

Subject	<b>RE: Support from NE on vaccination</b>
From	Handley, Tom
To	Panesar, Anita; Nellis, Stephanie; Talling, Janet
Cc	Smith, Mike; Diamond, James; McFadzean, Jamie; Jobshare, Bosworth-Daykin
Sent	25 September 2019 14:52

Hi Anita,

I have summarised below discussions that have happened internally to help aid our meeting later this week.

Thanks,  
Tom

We met with our Chief Scientist to discuss NE's current position on badger vaccination. Some of the finer detail of these points will evolve with our conversations over the coming days and weeks.

- NE discussed the merits of a temporary pause on vaccination licensing work until early 2020. However, we want to explore this further with you as to implement a pause we will likely need instruction from Defra to do so. Perhaps there is scope to link any pause to the recent direction and lines to take, i.e. *"You will also be aware that the Environment Secretary recently decided that Derbyshire should not be licensed for badger culling this year while she considers further the relationship between culling and vaccination in the Edge Area, as part of the Government's response to the Godfray Review."*
- NE continue to advocate a large scale pilot of badger vaccination (as was our response to the Godfray review).
- NE understands there is generally limited appetite from the farming community for vaccination. However, in some parts of the country (parts of the edge area where cattle density is lower) culling under the current model is less viable so vaccination may be an option there.
- In any future policy scenario, the licensing system will need to change and this will require additional budgetary considerations.
- We will need to consider the training demands of a substantial increase in the number of required lay vaccinators. NE discussed whether experienced cage-trappers could become lay vaccinators and disseminate such training (similar to the training model used for culling).

As a team, we also explored what parts of the existing licensing process require immediate review. So far we have committed to:

- Create a definitive digital mapping layer of all existing vaccination sites –working towards completing this work by mid-October.
- Create a digital record of vaccination returns.
- Review the landowner consent form so it better identifies whose consent we have (the tenant's or landlord's).
- Review how and when vaccination returns are made.

We also discussed the impact on other work whilst we input into the current vaccination work led on by Defra. These are summarised below:

- Further pressure on the Data Team to deliver reporting requirements throughout operations.
- A potential delay in finalising external ORA processes, forms, timelines and internal work processes for 2020 areas.
- A change to work planned for office based LA which will create additional pressure during TBMA checks from January to April 2020.

- Additional work requests for key staff re vaccination during a busy operational period, potentially impacting on monitoring, reporting and auditing work.
- A reduction in our involvement toward forward planning for 2020 resulting in additional pressures later in the year.

**From:** Panesar, Anita

**Sent:** 25 September 2019 12:11

**To:** Nellis, Stephanie <Stephanie.Nellis@naturalengland.org.uk>; Talling, Janet <Janet.Talling@defra.gov.uk>; Handley, Tom <Tom.Handley@naturalengland.org.uk>

**Cc:** Smith, Mike <Mike.Smith@naturalengland.org.uk>; Diamond, James <James.Diamond@naturalengland.org.uk>; McFadzean, Jamie <Jamie.McFadzean@defra.gov.uk>; Jobshare, Bosworth-Daykin <bosworth-daykin.jobshare@defra.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Support from NE on vaccination

**Importance:** High

Janet,

Now that we've had our Ministerial meeting in Derbs and have some direction on how he wants to evolve some of the elements of Wildlife Control chapter of our Godfray response, please can you in line with Steph's request below organise a teleconf with NE. I will assume you will lead on this and will set the agenda accordingly given you were privy to yesterday's meeting.

Steph, where have you got to in terms of your internal discussions? It would be good to have a common understanding of NE's position ahead of the meeting if possible although I understand you may be waiting for Defra to feed into you.

Please come back to me if you have any queries.

Thanks,  
Anita.

Anita Panesar  
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