

Annex A – Consultation on Defra’s Contingency Plan for Exotic Diseases of Animals

Scope of the consultation

Topic of this consultation:	Annual review of Defra’s Contingency Plan for responding to outbreaks of notifiable exotic disease of animals, consisting of the Framework Response Plan complemented by the Overview of Emergency Preparedness.
Scope of this consultation:	Views of all interested parties about the documents, and the processes it details. This consultation will not affect current policy or legislation.
Geographical scope:	England, although Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland develop similar plans which reflect and compliment these arrangements within the Devolved Administrations, and also make these available to interested parties.
Impact Assessment:	No impact assessment has been completed for this consultation, as no changes will be made to policy or legislation resulting from these amendments. This consultation is to inform stakeholders and operational partners about our response to animal disease outbreaks and our work to retain a state of preparedness.

Basic Information

To:	We invite responses from all those organisations, groups and individuals with an interest in animal health and welfare and exotic notifiable disease response.
Body/bodies responsible for the consultation:	Animal Health – Contingency Planning Division
Duration:	30 June 2009 to 21 September 2009
Enquiries:	<u>Contact:</u> Lyndsey Strang or Ray Blasco <u>Tel:</u> 020 7238 5111 (ext 5128 or 5129) <u>e:</u> AHHQ.ContingencyPlanning@animalhealth.gsi.gov.uk
How to respond:	<u>By post:</u> Animal Health Area 5C, Nobel House 17 Smith Square LONDON SW1P 3JR <u>By e-mail:</u> AHHQ.ContingencyPlanning@animalhealth.gsi.gov.uk
Additional ways to become involved:	No additional events are planned, but this is an annual review and we welcome your feedback.
After the consultation:	Any reasonable amendments will be incorporated into the documents, prior to them being laid before Parliament, and a summary of the changes made will be published.
Compliance with the Code of Practice on Consultation:	This consultation has been approved by Defra’s Consultation Coordinator. This consultation does not include an impact assessment because no changes to the policy or legislation are proposed.

Background

Getting to this stage:	The Animal Health Act 2002 requires contingency plans for Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease to be prepared, reviewed annually and if necessary, updated.
Previous engagement:	This plan is reviewed annually, and the version most recently laid before Parliament is available: http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/control/contingency/