saturdays and the Western Daily Press on Tuesdays and Saturdays. South West weather forecasts on spotlight could usefully link weather to disease risk. Eg rainfall, wind direction etc and potential consequences for livestock.

How can pig forecasts be uploaded to the SWHLI website from Nadis?

This is a must. Use local newspapers, local radio, NFU magazine, vet newsletters. Measures to take- who to consult, specified actions.

Already have NADis – don't reinvent the wheel. Also, difficult to predict as the landscape changes so quickly (eg midges).

Believe already available from Nadis and Eblex therefore need to link to this.

Early warning system already done appears in Farmers Weekly. Government is looking for a route out. Early warning system for fluke for example not helpful as drench anyway. General comment that this duplication of existing systems.

For poultry sector already exists ie BPC- Bird flu notification via text message. Generally felt unnecessary to develop because of information available via Nadis etc etc.

Use channels already in place.

	<p>VLA – Very limited – but receive huge budget via Defra. Sentinel practices – nadis. Regional Fallen Stock survey involving knackers, hunt kennels, NFLSC.</p> <p>Vital to measure in order to manage especially the key disease....TB</p> <p>Nadis and VLA surveillance needs integrating with private labs. Needs to be at a regional level. Skewed picture as vet information not farmer information. Perhaps a pilot could be tried with farmer records. Again skewed by the type of farmer likely to be involved. More sentinel farms.</p>
<p>Task 1b: are there any other services that you would like to see provided with the proposed information?</p> <p>1.3 Disease surveillance activity – this would build upon existing activity carried out by statutory organisations and work already funded by Defra. Activity would include analysis of existing data sources and identifying animal health conditions which create a significant economic impact; assisting in meeting the SWHLI objectives and measuring the success of the programme.</p>	<p>We understand Nadis are trying to do this. Gathering knowledge is expertise – but we understand more can/should be done in this area of SWHLI’s work On balance we feel a closer working relationship with the vet is imperfect. But we do need a broader view – some sort of benchmarking, my farm/region.</p> <p>Need to take stock of economically significant diseases. Go beyond Defra-centric diseases. Potential for economic analysis; database management etc being treated as CPD topic for vets. Expand vet practice participation in NADIS-support for smaller practices. <u>Must go</u> beyond infectious diseases.</p> <p>Gap in information of fertility, lameness and mastitis needs more surveillance. Opportunity for bench marking. Needs doing locally- perhaps vet practices have a role. Vet practice could pull groups of sheep/beef/dairy/farmers record disease, visit each other and progress. Information can be anonymous.</p> <p>Production orientated stats would be useful. Don’t reinvent, make it clear, next generation will be more collaborative.</p> <p>Surveillance needed to determine issues. On farm disease bench marking? Evidence base to inform rest of programme. Cost/benefit analysis?</p> <p>Interlinked with 1.2. Make best use of all available information out there. Abattoir information vital in surveillance: an underused resource. Long term vision of interlinked databases to make best use of the information: advent of EID will bring opportunities of data recording.</p> <p>Information available already – need to point towards where to find it.</p> <p>This is an important area as understanding the prevalence is important. Questioning the cost of this. How will the information be collected and in turn passed on to the farmer.</p> <p>TB assessment (NB disease levels in wildlife in area). SWHLI pay for assessment. Applicable to other diseases eg Bluetongue. Concerns over expense. Need for endemic disease surveillance. So no want to relieve Defra of their responsibilities.</p> <p>Vets to be paid to supply regular updates to ventral source for disease surveillance (expansion of Nadis scheme). Sub regional project in Cornwall – link all 16 large animal vet practices as a pilot/for the region. Challenges in certain sectors- poultry/dairy/pigs- should be ok(other potential problem). Economic data collection and dissemination from FBS data Defra.</p> <p>Use eg SWHLI website to bring together site ie portal/hub. Use representative sentinel farms.</p> <p>Better information from abattoirs and Eblex on disease issues discovered in carcasses eg Fluke worms etc. Feed back to farmer supplying that carcas. Notify farmers in the local area in eg Eblex bulleting/local press.</p> <p>BPHS, ZNCP and VLA are current surveillance activity. Encourage these to improve by encouraging membership of BPHS and vets into NADis. BPHS averages/ trends SWHLI counties. Disease mapping(PRRS, dysentery, EP, APP), SWHLI needs to address client confidentiality with this.Small holders.</p> <p>Good in principle. What sources. Need resource to collate. Is new surveillance envisaged. How does this relate to new diseases?</p> <p>Baseline information is very important and follow up after the project ends. Can link 1.3 with 1.2. Confidentiality issues – can you incentivise farmers to have PMs done on fallen stock. Reliability of existing data sources needs checking. Useful to have surveillance that identified and highlighted disease free areas- and made the connection with High Welfare Schemes etc. Information fed back from slaughter/MHS inspections – eg New Zealand, Holland.</p> <p>Definitely needed. Need for more surveillance activity- needs to be put online for ease of communication. Farmers need ot know what diseases are about to take appropriate action.</p> <p>Seems crazy that the SW set up a system and other areas set up a system. A national body needs to do it. Surveillance of TB in badgers in the SW.</p> <p>Poultry – because of integration set up have satisfactory system of notification.</p> <p>Better use of BCMS to collect data on farm deaths by box tick data eg old age, calving problems etc. Important to collate, especially non notifiable diseases we consider this the best use of resources.</p>

<p>Additional service that could be incorporated in - Information</p>	<p>Why this is being proposed</p>
<p>Animal Management data Integrated Farm Management Vets/adviser to be more instrumental in getting information and messages across. Interpretation of diagnostic results, and proper use of surveillance knowledge. Signposting information. Promotion of where to find information. Look at ways to target next generation. Farmer Workshop Should be a colour coded system for worm drenches, fluke Etc Better signposting of existing services in a language/format that can be readily understood by producers. Use conduits of information already available. Wanting information when required not through others with vested interest.</p>	<p>Equipment to collect individual animal data, weighcrush, handling facilities, identification (electronic). Legacy = better breeding information, performance, health monitoring – more profit. EG Business Link signposting (advisor makes initial assessment and directs liaison with other advisors). Plenty of surveillance data is not properly used. Rather than re-doing what is already out there. Use eg farmers weekly to promote SWHLI and where to find information. Provide promotional material. Concern that this will be preaching/reaching the converted. How do we reach those who don't have computers/don't take magazines etc. Knowledge transfer to promote best practice. Prevention of duplication. Better allocation of funds-strategic approach.</p>
<p>How is it going to be done as a lot of money could be wasted on the media. Smaller farmers are often lacking. It's not the innovators that needs addressing. However, some argument for targeting big farms and leading farmers. A lot of what is needed is already available. Delivery is the weakness. Vet practices have a big role. Dairy co., adviser, Breed Societies have a role to play. Gather everything together on one easily accessible website. Draw up good index. Training activity Example of zoonotic diseases- campylobacter/toxoplasmosis. Feedback of information to farmers from surveillance programmes. Need to co-ordinate testing/recording of campylobacter and relate back to farm systems. Anonymous benchmarking system (web based) utilise existing dairy system. Look at using BCMS or NFSCo (query nadis what does it do?)</p>	<p>Understanding of scale if issue- how certain farms have improved / removed the challenge.</p>

<p>Establish NFU /Vet group to continue work after funding expires.</p>	<p>How is this going to be carried forward when public funding runs out? Whilst it is important to have a central database it will need above to disseminate this information.</p>
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