



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Date: July 2017

Dear Consultee

Bovine TB: Consultation on proposals to simplify surveillance testing on cattle herds in the High Risk Area of England and other disease control measures.

1. We are writing to invite your views on the proposals included in this consultation.
2. This is the latest in a series of consultation exercises aimed at introducing effective and proportionate TB control measures in cattle that will, when combined with measures to address the TB risk posed by badgers, increase the probability that the goal of national official TB freedom will be achieved by the target date of 2038. The proposals in the consultation document fall in to three broad categories:
 - Simplifying surveillance testing in the High Risk Area of England. These proposals have been developed following a [Call for Views](#) in 2016
 - Increased use of private vets to support the delivery of TB controls
 - Changes to the TB compensation system to more effectively encourage risk-reducing behaviours at the farm level.

Responses

3. We welcome your views and comments on these proposals. To submit your response, please complete the [on-line consultation questionnaire](#)

The consultation closes on **Friday 29th September 2017**

Consultation Criteria

4. This consultation is in line with the [Governments Consultation Principles](#).

Summary of responses and confidentiality

5. Every response will be read and considered by the TB policy team in Defra.
6. A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the [Government website](#). The summary will include a list of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.
7. If you require a paper copy of the summary, or have any other enquiries, please contact us by email at: BTBengage@defra.gsi.gov.uk or postal address: Cattle Measures Team Defra c/o Area 5A, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR.
8. Defra will retain copies of responses for a suitable length of time. This is so that the public can see them. Copies of responses will be made available to the public on request. This will also enable us to respond to freedom of information legislation requests.
9. If you do not want your response – including your name, contact details, and any other personal information – to be made publicly available, please say so clearly when you send your response to the consultation. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. However, because of the law, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep these details confidential. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request.
10. Thank you in advance for taking the time to consider and respond to this consultation.
11. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to the Defra Consultation Coordinator, Area 8A, 9 Millbank c/o Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR.

Cattle Measures Team

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs