

Godfray Panel 2025 Update

Terms of Reference

Defra has commissioned the independent panel of experts who conducted the 2018 [Bovine TB Strategy Review](#) to consider whether there is any substantive new evidence or analysis that affects the conclusions made in their report. This will ensure work on a comprehensive new bovine TB strategy for England, which was announced [in August](#), benefits from the latest evidence and science.

The panel will be chaired by Professor Sir Charles Godfray FRS University of Oxford. He will be supported by Professor Glyn Hewinson CBE Aberystwyth University, Professor Sir Bernard Silverman FRS University of Oxford, Professor Michael Winter OBE University of Exeter, and Professor James Wood OBE University of Cambridge. Professor Christl Donnelly FRS, who was on the 2018 Panel, requested to be recused and her place has been taken by Sir Bernard Silverman. The panel will start in January and expect to report their findings by end June 2025.

The panel will:

- review recent evidence and analysis published since 2018 that is relevant to bTB control in England
- consider and advise on any new opportunities for improved application, enhancement or acceleration of the interventions set out in the 2018 Strategy Review
- advise on gaps in the available evidence and disease control tools.

The review will consider all the drivers for controlling disease spread as set out in the 2018 report. The focus will be on the bTB eradication strategy for England only but may include lessons learnt from the experiences of the Devolved Administrations and from the strategies deployed by other countries.

The review will take a prospective and not a retrospective view. It will not be making policy recommendations.

The panel are inviting submissions of natural and social science evidence that might not be picked up in standard literature searches. Contact bTBEngage@defra.gov.uk
Closing date 28 February 2025.

An evidence-based report detailing the findings will be submitted to the Strategy Refresh Steering Group for consideration and will be published in due course.