

Preparing for Sustainable Farming (PSF) correspondence between Moredun Research Institute and SG

9 February 2024

[REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

I am so sorry to be the bearer of bad news. The Risk Assurance and Fraud Team (part of SG Rural Payments) have concluded that, for sheep keepers on Lewis and Harris, paying PSF claims for the sheep scab intervention would be double-funding. I am sorry to disappoint the participating farmers and crofters, and for the significant extra work for you, which has been wasted.

This is a learning point for me, in terms of understanding how strictly the RAFT interpret double-funding.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:09 PM

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Thanks [REDACTED] – that's really helpful and looks like a good case to me – fingers crossed for a positive outcome

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 at 11:13

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Thanks [REDACTED] that's useful to hear because it's what I pointed-out in my summary, attached for your reference. I hope the summary will provide sufficient reassurance for RPID colleagues here at SG. If I'm asked for more details, I'll come back to you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 31 January 2024 10:43

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Thanks [REDACTED]

Ah – that would certainly complicate matters. As you say, I think that there has been sufficient additional input from both the vet and the individual crofters on L&H that have contributed significantly to the project so that double funding should not apply in this case. For example, the crofters all worked collectively to gather and coordinate their flocks for the testing last year and in a huge amount of effort has gone into the gathering, transport and dipping of their flocks over the autumn, above and beyond any funded elements.

Very happy to provide further details as required and do let me know if you need more info from me

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 at 09:35

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Sorry to burst that bubble!

In other slightly disheartening news, a query has been raised about potential “double funding” for sheep scab activities on Lewis and Harris. This is because SG have funded the sheep scab pilot project and PSF funding for the sheep scab intervention could be seen to overlap, at least as far as the sampling and testing element of the intervention is concerned. I think there are enough non-funded aspects of tackling sheep scab in Lewis and Harris (i.e. costs borne by the crofters) that double funding does not apply in this case. However, the specialist Risk Assurance and Fraud Team within SG Rural Payments are considering the extent of the overlap.

I will keep you posted,

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 30 January 2024 19:11

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Thanks for the clarification, [REDACTED] – I got my hopes up then!

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Date: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 at 17:01

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Thanks for your email. You are correct that the claims system will only recognise one intervention per category in a calendar year. So in your example, sheep scab testing could only be claimed-for once, regardless of how often testing has been done during the year.

Best wishes,

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 30 January 2024 16:14

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Hi [REDACTED]

Quick question on the PSF – I was under the impression that it would be possible to claim for two interventions in the same category within the same year, i.e. two separate sheep

scab tests a few months apart – but it seems that the system will only allow you to select a single incidence for each type of intervention?

Is this correct – just want to ensure I've got it right.

Any help very much appreciated

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Date: Monday, 29 January 2024 at 09:34
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Great, thanks very much. Very happy to see these claims coming in.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | **E:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 29 January 2024 09:25
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: Re: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Thanks [REDACTED]

Yep that makes sense – I'll change it for any going out now!

Hopefully, there should be a good number of claims coming through the system.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Department of Vaccines & Diagnostics
Moredun Research Institute
Pentlands Science Park | Bush Loan | Penicuik | Midlothian | EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Date: Monday, 29 January 2024 at 09:22

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]

(cc: [REDACTED] for info/to avoid duplication)

It's my first day back at my desk, thanks for your emails.

I can confirm that I am happy with the completion of the EA form. My only minor quibble is that you are the expert advisor and project coordinator for the sheep scab pilot project, I would say you don't need to describe yourself as "acting as"! Taking out the "acting as" may make it easier for the Rural Payments staff auditing the EA forms. However, if you are more comfortable to stick with "acting as" that would be OK, too. The worst that will happen will be a delay while the RP folk check with me or [REDACTED] to ensure that we are content.

Thanks very much for taking on the additional work of the EA forms, I'm very happy to see that [REDACTED] managed to get sampling done in time.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | **E:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 20 January 2024 14:06
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: FW: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Hi [REDACTED]

I've just seen [REDACTED] out of office and was hoping that in her absence you would be able to comment on the PSF query below as part of the Lewis & Harris sheep scab project. I spoke with [REDACTED] towards the end of last year, and she had agreed that I could act as the expert advisor for the sheep scab testing and reporting that we undertook across L&H. We had also discussed the process but just wanted to double-check that it was correct before I speed ahead with the remaining claims.

Let me know what you think, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Date: Saturday, 20 January 2024 at 14:02

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: PSF Claims for Lewis & Harris

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope that all is well. I'm finally processing the PSF claims for the sheep scab testing on Lewis & Harris from last year and aiming to get these all through the system before the end of the Feb 2024 deadline.

I've prepared a test form (attached) for [REDACTED], who tested his flock in March 2023 as part of the project, and it would be great if you could check this out and let me know if it all looks OK. This is an easier one, as his flock was seronegative, but if you could let me know if the rest of the details look correct, including the signature, that would be great. I also wanted to check if the detail I placed within the practice/adviser stamp box is sufficient or if it needs any further information.

Then, just to check the process, once I have the form completed for each crofter, I then ask them to submit the claim using the completed form via the RPS website under an animal health and welfare claim, and they can upload the completed form as part of their claim.

Let me know what you think and I look forward to hearing from you soon

Cheers

[REDACTED]

The Moredun Research Institute is a limited company registered in Scotland. Registered number: SC149440 The Moredun Research Institute is a charity registered in Scotland. Registered number: SC022353 Registered office: Moredun Research Institute, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, UK

20 December 2023

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

How kind of you to get straight back to me! Don't worry, before emailing you I had separately emailed [REDACTED] as chair of Scottish Crofting Federation – I should have made that clear in my email to you.

[REDACTED] (of the Moredun sheep scab pilot project) had given me your email address as well as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had said that you are both well-placed to get messages out to the crofting community and he thought it might be worthwhile for me to ask for your help.

The background to my email is my disappointment on hearing that crofters on Lewis and Harris didn't know this funding was available until [REDACTED] mentioned it to those involved in the sheep scab pilot project. The Animal Health and Welfare interventions were designed to be applicable everywhere in Scotland and I don't want crofters to be left out.

Please do get your claim in! I have been assured that the online system is easy to use and payments seem to be made promptly.

If you are able to spread the word among your neighbours, fellow Township members and maybe even your viewers, that would be brilliant.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk

Sent: 20 December 2023 17:13

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: funding available for crofters for animal health and welfare - up to £1,250 over two years

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for the email, I am planning on doing something on this before the end of the year for myself. I note you mention sharing with Federation members, so I suspect you meant to send it to [REDACTED], who is a board member of SCF. You're not the first or last to confuse the umpteen Donalds of Lewis!

He's [REDACTED]@gmail.com

I'm happy to help too, but clarifying which [REDACTED] it is first!

On 20 Dec 2023, at 17:03, [REDACTED]@gov.scot wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]
(cc: [REDACTED] for info)

I am looking for your help in telling Scotland's crofting community about short-term funding to help with livestock health. If crofters happen to have done work with an

expert such as their own vet during 2023, they may be eligible to claim up to £750. And regardless of work done in the past 12 months, they can participate in 2024. See the information below, which I have just sent to the Scottish Crofting Federation:

I am involved in Scottish Government's Preparing for Sustainable Farming initiative and it has become apparent that the promotional messages put out by Government have not reached everyone in the crofting community. I don't know if you are already familiar with the initiative, see below for a summary. If you are able to circulate this information to Federation members, it would be really helpful in getting the word out. I would be happy for you to use my text below or edit as needed.

Preparing for Sustainable Farming (PSF) is a short-term funding programme to help crofters and farmers move towards more sustainable agriculture. Some aspects of the initiative are not applicable/attractive to crofters, but many of those with livestock will be able to make use of the Animal Health and Welfare funding. The **full details are available** online [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance). In summary:

1. Any crofter who is registered with Scottish Government Rural Payments is eligible to claim **up to £750** for activities done in 2023. I.e. those with a BRN, or Business Registration Number;
2. Claimants need to have completed one or two of the Animal Health and Welfare interventions in the table below between 1 January and 31 December 2023. Each intervention involves an investigation of a livestock health problem followed by advice from an expert adviser. In most cases, the expert will be the local vet. More detail is available at [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance)
3. There is a standard payment of £250 available for each intervention claimed, up to a maximum of two different interventions during the calendar year.
4. Proof of intervention completion is required: the Expert Adviser form must be filled-in and signed by the vet, agricultural consultant or other expert who provided the advice. The form is available at [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance) and must be uploaded when the claim is made. If two interventions have been completed, upload both forms to support the claim.
5. An additional £250 to go towards learning and development expenses will be automatically paid with the first year's claim. No proof is required for this additional payment.
6. This adds-up to a maximum of £750 for interventions completed in 2023.
7. Funding is claimed via the online portal at [Preparing for Sustainable Farming \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming) There is a tutorial video on how to use the claims portal: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming Support \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-Support)

8. **Claimants have until the end of February 2024 to claim for interventions done in 2023.** We encourage claiming as soon as possible to allow time to resolve any queries.
9. The initiative will run again in 2024, participating crofters can repeat the same interventions or choose different ones, up to a maximum of two during the calendar year.
10. Those who claim again in 2024 will receive up to £500, i.e. **a potential total of £1,250 over the two years.** If 2024 is the first year of claiming, the maximum claim would be £750 for 2024.
11. Claiming for Animal Health and Welfare interventions does not include an audit of activity on the croft and will not trigger an official inspection.

Intervention	Summary of investigations For more details, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more details, see online guidance
1. Bull fertility	Bull pre-breeding examination to British Cattle Veterinary Association standard	Vet treatment followed by re-testing and/or culling as needed
2. Calf respiratory disease	Calf respiratory investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
3. Cattle: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
4. Cattle: roundworms	Gastrointestinal parasite (roundworm) investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
5. Sheep scab	Screen 12 animals per management group (or all animals in group less than 12) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock.	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
6. Sheep iceberg diseases	Targeted disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes.	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
7. Sheep lameness	Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
8. Sheep: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
9. Sheep roundworms	Gastrointestinal parasite (worm) investigation (Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing)	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

Please let me know if you have questions. I will be available 22 and 23 December, and back at my desk on 3 January.

With thanks, and best wishes for the festive season,



[REDACTED]
Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare
Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

22 November 2023

Hi [REDACTED],
(cc: [REDACTED] for info)

Thanks for your time this morning and for the contact emails: I will follow them up.

This link is for the “how to claim” videos: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming Support \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://ruralpayments.org)

The link to the online guidance explaining the animal health and welfare interventions, including the “claim” button is here: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://ruralpayments.org)

Really appreciate your support.

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 22 November 2023 09:58

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: PSF crofting contacts

Hi [REDACTED]

Contacts below that may be helpful:

[REDACTED] from the Scottish Crofting Federation: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

[REDACTED] who is a crofter on Lewis and also has a programme on BBC Alba (An
Lot – The Croft): [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk

Hopefully these guys will be happy to help to spread the message further.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal Investigator

Moredun Research Institute
Pentlands Science Park
Bush Loan
Edinburgh
Midlothian
EH26 0PZ
Scotland
UK

[\[REDACTED\]@moredun.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk)

The Moredun Research Institute is a limited company registered in Scotland. Registered number: SC149440 The Moredun Research Institute is a charity registered in Scotland. Registered number: SC022353 Registered office: Moredun Research Institute, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, UK

23 October 2023

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Fantastic, thank you both. I will let farmer's own worm FEC stand in the guidance.

I see that [REDACTED] has had a useful set of comments back from [REDACTED]. I will hold-off from publishing the guidance update until you've had a chance to review and incorporate [REDACTED] points. I am effectively out of the office from tomorrow lunchtime until Wed 1 November. [REDACTED], if you are able to get a final version to [REDACTED] and me by 1 Nov we should be able to get it published online by the end of that week (3 Nov).

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare
Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 23 October 2023 08:47

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED]

I agree with [REDACTED] if FECs are done by folk who know what they are doing and have had some training then that is fine. I guess it all has to be signed off by a vet, so that provides some assurances that the results make sense.

All the best

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 9:00:55 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED] – looks great, happy with proposed changes, even including advisor/adviser! 😊 I think the guidance is much improved, explaining the benefits of testing and giving farmers/vets more options, plus guidance on what test to use, how many animals to test and when etc. I have no problem with farmers doing their own FECs, the few that do so tend to do worms, not fluke, just as long as the results are comparable to a testing lab and interpreted correctly...would value [REDACTED] input, otherwise go for it, our work here is done!?! (for now)...

Have a nice weekend, [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 5:49 PM
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Sorry to be sending this on a Friday evening. I have been trying to find time to respond since Wednesday.

Huge thanks for the tactful work you and [REDACTED] have done with sector experts to bring our guidance in to line with SCOPS and COWS. I don't underestimate the challenge of bringing stakeholders on board under circumstances where they may feel that they have been overlooked/ignored previously.

I know that you are still waiting for a few comments, but at the risk of causing version control havoc I've reviewed the "latest version" (dated 18 Oct): see attached.

I have added an intro paragraph to the fluke guidance (same for cattle and sheep) spelling-out the importance of tackling fluke and making it clear that we have widened the scope of the funding to include all types of fluke investigation, including

flukicide efficacy testing where appropriate. I hope this adds clarity rather than otherwise. **Please be brutally honest** if you think changes are needed! I am happy (and grateful!) to defer to your expertise if anything I have written is unclear or misleading.

I have replied to your comments on farmers doing their own worm FEC. This was originally included to avoid charges of “this scheme undermines expertise amongst livestock keepers” and “this scheme supports vets not farmers”. As far as I know, very few farmers do FECs. If you or [REDACTED] feel it is inadvisable to allow/encourage farmers to do their own worm FEC I am happy to remove it. **Let me know** what you think either way.

As always, happy to discuss. I’ll be available Mon and Tues (23 and 24 Oct) then at National Sheep Assoc conference on Wed, if you happen to be there.

Heartfelt thanks, once again. Have a good weekend,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 18 October 2023 16:35

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED] – as promised/requested, the latest iteration of the PSF fluke & worm guidance for cattle & sheep, attached. Still awaiting 1-2 comments, but have had constructive feedback from our ‘big 4’, [REDACTED], covering SCOPS/COWS/BioBest/Elanco. Think/hope we’re getting to the polishing stages now, major concerns seem to have been addressed...

Rgds, [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 12:45 PM

To: [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@elancoah.com>; [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Dear All – many thanks for comments and suggestions made thus far, all make perfect sense! I’ve tried to intercalate suggested edits into the ‘new and improved’ version, attached, could you have a look at this and let me know if I’ve missed/misinterpreted anything?

I think/hope we’re getting there!

Thanks again, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED] [@biobest.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk)

Sent: 18 October 2023 12:05

To: [REDACTED] [@elancoah.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@elancoah.com); [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [@moredun.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk); [REDACTED] [@lssc-ltd.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk); [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk)

Cc: [REDACTED] [@moredun.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk)

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi all

Feels like a flowchart might be helpful – though this is basically what the ‘SCOPS/COWS guide to test based control’ is so greater emphasis on using that resource to guide what test and when might be good. Not sure how you make people click on a link rather than assuming they already know (sounds familiar with respect to Pathway).

Are we steering away from using individual coproantigen ELISA testing to detect late immature/adults because of cost and so advising pooled egg detection on faeces? It was practitioners that really wanted to be able to do coproantigen ELISA but I agree they need to use it as advised and that means not on pooled samples which I suspect is what they would do. Revised text could be clearer on this to say it’s ok to use coproantigen ELISA for post treatment check as you can test sooner but individual samples needed as not robust on pooled samples.

Using only egg detection means later detection than we could get though and that might be more important for sheep than cattle if you’re thinking of treatment options maybe. As this resource is Scotland only (so less variation in climate etc than if UK wide) can we be brave enough to suggest roughly when we might suggest starting serology screening of first season grazers and when to move to tests of faeces (for herds/flocks that haven’t done serology)? So include ‘for most herds/flocks...’ in terms of what tests when? It’s so important that the right tests are used at the right time and not tests on faeces in august...

Trying to learn from pathway... vets say they don’t like being told what to do but they do like clear ‘guidance’ to make the task simpler as they are very busy people, which is the same thing really but it’s all in the language I guess!!! 😊

Thanks!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
RCVS Advanced Practitioner in Sheep Health and Production

Senior Veterinary Advisor

Biobest Laboratories Ltd

www.biobest.co.uk

Registered in Scotland no. 199355

Please note my typical working pattern is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

From: [REDACTED]@elancoah.com
Sent: 18 October 2023 10:56
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED]
Good effort – some suggested tweaks attached

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Ruminant Technical Consultant, Ruminant Business Unit, Sales

Elanco Animal Health

Form 2, Bartley Way, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, RG27 9XA

M +44(0)7884 731144

www.elanco.com

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk, [REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@elancoah.com
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

CAUTION. This email came from someone outside the organization. Please think twice before clicking any links or opening any attachments.

Dear All – as my go-to SCOPS & COWS fluke gurus, could you have a critical look at the attached ScotGov Preparing for Sustainable Farming guidance for fluke testing in sheep & cattle!? I/we have been given the opportunity to comment and get this right in advance of PSF Programme Yr2 refresh in Nov. Admittedly, ScotGov get the benefit of our advice & input, win-win!? I've tried to take all

your concerns and practical suggestions into account but still come up with ~a paragraph for each that's not too complicated and hopefully not too ambiguous (unlike last time!)

If you could get back to me this week, that would be v much appreciated!

Kind regards,

Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

20 October 2023

Hi ,
(cc: as before)

Sorry to be sending this on a Friday evening. I have been trying to find time to respond since Wednesday.

Huge thanks for the tactful work you and have done with sector experts to bring our guidance in to line with SCOPS and COWS. I don't underestimate the challenge of bringing stakeholders on board under circumstances where they may feel that they have been overlooked/ignored previously.

I know that you are still waiting for a few comments, but at the risk of causing version control havoc I've reviewed the "latest version" (dated 18 Oct): see attached.

I have added an intro paragraph to the fluke guidance (same for cattle and sheep) spelling-out the importance of tackling fluke and making it clear that we have widened the scope of the funding to include all types of fluke investigation, including flukicide efficacy testing where appropriate. I hope this adds clarity rather than otherwise. **Please be brutally honest** if you think changes are needed! I am happy (and grateful!) to defer to your expertise if anything I have written is unclear or misleading.

I have replied to your comments on farmers doing their own worm FEC. This was originally included to avoid charges of "this scheme undermines expertise amongst livestock keepers" and "this scheme supports vets not farmers". As far as I know, very few farmers do FECs. If you or feel it is inadvisable to allow/encourage farmers to do their own worm FEC I am happy to remove it. **Let me know** what you think either way.

As always, happy to discuss. I'll be available Mon and Tues (23 and 24 Oct) then at National Sheep Assoc conference on Wed, if you happen to be there.

Heartfelt thanks, once again. Have a good weekend,

[REDACTED]
Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare
Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 18 October 2023 16:35
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED] – as promised/requested, the latest iteration of the PSF fluke & worm guidance for cattle & sheep, attached. Still awaiting 1-2 comments, but have had constructive feedback from our 'big 4', [REDACTED], [REDACTED], covering SCOPS/COWS/BioBest/Elanco. Think/hope we're getting to the polishing stages now, major concerns seem to have been addressed...

Rgds, [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 12:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk>; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]@elancoah.com> [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk>; [REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Dear All – many thanks for comments and suggestions made thus far, all make perfect sense! I've tried to intercalate suggested edits into the 'new and improved' version, attached, could you have a look at this and let me know if I've missed/misinterpreted anything?

I think/hope we're getting there!

Thanks again, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk
Sent: 18 October 2023 12:05
To: [REDACTED]@elancoah.com; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi all

Feels like a flowchart might be helpful – though this is basically what the 'SCOPS/COWS guide to test based control' is so greater emphasis on using that resource to guide what test and when might be good. Not sure how you make people click on a link rather than assuming they already know (sounds familiar with respect to Pathway).

Are we steering away from using individual coproantigen ELISA testing to detect late immature/adults because of cost and so advising pooled egg detection on faeces? It was practitioners that really wanted to be able to do coproantigen ELISA but I agree they need to use it as advised and that means not on pooled samples which I suspect is what they would do. Revised text could be clearer on this to say it's ok to use coproantigen ELISA for post treatment check as you can test sooner but individual samples needed as not robust on pooled samples.

Using only egg detection means later detection than we could get though and that might be more important for sheep than cattle if you're thinking of treatment options maybe. As this resource is Scotland only (so less variation in climate etc than if UK wide) can we be brave enough to suggest roughly when we might suggest starting serology screening of first season grazers and when to move to tests of faeces (for herds/flocks that haven't done serology)? So include 'for most herds/flocks...' in terms of what tests when? It's so important that the right tests are used at the right time and not tests on faeces in august...

Trying to learn from pathway... vets say they don't like being told what to do but they do like clear 'guidance' to make the task simpler as they are very busy people, which is the same thing really but it's all in the language I guess!!! 😊

Thanks!

■

■

RCVS Advanced Practitioner in Sheep Health and Production

Senior Veterinary Advisor

Biobest Laboratories Ltd
www.biobest.co.uk

Registered in Scotland no. 199355

Please note my typical working pattern is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

From: [REDACTED]@elancoah.com
Sent: 18 October 2023 10:56
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk;
[REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

Hi [REDACTED]
Good effort – some suggested tweaks attached

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Ruminant Technical Consultant, Ruminant Business Unit, Sales

Elanco Animal Health
Form 2, Bartley Way, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, RG27 9XA

[REDACTED]
www.elanco.com

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]@lssc-ltd.co.uk; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk; [REDACTED]@liverpool.ac.uk;
[REDACTED]@elancoah.com
Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Subject: [EXTERNAL]SG PSF latest iteration

CAUTION. This email came from someone outside the organization. Please think twice before clicking any links or opening any attachments.

Dear All – as my go-to SCOPS & COWS fluke gurus, could you have a critical look at the attached ScotGov Preparing for Sustainable Farming guidance for fluke testing in sheep & cattle!? I/we have been given the opportunity to comment and get this right in advance of PSF Programme Yr2 refresh in Nov. Admittedly, ScotGov get the benefit of our advice & input, win-win!? I've tried to take all your concerns and practical suggestions into account but still come up with ~a paragraph for each that's not too complicated and hopefully not too ambiguous (unlike last time!)...

If you could get back to me this week, that would be v much appreciated!

Kind regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

20 October 2023

Hi [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sorry to be sending this on a Friday afternoon. It is not urgent, please leave it until Monday at the earliest!

A couple of weeks ago we spoke about the Animal Health and Welfare Intervention for sheep scab, which is part of SG's funding of activities in the Preparing for Sustainable Farming initiative. You kindly agreed to review a change to the sheep scab guidance, which is intended to reflect [REDACTED] comments on explaining the benefits of the test in all flocks and encouraging annual testing. I have written a short introductory paragraph to capture [REDACTED] intention, please see attached. I would welcome your input, especially if anything is unclear, misleading or wrong! I am open to all comments and edits, including a complete re-write if appropriate. Also keen to know if the rest of the text is still fit for purpose or if (especially in the light of the Lewis and Harris pilot project) anything needs to be removed, clarified or added.

Thanks in advance, and have a good weekend,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare
Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD
T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

- **5. Sheep scab. Requires an investigation to determine sheep scab status of whole flock** using the sheep scab ELISA blood test.
- Sheep scab is an expensive disease that is easily missed in the first few weeks. The ELISA blood test is a useful tool for early detection. It can also provide reassurance that the flock is free from sheep scab: annual testing can be useful ahead of tugging or sales. If the flock has scab, legislation allows farmers to self-declare and work with their vet to deal with the disease. In this situation, there is no need for official visits by the Local Authority or APHA. See below for more details on what a positive ELISA result means for you.
- You must screen at least 12 animals from the flock, or 12 from each management group if sheep are separated into different groups/mobs, or the whole flock if you have less than 12 sheep followed by action: make and follow a flock

treatment plan that targets treatment appropriately and avoids unnecessary treatment.

- The investigation requires blood sampling and must be done by a vet. Marking the sheep as they are sampled is recommended in case re-sampling is required. The testing laboratory will report results to the vet.
- If results indicate the flock is negative for sheep scab, you and your vet must make a treatment and management plan to stay free of scab, paying particular attention to any purchased or returning animals. Seek your vet's advice on reducing or increasing treatment, or changing to a different drug, as appropriate for your flock.
- If the results are positive, the flock has been exposed to sheep scab and will be under movement restrictions until a veterinary enquiry has been completed, more information can be found on the Government website: [Sheep scab: how to spot and report the disease](#). The vet enquiry will aim to determine if the results are consistent with active sheep scab in the flock, or previous exposure. This will depend on recent treatment and any clinical signs that are present. It may involve a second confirmatory test, which requires blood samples to be taken from the same animals at least three weeks later. Depending on the confirmatory test results, the flock must either be treated for scab OR certified as not actively infected by the vet. Flock restrictions are lifted when APHA is informed by (as appropriate) EITHER the keeper that treatment has been done and 16 days have elapsed OR the vet that there is no evidence of active infection in the flock. Once the vet enquiry is complete you must make a treatment and management plan to prevent re-infection, with advice from your vet as appropriate.
- The advised action(s) must be confirmed in writing by the vet.
- You can find more information on sheep scab control and prevention on the Moredun Research Institute website, including this short video [Stop the Spread](#).
- *Claims for payment must be accompanied by the proof of investigation plus advised treatment and management plan, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser.*

29 September 2023

Dear [REDACTED],
(cc: [REDACTED] as discussed)

Thank you for your good work in coordinating sheep scab treatment across the flocks in Glenshee. [REDACTED] of Moredun told me about the project this morning, he explained that it's taken a lot of work in terms of client engagement as well as testing and advising. [REDACTED] described the high level of flock participation that you've managed to achieve, it sounds like an excellent example of sheep scab best practice.

I wanted to remind you that funding is available for farmers to support sheep scab investigation under the Preparing for Sustainable Farming initiative [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](#). Any farmer who is registered to receive Single Farm Payment is eligible to claim the standard cost of £250. There's no application process, no receipts/invoices required and no follow-up inspection by government officials. There is an EA form for the vet to fill in (see attached) that the farmer will need to upload when s/he makes the claim on the online system. Farmers can claim for up to two different animal health and welfare interventions per calendar year, so anyone planning to do a second intervention

should wait until both EA forms have been signed before making their claim for the year. Claims for 2023 must be uploaded by 29 February 2024.

Farmers who claim for one or two interventions this year can choose the same or different interventions next year – whatever suits their flock or herd.

In signing an EA form, you are confirming that an investigation has taken place (sheep scab ELISA) and stating the results plus your advice for the flock. The investigation must have been done sometime in the calendar year, i.e. from 1st Jan to 31st Dec. You do not have to confirm that the farmer has followed your advice, and there will be no official audit of the flock.

The Preparing for Sustainable Farming initiative is intended to be a short-term, transitional programme. It will definitely run for the rest of this year and again next year.

The first time a farmer makes their yearly claim (whether for one intervention or two) it will be automatically topped-up with a learning and development payment of £250. This is intended to support farmer CPD of any type. There is no requirement for the farmer to request this extra £250 and no need for proof of CPD completion.

A farmer making full use of the animal health and welfare funding would receive the following:

	Maximum of two AHW interventions completed	Additional CPD payment	Total funding received
1 st year of participation	£500	£250	£750
2 nd year of participation	£500		£500
Total			£1,250

Feel free to share this information with your colleagues and clients, and let me know if it raises any questions.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [Redacted] | E: [Redacted]@gov.scot

25 August 2023

[Redacted]

Thank you for the update, delighted to see that you have been able to make progress.

It would be great to have an agreed version after the SCOPS steering committee meeting: fingers crossed!

I have a related query for you to start thinking about. We are being asked for animal health and welfare measures that might fit in to Tier 2 “enhanced” payments that farmers will be able to claim from April 2025. These would be optional activities. I was wondering about “borrowing” the worm and fluke approach that Defra are offering as part of their Animal Health and Welfare Pathway? What do you think? My understanding is that it was developed with SCOPS and COWS. I have no data on farmer uptake – it seems quite a complex package and I’m not sure how widely accessible it is for livestock keepers? I would welcome your thoughts.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Temporary Veterinary Advisor | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 25 August 2023 09:18

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance

Good morning [REDACTED] – hope all well? Just to say, in case you thought we’d forgotten ☺, [REDACTED] & I’ve been working away on fluke & worm sections of PSF Guidance, latest iteration attached! We’ve been liaising primarily with [REDACTED], BioBest & [REDACTED], SCOPS, with a view to circulating next edit around SCOPS & COWS Steering Groups for approval! There’s a SCOPS Steering Committee meeting the week after next, Wed 6th Sept, and this is on the agenda! Will let you know how we get on...

Still a work in progress but, hopefully, we’re getting there!

Rgds, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

The Moredun Research Institute is a limited company registered in Scotland.
Registered number: SC149440 The Moredun Research Institute is a charity
registered in Scotland. Registered number: SC022353 Registered office: Moredun

Research Institute, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0PZ, UK

3. Cattle: liver fluke. Requires a liver fluke investigation, including flukicide efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on groups of animals, at least 10 individuals per management group, and at least 10g fresh faeces from each animal. Samples will be pooled to assess liver fluke infection status in the herd before treating. Your vet practice or commercial testing lab will do the pooling and testing. Alternatively, you can do the FEC yourself, as long as you are confident in carrying out the test and interpreting the result (for example, differentiating between liver fluke and rumen fluke eggs). This should be done in consultation with your vet in any case. For efficacy testing, the FEC should be repeated 21 days after liver fluke treatment to see if the treatment has worked, ideally taking samples from the same animals. [More information on FEC.](#)

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no liver fluke eggs present, this does not necessarily mean the animals are free of liver fluke, further monitoring is advised. Ask your vet/consultant how best to reduce the risk of liver fluke going forward. If the post-treatment FEC shows liver fluke eggs, seek advice on most appropriate control and treatment options. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser.

[Expert Adviser form](#)

4. Cattle: roundworms. Requires a gastrointestinal parasite investigation, including wormer efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on groups of animals e.g. at least 10 individuals per management group and at least 10g fresh faeces from each animal. Samples will be pooled to assess roundworm infection levels in the herd before treating. Your vet practice or commercial testing lab will do the pooling and testing. Alternatively, you can do the FEC yourself, as long as you are confident in carrying out the test and interpreting the result, which should be done in consultation with your vet in any case. The FEC should be repeated 7-14 days (depending on which wormer was used) after worming to see if treatment has worked. [More information on FEC.](#)

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no roundworm eggs present, this does not necessarily mean the animals are free of roundworms, further monitoring is advised. Ask your vet/consultant how best to reduce the roundworm challenge on your farm. If the post-treatment FEC shows roundworm eggs present, seek advice on appropriate control and treatment options. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser.

[Expert Adviser form](#)

Sheep interventions - detail

8. Sheep: liver fluke. Requires a liver fluke investigation, including flukicide efficacy testing.

Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention, and control plan for the entire flock.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on groups of animals, at least 10 individuals per management group and at least 3g fresh faeces per animal. Samples will be pooled to assess liver fluke infection status in the herd before treating. Your vet practice or commercial testing lab will do the pooling and testing. Alternatively, you can do the FEC yourself, as long as you are confident in carrying out the test and interpreting the result for example, differentiating between liver fluke and rumen fluke eggs). This should be done in consultation with your vet in any case. For efficacy testing, the FEC should be repeated 21 days after liver fluke treatment to see if the treatment has worked, ideally taking samples from the same animals.. [More information on FEC.](#)

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no liver fluke eggs present, this does not necessarily mean the animals are free of liver fluke, further monitoring is advised. If the post-treatment FEC show liver fluke eggs, seek advice on appropriate control and treatment options.

Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser.

[Expert Adviser form](#)

9. Sheep: roundworm. Requires a gastrointestinal parasite investigation including wormer efficacy testing.

Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire flock/herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on groups of animals e.g. at least 15 randomly selected individuals per management group and at least 3g fresh faeces per animal. Samples will be pooled to assess roundworm infection levels in the herd before treating. Your vet practice or commercial testing lab will do the pooling and testing. Alternatively, you can do the FEC yourself, as long as you are confident in carrying out the test and interpreting the result, which should be done in consultation with your vet in any case. The FEC should be repeated 7-14 days (depending on which wormer was used) after worming to see if treatment has worked. [More information on FEC.](#)

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no roundworm eggs present, this does not necessarily mean the animals are free of roundworms, further monitoring is advised. Ask your vet/consultant about how best to reduce roundworm challenge on your farm. If the post-treatment FEC show worm eggs present, seek advice on future control and treatment options. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser.

Additional resources –

1. link to Moredun 'Test don't guess' animation
<https://moredun.org.uk/resources/videos/test-dont-guess>

- link to current SCOPS DEFRA H&W Pathway page (to become 'National Testing Programmes', or equivalent?)

<https://www.scops.org.uk/internal-parasites/worms/worming-treatment-check/>

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 19 April 2023 01:22

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE** - help, please!

Hi [REDACTED] - sorry, I meant to reply sooner but, yes, that seems a perfectly reasonable approach to me! You're right, the coproantigen ELISA & FEC do measure different things, but just for information, the cELISA detects a secretion released by LIVE fluke, so evidence of an ACTIVE infection, it is typically more sensitive than FEC and can detect fluke from ~6-7 weeks of age, compared to FEC at 10-12 weeks...

Hope this helps clarify things?

Rgds [REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 3:15:54 PM

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE** - help, please!

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Thanks for getting back to me last week, I appreciate your rapid response. Useful to see the SCOPS fluke diagnostics poster, too.

I've been reflecting on [REDACTED] question over the weekend. I am wary of further "tinkering" with the Animal Health and Welfare interventions this year; we have already had to redraft and reissue the Expert Advisor form due to IT constraints. I am concerned that if we alter the guidance to increase the range of acceptable tests at this point it might cause confusion and/or resentment. I am also aware that sending repeated "update" emails to farm vets may reduce their engagement rather than increase it.

I would plan to reply to [REDACTED] with thanks and will advise her not to encourage vets to use the coproantigen ELISA this year. As they stand, our two fluke interventions require a FEC before and after treatment, a test that was selected for

its cheapness and accessibility, as you've said. If I've understood correctly, it would not be possible for a vet to sign-off coproantigen ELISA results as FEC results. I think I'm right in saying the two tests are measuring slightly different things: I'm assuming the coproantigen ELISA measures the presence of live and dead flukes plus fluke eggs whereas the FEC measures only the presence of fluke eggs?

I think it would be sensible to ask the ARIOB animal health and welfare subgroup to review all the interventions later this year and, where appropriate, allow a wider variety of tests for the second year of the funding package. If the subgroup agree to the inclusion of liver fluke coproantigen ELISA, and any other tests for the same or other interventions, we could update the guidance and EA form for 2024. Does that sound like a reasonable approach to you?

Best wishes,

██████████

█

████████████████████

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: ██████████ | E: ██████████@gov.scot

From: ██████████@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 14 April 2023 16:24

To: ██████████@gov.scot>

Cc: ██████████@gov.scot

Subject: Re: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE** - help, please!

Hi ██████████ - good to hear from you! Yes, a good practical question from ██████████, no doubt partly prompted by her roles at BioBest & SVS?! 😊 I, personally, would have no problem with including coproantigen and/or blood testing for fluke in the available options. There are more testing options for fluke cf roundworms, and each tells you something different about fluke infection status, so need to be interpreted carefully! As you'd imagine, each test has its respective pros & cons eg blood testing is the earliest indicator but is invasive and requires the vet to take the sample; the coproantigen is sensitive and a v good indicator of treatment efficacy, but doesn't work so well on pooled samples...I think we settled on fluke FEC as a relatively cheap entry point, where farmers can take the sample, and we can include composite/pooled samples to keep the cost down cf roundworm FEC...with FEC, we'd also have the ability to detect rumen fluke eggs, just to keep an eye on that as well...does that make sense? See attached info from SCOPS, I was involved in drafting this, Rebecca might have been too!..

<https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/fluke-diagnostics-treatment-poster.pdf>

Bit of a Friday afternoon job, will get back to you with a more considered response next week! Might be worth asking the like of ██████████ whst his recollections were?

Have a nice w/end,

Rgds ██████████

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](#)

Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 2:50:20 PM

To: [REDACTED] [@moredun.ac.uk](#)

Cc: [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](#)

Subject: FW: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE** - help, please!

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: [REDACTED] for info)

I am looking for your help in replying to [REDACTED], see her email below – relevant paragraph [highlighted](#).

I would plan to reply to [REDACTED] that the fluke interventions (numbers 3 and 8 in the list further down the page) were designed around faecal egg counts to make them as cost-effective and accessible as possible. But is it possible to consider the liver fluke coproantigen ELISA as a faecal egg count? I presume not, but happy to be corrected.

Thanks in advance!

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](#)

From: [REDACTED] [@biobest.co.uk](#)

Sent: 04 April 2023 11:46

To: [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](#)

Subject: RE: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE**

Hi [REDACTED]

It's great that this is off the ground and much simpler than Pathway in England! I'm looking at how both Biobest and SVS can support this in terms of comms. I know [REDACTED] has already been in touch regarding the SVS on line Spring conference and I'm pleased you've agreed to speak and answer questions.

[Can I check a couple of points in terms of testing for the different interventions please?](#)

Re liver fluke in cattle and sheep will the liver fluke coproantigen ELISA be considered an appropriate alternative to egg detection? This test is specific for liver fluke and can be used at a shorter time interval post treatment to check efficacy which may lead to better compliance. Also is there a reason why liver fluke serology, used in first season grazers (cattle and sheep) to provide evidence of exposure and therefore guide when to treat, has not been included?

Re iceberg diseases in sheep – is screening of cull ewes restricted to serology/PCR or will this also include postmortem examination investigations? Will statistical sampling frameworks be applied for serological testing or are the test requirements for iceberg diseases less prescriptive than that? For Border disease - testing on samples from abortion material and hairy shaker lambs doesn't appear to be included – is that correct? This may be more appropriate in some flocks.

It's always a balance between making it simple and ensuring it achieves objectives but I'm a little concerned that without some guidance the flock testing, particularly for iceberg diseases, may be little more than dipping a toe in the water and not very robust in terms of disease screening. Can we help with this in any way?

All the best

RCVS Advanced Practitioner in Sheep Health and Production

Senior Veterinary Advisor

Biobest Laboratories Ltd
www.biobest.co.uk

Registered in Scotland no. 199355

Please note my typical working pattern is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: 31 March 2023 17:10

Cc: [REDACTED].co.uk; [REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk; [REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk; [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk; [REDACTED]@sheepvetsoc.org.uk; [REDACTED]@bva.co.uk; [REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: RE: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS - **UPDATE**

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation; [REDACTED] as discussed)

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch about the Animal Health and Welfare intervention package that Scottish Government launched in February. We have already had very useful feedback, as well as positive reports of clients wanting to take up one or more interventions.

Changes to the EA form

As a result of feedback we have already made a change to the Expert Advisor form. See attached, and also available at [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full](#)

[guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](http://ruralpayments.org). When the claims system is operational (later this year) it will accept all versions of the EA form.

We hope it is now clear that a client could, if appropriate, carry out separate roundworm investigations in their sheep flock and cattle herd, each of which would be eligible for the standard payment of £250. This choice would represent the maximum number of two interventions for one claim year, the client could claim £500 after completing both interventions. As a successful claimant, they would automatically be paid the additional £250 CPD cost, giving a total of £750 in the first year. The same applies to the fluke interventions.

Changes to the numbering of the interventions

The list of interventions is slightly longer due to the above change, it now looks like this:

Intervention	Summary of investigation options	Outline of actions that may be required
	For more detail, see online guidance	For more detail, see online guidance
1.Bull fertility	Bull pre-breeding examination to BCVA standard	Veterinary treatment followed by re-testing and/or culling as needed
2.Calf respiratory disease	Calf respiratory disease investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
3.Cattle: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
4.Cattle: roundworms	Roundworm investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
5.Sheep scab	Screen 12 sheep per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
6.Sheep iceberg diseases	Targeted disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes.	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
7.Sheep lameness	Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
8.Sheep: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

9. Sheep: roundworms

Roundworm investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing

Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

Advice on FEC testing

We have also been asked for more detail on acceptable testing for the fluke and roundworm interventions (i.e. numbers 3, 4, 8, 9). Experts from Moredun Research Institute helped us to clarify the instructions as follows:

- Regarding faecal egg count investigations, the aim is to establish whether parasites are present, and if they are, to ensure that treatment has been effective. The choice of investigation is at the vet's discretion: either a faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT) or a drench efficacy test (i.e. pooled rather than individual samples) would be suitable. Choice will depend on flock size, health status, knowledge of existing problems such as wormer/flukicide resistance. Evidence suggests that the cheaper drench efficacy test will give reliable results for the majority of flocks and herds. Where your existing knowledge of the herd/flock suggests that more detailed output would be useful, you may opt for the more expensive FECRT.
- Whichever approach you choose, anything less than 90% reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time after dosing* is considered to indicate a lack of efficacy, which may be evidence of resistance. *Appropriate time after dosing is normally taken as 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke. Of course, you will need to rule-out the "human" causes of lack of efficacy, e.g. under-dosing, wrong product, poorly calibrated equipment, past use-by date. This SCOPS leaflet may be useful to clients collecting samples for FEC:
https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/scops-wormertreatmentcheck_guidebook.pdf
- Most FECs will be done by the vet practice or sent to a commercial lab, but is also acceptable for the FEC to be done by the farmer as long as you are confident that your client is competent to carry out a FEC and you can interpret their results. Provided you have enough information from the investigation results to provide advice on wormer/flukicide use, you can complete the EA form that will allow the farmer's claim to be paid.
- The EA form can be signed for any investigation that has been completed since 1st January 2023. If you have clients who have already had work done this year that fits with one of the interventions, you can sign an EA form.

I will be out of the office for the next week, very happy to field questions on my return.

Wishing you all a happy Easter when it comes, and hoping that you will be able to get some time off during the next busy couple of months.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 February 2023 13:02

Cc: [REDACTED] [@cattlevet.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cattlevet.co.uk); [REDACTED] [@nationalsheep.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk); [REDACTED] [@nationalsheep.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk); [REDACTED] [@biobest.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk); [REDACTED] [@sheepvetsoc.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sheepvetsoc.org.uk); [REDACTED] [@bva.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@bva.co.uk); [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk); [REDACTED] [@apha.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk); [REDACTED] [@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk); [REDACTED] [@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk); [REDACTED] [@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk); [REDACTED] [@moredun.ac.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk); [REDACTED] [@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)

Subject: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS IN YOUR PRACTICE

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation; [REDACTED] as discussed)

Scotland's farm payments will change in 2025. Although the details are not yet settled, we know that the new payment regime will incentivise sustainable and regenerative farming.

On 10 February Mari Gougeon (Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands) announced a new set of Animal Health and Welfare interventions running for the next 2 years to help livestock farmers and crofters "Prepare for Sustainable Farming". This will help them get ready for the new payment system in 2025 and builds on funding already available for conducting carbon audits and soil analysis.

Our aim is to encourage livestock keepers in Scotland to improve the health and welfare of their livestock, regardless of the size of their business or current health status.

Funding available for cattle and sheep clients

Participating sheep and cattle farmers and crofters can claim back a standard cost of £250 per intervention. Each intervention is made up of a completed investigation plus expert advice given on the basis of results. Each keeper can do a maximum of two interventions this year and two (same or different) next year. We also want to support all farmers and crofters in learning how to make their business more sustainable so in the first year of claiming, an additional £250 will be paid to cover learning and development. This adds up to a maximum of **£750 per claimant in 2023**, and for those who continue to participate next year, **£500 in 2024**. I.e. a maximum of £1250 per keeper over two years.

Those who leave it until next year before participating will only be eligible for a maximum of £750 in 2024.

Available interventions

The seven interventions are summarised below and there is more information online at: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://ruralpayments.org)

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
Cattle	1. Bull pre-breeding examination to British Cattle Veterinary Association standard	Vet treatment programme followed by re-testing and/or culling where appropriate
Cattle	2. Calf respiratory investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	3. Screen 12 animals per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12 sheep) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	4. Targeted iceberg disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes prior to sale, selecting animals with low condition scores	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	5. Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions (including Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis) and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	6. Liver fluke: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	7. Gastrointestinal parasite (worm) investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

We know that £250 won't always cover the full cost of investigation plus advised action. We hope it will start a conversation between the vet and the farmer, and we know that it will cover a significant part of the cost for most of the interventions, depending on farm size.

Why have we kept the list short and costs limited to £250?

Current greenhouse gas calculations tell us that cattle and sheep farms contribute significantly to the emissions from Scotland's agricultural sector, hence our focus on sheep and cattle. This is a short-term programme: it has to be simple to explain, easy for claimants and straightforward to run and audit. That is why we have restricted the list to seven well-known and effective interventions that should be applicable across Scotland, regardless of location or farm size. That is also why we have employed a standard cost model (£250 per intervention) and why we are relying on the Expert Advisor (in most cases, the farm vet) to certify that the intervention has been done. The Expert Advisor certifies that an investigation has been completed, results have been received **and** specific advice has been given. We **do not** require the Expert Advisor to confirm that their client has followed the advice. The EA form is attached for ease of reference and can be downloaded from the website [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://ruralpayments.org)

Claiming the money back

Farmers/crofters are only allowed to make one Animal Health and Welfare claim per year. They do not need to apply or register in advance, simply claim the money using the completed EA form/s as proof. Claims are made online via the PSF Portal, the Animal Health and Welfare claims system will go live later this year. Claiming is a straightforward process that has already been well-received by users claiming for

carbon audits and soil sampling. **Be aware** that if claiming for the maximum of two interventions, claimants must upload both EA forms at the same time. The interventions might be several months apart: you may wish to keep a copy of the EA form for your own records and so that you can re-send to your client if they have lost the original by the time it comes to making the claim.

Start and finish dates

Any intervention completed (i.e. investigation done and expert advice received) between 1 January and 31 December 2023 is eligible for payment. Farmers/crofters have until 29 February 2024 to claim. The same start and finish times apply for the 2024 claim year, with claims being made by 28 February 2025.

The vet's role

- We would be delighted if you are able to promote the Animal Health and Welfare package to your clients, customers, members, colleagues and other contacts in the sheep and cattle sector.
- We would welcome feedback on anything that is unclear in this email or the online guidance. We would be happy to circulate more detailed guidance to vets if useful – the detail would be based on any feedback we receive from you.
- We will contact all vet practices in September and again in December to gauge the level of farmer and crofter engagement. We want as many sheep and cattle keepers to benefit from this opportunity as possible. If your feedback suggests that more publicity is needed, we will launch targeted communications to reach the relevant groups or regions.

Thank you for your support,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [Redacted] | E: [Redacted]@gov.scot

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 February 2023 13:02

Cc: [Redacted]@nationalsheep.org.uk>;

[Redacted]@nationalsheep.org.uk>;

[Redacted]@biobest.co.uk>;

[Redacted]@sheepvetsoc.org.uk'

[Redacted]bva.co.uk)

[Redacted]@apha.gov.uk>;

[Redacted]@apha.gov.uk'

[Redacted]@sruc.ac.uk;

[Redacted]@sruc.ac.

[Redacted]@sruc.ac.

[Redacted]@moredun.ac.uk>;

[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS IN YOUR PRACTICE

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation; [REDACTED] as discussed)

Scotland's farm payments will change in 2025. Although the details are not yet settled, we know that the new payment regime will incentivise sustainable and regenerative farming.

On 10 February Mari Gougeon (Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands) announced a new set of Animal Health and Welfare interventions running for the next 2 years to help livestock farmers and crofters "Prepare for Sustainable Farming". This will help them get ready for the new payment system in 2025 and builds on funding already available for conducting carbon audits and soil analysis.

Our aim is to encourage livestock keepers in Scotland to improve the health and welfare of their livestock, regardless of the size of their business or current health status.

Funding available for cattle and sheep clients

Participating sheep and cattle farmers and crofters can claim back a standard cost of £250 per intervention. Each intervention is made up of a completed investigation plus expert advice given on the basis of results. Each keeper can do a maximum of two interventions this year and two (same or different) next year. We also want to support all farmers and crofters in learning how to make their business more sustainable so in the first year of claiming, an additional £250 will be paid to cover learning and development. This adds up to a maximum of **£750 per claimant in 2023**, and for those who continue to participate next year, **£500 in 2024**. I.e. a maximum of £1250 per keeper over two years.

Those who leave it until next year before participating will only be eligible for a maximum of £750 in 2024.

Available interventions

The seven interventions are summarised below and there is more information online at: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org)

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
Cattle	1. Bull pre-breeding examination to British Cattle Veterinary Association standard	Vet treatment programme followed by re-testing and/or culling where appropriate
Cattle	2. Calf respiratory investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	3. Screen 12 animals per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12 sheep) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	4. Targeted iceberg disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes prior to sale, selecting animals with low condition scores	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	5. Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions (including Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis) and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	6. Liver fluke: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	7. Gastrointestinal parasite (worm) investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

We know that £250 won't always cover the full cost of investigation plus advised action. We hope it will start a conversation between the vet and the farmer, and we know that it will cover a significant part of the cost for most of the interventions, depending on farm size.

Why have we kept the list short and costs limited to £250?

Current greenhouse gas calculations tell us that cattle and sheep farms contribute significantly to the emissions from Scotland's agricultural sector, hence our focus on sheep and cattle. This is a short-term programme: it has to be simple to explain, easy for claimants and straightforward to run and audit. That is why we have restricted the list to seven well-known and effective interventions that should be applicable across Scotland, regardless of location or farm size. That is also why we have employed a standard cost model (£250 per intervention) and why we are relying on the Expert Advisor (in most cases, the farm vet) to certify that the intervention has been done. The Expert Advisor certifies that an investigation has been completed, results have been received **and** specific advice has been given. We **do not** require the Expert Advisor to confirm that their client has followed the advice. The EA form is attached for ease of reference and can be downloaded from the website [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance)

Claiming the money back

Farmers/crofters are only allowed to make one Animal Health and Welfare claim per year. They do not need to apply or register in advance, simply claim the money using the completed EA form/s as proof. Claims are made online via the PSF Portal, the Animal Health and Welfare claims system will go live later this year. Claiming is a straightforward process that has already been well-received by users claiming for carbon audits and soil sampling. **Be aware** that if claiming for the maximum of two interventions, claimants must upload both EA forms at the same time. The interventions might be several months apart: you may wish to keep a copy of the EA form for your own records and so that you can re-send to your client if they have lost the original by the time it comes to making the claim.

Start and finish dates

Any intervention completed (i.e. investigation done and expert advice received) between 1 January and 31 December 2023 is eligible for payment. Farmers/crofters have until 29 February 2024 to claim. The same start and finish times apply for the 2024 claim year, with claims being made by 28 February 2025.

The vet's role

- We would be delighted if you are able to promote the Animal Health and Welfare package to your clients, customers, members, colleagues and other contacts in the sheep and cattle sector.
- We would welcome feedback on anything that is unclear in this email or the online guidance. We would be happy to circulate more detailed guidance to vets if useful – the detail would be based on any feedback we receive from you.
- We will contact all vet practices in September and again in December to gauge the level of farmer and crofter engagement. We want as many sheep and cattle keepers to benefit from this opportunity as possible. If your

feedback suggests that more publicity is needed, we will launch targeted communications to reach the relevant groups or regions.

Thank you for your support,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 21 March 2023 15:33

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Yes, that would be my call too! 👍

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 3:25:14 PM

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Thanks [REDACTED], that makes sense to me.

[REDACTED], can you live with that version? Very happy to accept further refinements, if appropriate.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 21 March 2023 15:02
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi

Option 3 is the one for me -

“Whichever approach you choose, anything less than 90% reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time frame (normally 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke) is considered to indicate a lack of efficacy”

As long as the later caveats are expressed “ineffective treatment, under-dosing, wrong product, poorly calibrated equipment, past use-by date etc” then it covers some of the other factors that may lead to a drug being less than 90% efficacious which is not resistance.

Hope this makes sense

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 2:08 PM
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Thank you very much for getting back to me, very much appreciated. I will incorporate all your suggestions.

Just one follow-up query: the 90% figure. Is there a more accurate way to direct the vets, when they are interpreting a post-treatment FEC? E.g. would it be better to say:

1. “Whichever approach you choose, any reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time frame (normally 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke) would indicate a lack of efficacy” **or**
2. “Whichever approach you choose, a significant reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time frame (normally 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke) would indicate a lack of efficacy”? If the latter would be more accurate, is there a resource I can point the vets towards that explains what reduction would be considered significant? **Or**
3. “Whichever approach you choose, anything less than 90% reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time frame (normally 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke) is considered to indicate a lack of efficacy

And please suggest different wording altogether, if appropriate!

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 21 March 2023 13:05

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi [REDACTED] – sorry, meant to get back to you yesterday! Yes, agree with [REDACTED] on the minor tweaks, have added info for fluke below. Also, just to say, that 90% figure is a wee bit arbitrary for worms & fluke, especially the latter, but a good indicator that all is not well...

Rgds, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 21 March 2023 12:44

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for taking a day or so to get back. A couple of minor tweaks (in red) and a wee comment on farmer driven egg counts. I appreciate some may be doing huge numbers and be more competent than some poor vet practices but it would be good for the vet to register how the farmer was trained (if at all) and how regularly they undertake these test. Although FECs are not difficult to do, there is lots of scope to get it drastically wrong.

Anyway just something to consider.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: Friday, March 17, 2023 5:10 PM

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Thanks again for your time this morning, and for the links, [REDACTED]. I'm sorry it's taken me all day to get this done, there have been a lot of meetings – too many for a Friday! Please don't stay late on Friday to review this. It will wait until Monday.

As discussed, the following is my first draft for reply to [REDACTED]. Happy to take any edits/amendments on any of the text, particularly interested in your thoughts on the highlighted paragraphs. Once I've replied to [REDACTED] I would plan to circulate a condensed version of the information to farm vets in Scotland.

"Laid back and relaxed" is a good description of the Animal Health and Welfare package. As a short-lived programme (stopping on 31 December next year) we need it to be easy to administer and to audit. The Scottish Government RPID staff doing the audits will be checking against the online guidance -- there isn't an additional set of audit criteria.

This means that if the EA form is completed by the vet the claim will be paid. We rely on the vet's judgement that the investigation is appropriate for the chosen intervention. There is no list of "approved" or "preferred" investigations. The vet's choice of investigation would only be questioned if it is clearly unsuitable, e.g. refers to species other than sheep or cattle, refers to a disease/syndrome other than the one specified in the intervention.

The "Actions Required" will vary depending on circumstances. E.g. investigation results, current health status of the herd/flock, existing relationship between vet and keeper. Provided the text box for "Actions Required" is completed, it is extremely unlikely to be questioned when the claim is audited. Text might be limited to "continue vaccinating calves as set out in the health plan", or might be more detailed for a keeper who is tackling the specified disease/syndrome for the first time.

Regarding faecal egg count investigations, the aim of interventions 3, 4, 8 and 9 is to establish whether parasites are present, and if they are, to ensure that treatment has been effective. The choice of investigation is at the vet's discretion: either a faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT) or a drench efficacy test (i.e. pooled rather than individual samples) would be suitable. Choice will depend on flock size, health status, knowledge of existing problems such as wormer/flukicide resistance. Evidence suggests that the cheaper drench efficacy test will give reliable results for the majority of flocks and herds. Where your existing knowledge of the herd/flock suggests that more detailed output would be useful, you may opt for the more expensive FECRT.

Whichever approach you choose, anything less than 90% reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time frame (normally 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke) would indicate a lack of efficacy, which may be evidence of resistance, but you will want to rule-out ineffective treatment, under-dosing, wrong product, poorly calibrated equipment. past use-by date etc. This SCOPS leaflet may be useful to clients collecting samples for FEC:
https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/scops-wormertreatmentcheck_guidebook.pdf

Most FECs will be done by the vet practice or sent to a commercial lab, but is also fine for the FEC to be done by the farmer as long as you can make sense of the results that they report to you. Provided you have enough information from the investigation results to provide advice on wormer/flukicide use, you can complete the EA form that will allow the farmer's claim to be paid. ***** may want to ensure that farmers are competent on doing egg counts, though not much CPD for farmers and FECs*****

The EA form can be signed for any investigation that has been completed since 1st January 2023. If you have clients who have already had work done this year that fits with one of the interventions, you can sign the EA form.

The online system for AHW claims will be available later this year; clients will need to hold on to their completed EA form for a few months. We'll do publicity (probably at the Highland Show) about the opening date of the online system. My IT colleagues are designing the online platform at the moment and are not able to give a specific launch date. We've asked for it to be ready "in the summer" so if your clients are asking, I'd like to think they'll be able to submit their claim in October. The online platform will be limited to one claim per year: if clients are doing the maximum of two interventions in 2023 they will need to submit both EA forms when they claim.

Thanks again for your generous help this morning.

Wishing you a good weekend,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 17 March 2023 10:23

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi

Here ya go.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

<https://www.scops.org.uk/internal-parasites/worms/worming-treatment-check/>
https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/scops-wormertreatmentcheck_guidebook.pdf

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 12:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED],
(cc: as before)

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly! Really appreciate it. Super-helpful, as always.

I would welcome a quick chat tomorrow morning with both of you, I'll send you a Teams invitation for 10am, if that sounds OK. I'll put in a 25 minute slot. Let me know if a different time would be better, or if you think we'll need longer.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | **E:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 16 March 2023 11:59
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Phew, glad you agree, [REDACTED] 😊

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: 16 March 2023 11:52
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi all

[REDACTED] beat me to the punch but fully agree. I can chat tomorrow also if that suits?!

All the best

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:49 AM
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi [REDACTED] – perfectly valid question from you (& [REDACTED])! I think the fact that both fluke and worm FEC testing ‘protocols’, below, refer to testing again after treatment (fluke at 21d, worms at 7-14d, depending on product used) would imply that this is, in effect, a faecal egg count reduction test (or FECRT), as [REDACTED] alludes to! A FECRT typically looks at faecal egg count on the day of treatment and again a set # days later in a defined group of animals (n=10-12), anything less than a ~90-95% reduction in egg count would indicate a lack of efficacy, which may be evidence of resistance (but may also be ineffective treatment, wrong product, past use-by date etc.). There’s also a cheap ‘n’ cheerful post-drench efficacy check (PDEC), but no eggs doesn’t necessarily mean an effective treatment, the animals may not have been infected in the first place!? It’s a wee bit complicated, and nuanced in terms of ‘monitoring’ versus ‘efficacy testing’, e.g. below info from SCOPS for GINs (fluke is different!), but I can appreciate the concerns around what is/isn’t feasible under an NTP proposal...maybe easier to explain on a call/Zoom/Teams? I could manage later this afternoon, or tomorrow, if helpful?...

<https://www.scops.org.uk/internal-parasites/worms/testing-for-resistance/>

Hope this helps for now, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Sent: 16 March 2023 10:51
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: FW: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: [REDACTED] for info)

I'm looking for your fluke and worm advice so that I can reply (shamefully late) to the very patient [REDACTED] of Moray Coast Vets. In his email below, [REDACTED] has asked "whether an egg-count reduction test is required". Does this refer to something other than what we have specified in the online guidance? The relevant bits on fluke and worm are here (duplicated for sheep):

3. Cattle: liver fluke. Requires a liver fluke investigation, including flukicide efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on sentinel animals by examining faecal samples from the poorest animals (i.e. low condition scores, pale membranes around eyes and in mouth) in the herd before treating for fluke. You can do the FEC yourself or via your vet practice. Your vet will give you guidance on the number of animals to sample or use the information in the hyperlink further down this paragraph. The FEC should be repeated 21 days after fluke treatment to see if treatment has worked. You can find more information on FEC at <https://moredun.org.uk/resources/videos/test-dont-guess>.

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no fluke, ask your vet/consultant how best to keep your herd free of fluke. If the initial FEC +/- post-treatment FEC show fluke eggs, seek advice on most appropriate treatment. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser. The EA form can be downloaded from the PSF portal.

4. Cattle: roundworms. Requires a gastrointestinal parasite investigation including wormer efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on sentinel animals by examining faecal samples from the poorest animals (i.e. low condition scores, might have signs of scour and/or rough coats) in the herd before treating for roundworms. You can do the FEC yourself or via your vet practice. Your vet will give you guidance on the number of animals to sample, or you can use the information in the hyperlink further down this paragraph. The FEC should be repeated 7-14 days (depending on which wormer was used) after worming to see if treatment has worked. You can find more information on FEC at <https://moredun.org.uk/resources/videos/test-dont-guess>.

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no worms, ask your vet/consultant how best to keep your herd worm-free. If the initial FEC +/- post-treatment FEC show worm eggs, seek advice on most appropriate treatment. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser. The EA form can be downloaded from the PSF portal.

You'll see that [REDACTED] is (quite rightly) content to use his clinical judgement, which is what I will advise him, but what is "an egg count reduction test"?

Happy to discuss by phone if easier. I have a meeting starting at 11 but available this afternoon.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 17 March 2023 10:23

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi

Here ya go.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

<https://www.scops.org.uk/internal-parasites/worms/worming-treatment-check/>
https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/scops-wormertreatmentcheck_guidebook.pdf

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 12:15 PM

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: as before)

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly! Really appreciate it. Super-helpful, as always.

I would welcome a quick chat tomorrow morning with both of you, I'll send you a Teams invitation for 10am, if that sounds OK. I'll put in a 25 minute slot. Let me know if a different time would be better, or if you think we'll need longer.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 16 March 2023 11:59

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Phew, glad you agree, [REDACTED]! ☺

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: 16 March 2023 11:52

To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi all

[REDACTED] beat me to the punch but fully agree. I can chat tomorrow also if that suits?!

All the best

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:49 AM

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi [REDACTED] – perfectly valid question from you (& [REDACTED])! I think the fact that both fluke and worm FEC testing ‘protocols’, below, refer to testing again after treatment (fluke at 21d, worms at 7-14d, depending on product used) would imply that this is, in effect, a faecal egg count reduction test (or FECRT), as [REDACTED] alludes to! A FECRT typically looks at faecal egg count on the day of treatment and again a set # days later in a defined group of animals (n=10-12), anything less than a ~90-95% reduction in egg count would indicate a lack of efficacy, which may be evidence of resistance (but may also be ineffective treatment, wrong product, past use-by date etc.). There’s also a cheap ‘n’ cheerful post-drench efficacy check (PDEC), but no eggs doesn’t necessarily mean an effective treatment, the animals may not have been infected in the first place!? It’s a wee bit complicated, and nuanced in terms of ‘monitoring’ versus ‘efficacy testing’, e.g. below info from SCOPS for GINs (fluke is different!), but I can appreciate the concerns around what is/isn’t feasible under an NTP proposal...maybe easier to explain on a call/Zoom/Teams? I could manage later this afternoon, or tomorrow, if helpful?...

<https://www.scops.org.uk/internal-parasites/worms/testing-for-resistance/>

Hope this helps for now, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Principal Scientist & SEFARI Gateway Knowledge Broker - Livestock
Moredun Research Institute,
Bush Loan, Penicuik,
Edinburgh EH26 0PZ

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Sent: 16 March 2023 10:51
To: [REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: FW: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

[CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi [REDACTED]
(cc: [REDACTED] for info)

I'm looking for your fluke and worm advice so that I can reply (shamefully late) to the very patient [REDACTED] of Moray Coast Vets. In his email below, [REDACTED] has asked "whether an egg-count reduction test is required". Does this refer to something other than what we have specified in the online guidance? The relevant bits on fluke and worm are here (duplicated for sheep):

3. Cattle: liver fluke. Requires a liver fluke investigation, including flukicide efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on sentinel animals by examining faecal samples from the poorest animals (i.e. low condition scores, pale membranes around eyes and in mouth) in the herd before treating for fluke. You can do the FEC yourself or via your vet practice. Your vet will give you guidance on the number of animals to sample or use the information in the hyperlink further down this paragraph. The FEC should be repeated 21 days after fluke treatment to see if treatment has worked. You can find more information on FEC at <https://moredun.org.uk/resources/videos/test-dont-guess>.

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no fluke, ask your vet/consultant how best to keep your herd free of fluke. If the initial FEC +/- post-treatment FEC show fluke eggs, seek advice on most appropriate treatment. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser. The EA form can be downloaded from the PSF portal.

4. Cattle: roundworms. Requires a gastrointestinal parasite investigation including wormer efficacy testing. Followed by action: consult an Expert Adviser, implement a sustainable prevention and control plan for the entire herd.

A faecal egg count (FEC) should be carried out on sentinel animals by examining faecal samples from the poorest animals (i.e. low condition scores, might have signs of scour and/or rough coats) in the herd before treating for roundworms. You can do the FEC yourself or via your vet practice. Your vet will give you guidance on the number of animals to sample, or you can use the information in the hyperlink further down this paragraph. The FEC should be repeated 7-14 days (depending on which wormer was used) after worming to see if treatment has worked. You can find more information on FEC at <https://moredun.org.uk/resources/videos/test-dont-guess>.

Advised actions will be dependent on FEC results. If the initial FEC shows no worms, ask your vet/consultant how best to keep your herd worm-free. If the initial FEC +/- post-treatment FEC show worm eggs, seek advice on most appropriate treatment. Advice from the Expert Adviser must be confirmed in writing.

Claims for payment must be accompanied by proof of investigation plus action, provided on the standard supporting document signed by an Expert Adviser. The EA form can be downloaded from the PSF portal.

You'll see that [REDACTED] is (quite rightly) content to use his clinical judgement, which is what I will advise him, but what is "an egg count reduction test"?

Happy to discuss by phone if easier. I have a meeting starting at 11 but available this afternoon.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@moraycoastvetgroup.co.uk

Sent: 28 February 2023 10:31

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Animal Health and Welfare scheme

Hi [REDACTED],

I hope you're well. It's not too boring now we're down to 5 Scottish PIs is it?!

It's been interesting hearing from you about the Scottish Health and Welfare scheme. I've been following the Pathway stuff being developed south of the border and wondered if we'd get something similar.

I followed the link to the online advice but couldn't find any more detail about exactly what will qualify for each of the investigation options. Some are fairly clear (option 3 for scab is very simple), but others are a bit vague. My concern is that if we promote this now and then find out in September that our eg. Faecal egg count investigation hasn't met the criteria then there will be... is disgruntlement a word?!

Is there more precise and proscriptive detail to follow shortly? Or will the scheme be laid-back and relaxed and as long as we've done some dung-sampling we'll be able to sign it off retroactively?

Also, I assume each option can only be claimed once in a year. For example bull fert testing keeps us busy here. If a client had one bull tested then the £250 would more than cover it. If they had 10 tested then they could still only claim £250. But if they had one bull tested one month and another tested next month I assume they can only claim once, is that correct?


Essentially it will be really helpful to have some detail on exactly what is required for options 2,4,6 and 7. Including minimum numbers to be tested, whether an egg-count reduction test is required, etc. Or otherwise some reassurance that it'll be fine, we can use our clinical judgement and just put the claims in when the time comes.

Kind regards,



31 March 2023

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation;  as discussed)

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch about the Animal Health and Welfare intervention package that Scottish Government launched in February. We have already had very useful feedback, as well as positive reports of clients wanting to take up one or more interventions.

Changes to the EA form

As a result of feedback we have already made a change to the Expert Advisor form. See attached, and also available at [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance). When the claims system is operational (later this year) it will accept all versions of the EA form.

We hope it is now clear that a client could, if appropriate, carry out separate roundworm investigations in their sheep flock and cattle herd, each of which would be eligible for the standard payment of £250. This choice would represent the maximum number of two interventions for one claim year, the client could claim £500 after completing both interventions. As a successful claimant, they would automatically be paid the additional £250 CPD cost, giving a total of £750 in the first year. The same applies to the fluke interventions.

Changes to the numbering of the interventions

The list of interventions is slightly longer due to the above change, it now looks like this:

Intervention	Summary of investigation options	Outline of actions that may be required
1. Bull fertility	For more detail, see online guidance Bull pre-breeding examination to BCVA standard	For more detail, see online guidance Veterinary treatment followed by re-testing and/or culling as needed
2. Calf respiratory disease	Calf respiratory disease investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where

3.Cattle: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	relevant, using appropriate expert advice Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
4.Cattle: roundworms	Roundworm investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
5.Sheep scab	Screen 12 sheep per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
6.Sheep iceberg diseases	Targeted disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes.	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
7.Sheep lameness	Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
8.Sheep: liver fluke	Liver fluke investigation: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
9.Sheep: roundworms	Roundworm investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

Advice on FEC testing

We have also been asked for more detail on acceptable testing for the fluke and roundworm interventions (i.e. numbers 3, 4, 8, 9). Experts from Moredun Research Institute helped us to clarify the instructions as follows:

- Regarding faecal egg count investigations, the aim is to establish whether parasites are present, and if they are, to ensure that treatment has been effective. The choice of investigation is at the vet's discretion: either a faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT) or a drench efficacy test (i.e. pooled rather than individual samples) would be suitable. Choice will depend on flock size, health status, knowledge of existing problems such as wormer/flukicide resistance. Evidence suggests that the cheaper drench efficacy test will give reliable results for the majority of flocks and herds. Where your existing knowledge of the herd/flock suggests that more detailed output would be useful, you may opt for the more expensive FECRT.
- Whichever approach you choose, anything less than 90% reduction in egg count post-treatment at the appropriate time after dosing* is considered to

indicate a lack of efficacy, which may be evidence of resistance. *Appropriate time after dosing is normally taken as 7-14 days for roundworms and 21 days for liver fluke. Of course, you will need to rule-out the "human" causes of lack of efficacy, e.g. under-dosing, wrong product, poorly calibrated equipment, past use-by date. This SCOPS leaflet may be useful to clients collecting samples for FEC:

https://www.scops.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/scops-wormertreatmentcheck_guidebook.pdf

- Most FECs will be done by the vet practice or sent to a commercial lab, but is also acceptable for the FEC to be done by the farmer as long as you are confident that your client is competent to carry out a FEC and you can interpret their results. Provided you have enough information from the investigation results to provide advice on wormer/flukicide use, you can complete the EA form that will allow the farmer's claim to be paid.
- The EA form can be signed for any investigation that has been completed since 1st January 2023. If you have clients who have already had work done this year that fits with one of the interventions, you can sign an EA form.

I will be out of the office for the next week, very happy to field questions on my return.

Wishing you all a happy Easter when it comes, and hoping that you will be able to get some time off during the next busy couple of months.

Best wishes

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division | Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive | EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [Redacted] | E: [Redacted]@gov.scot

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 February 2023 13:02

Cc: [Redacted]@cattlevet.co.uk, [Redacted]@nationalsheep.org.uk;
[Redacted]@nationalsheep.org.uk>; [Redacted]@biobest.co.uk>;
[Redacted]@sheepvetsoc.org.uk>; [Redacted]@bva.co.uk);
[Redacted]@apha.gov.uk [Redacted]@apha.gov.uk>;
[Redacted]@sruc.ac.uk); [Redacted]@sruc.ac.uk>; [Redacted]
[Redacted]@sruc.ac.uk); [Redacted]@moredun.ac.uk>;
[Redacted]@gov.scot

Subject: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS IN YOUR PRACTICE

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation; [REDACTED] as discussed)

Scotland's farm payments will change in 2025. Although the details are not yet settled, we know that the new payment regime will incentivise sustainable and regenerative farming.

On 10 February Mari Gougeon (Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands) announced a new set of Animal Health and Welfare interventions running for the next 2 years to help livestock farmers and crofters "Prepare for Sustainable Farming". This will help them get ready for the new payment system in 2025 and builds on funding already available for conducting carbon audits and soil analysis.

Our aim is to encourage livestock keepers in Scotland to improve the health and welfare of their livestock, regardless of the size of their business or current health status.

Funding available for cattle and sheep clients

Participating sheep and cattle farmers and crofters can claim back a standard cost of £250 per intervention. Each intervention is made up of a completed investigation plus expert advice given on the basis of results. Each keeper can do a maximum of two interventions this year and two (same or different) next year. We also want to support all farmers and crofters in learning how to make their business more sustainable so in the first year of claiming, an additional £250 will be paid to cover learning and development. This adds up to a maximum of **£750 per claimant in 2023**, and for those who continue to participate next year, **£500 in 2024**. I.e. a maximum of £1250 per keeper over two years.

Those who leave it until next year before participating will only be eligible for a maximum of £750 in 2024.

Available interventions

The seven interventions are summarised below and there is more information online at: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org)

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
Cattle	1. Bull pre-breeding examination to British Cattle Veterinary Association standard	Vet treatment programme followed by re-testing and/or culling where appropriate
Cattle	2. Calf respiratory investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	3. Screen 12 animals per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12 sheep) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	4. Targeted iceberg disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes prior to sale, selecting animals with low condition scores	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	5. Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions (including Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis) and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	6. Liver fluke: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
Cattle or Sheep	7. Gastrointestinal parasite (worm) investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

We know that £250 won't always cover the full cost of investigation plus advised action. We hope it will start a conversation between the vet and the farmer, and we know that it will cover a significant part of the cost for most of the interventions, depending on farm size.

Why have we kept the list short and costs limited to £250?

Current greenhouse gas calculations tell us that cattle and sheep farms contribute significantly to the emissions from Scotland's agricultural sector, hence our focus on sheep and cattle. This is a short-term programme: it has to be simple to explain, easy for claimants and straightforward to run and audit. That is why we have restricted the list to seven well-known and effective interventions that should be applicable across Scotland, regardless of location or farm size. That is also why we have employed a standard cost model (£250 per intervention) and why we are relying on the Expert Advisor (in most cases, the farm vet) to certify that the intervention has been done. The Expert Advisor certifies that an investigation has been completed, results have been received **and** specific advice has been given. We **do not** require the Expert Advisor to confirm that their client has followed the advice. The EA form is attached for ease of reference and can be downloaded from the website [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance)

Claiming the money back

Farmers/crofters are only allowed to make one Animal Health and Welfare claim per year. They do not need to apply or register in advance, simply claim the money using the completed EA form/s as proof. Claims are made online via the PSF Portal, the Animal Health and Welfare claims system will go live later this year. Claiming is a straightforward process that has already been well-received by users claiming for carbon audits and soil sampling. **Be aware** that if claiming for the maximum of two interventions, claimants must upload both EA forms at the same time. The interventions might be several months apart: you may wish to keep a copy of the EA form for your own records and so that you can re-send to your client if they have lost the original by the time it comes to making the claim.

Start and finish dates

Any intervention completed (i.e. investigation done and expert advice received) between 1 January and 31 December 2023 is eligible for payment. Farmers/crofters have until 29 February 2024 to claim. The same start and finish times apply for the 2024 claim year, with claims being made by 28 February 2025.

The vet's role

- We would be delighted if you are able to promote the Animal Health and Welfare package to your clients, customers, members, colleagues and other contacts in the sheep and cattle sector.
- We would welcome feedback on anything that is unclear in this email or the online guidance. We would be happy to circulate more detailed guidance to

vets if useful – the detail would be based on any feedback we receive from you.

- We will contact all vet practices in September and again in December to gauge the level of farmer and crofter engagement. We want as many sheep and cattle keepers to benefit from this opportunity as possible. If your feedback suggests that more publicity is needed, we will launch targeted communications to reach the relevant groups or regions.

Thank you for your support,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Dear ARIOB animal health subgroup,
(cc: [REDACTED] for info; [REDACTED] as discussed)

I hope this finds you well.

Just to keep you all posted, [REDACTED] and I have sent the email below to farm vet practices in Scotland, plus the cc list of veterinary organisations. We are expecting a glossier comms package to appear from the SG team in due course, but felt it was important to get the basic information out to vets sooner rather than later. I will also send to the Farm Advisory Service and would be very happy for you to circulate the email to any of your contacts who might find it useful.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 February 2023 13:02

Cc: [REDACTED]@cattlevet.co.uk; [REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk;
[REDACTED]@nationalsheep.org.uk; [REDACTED]@biobest.co.uk;
[REDACTED]@sheepvetsoc.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@bva.co.uk
[REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@apha.gov.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk>; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk; [REDACTED]@sruc.ac.uk
[REDACTED]@moredun.ac.uk>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: £750 for sheep and cattle clients - Scottish Government is promoting disease prevention - FAO SHEEP AND CATTLE VETS IN YOUR PRACTICE

Dear sheep and cattle vets

(cc: BCVA, NSA, SVS, BVA, APHA, SRUC, Biobest, MRI for info/wider circulation; [REDACTED] as discussed)

Scotland's farm payments will change in 2025. Although the details are not yet settled, we know that the new payment regime will incentivise sustainable and regenerative farming.

On 10 February Mari Gougeon (Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands) announced a new set of Animal Health and Welfare interventions running for the next 2 years to help livestock farmers and crofters "Prepare for Sustainable Farming". This will help them get ready for the new payment system in 2025 and builds on funding already available for conducting carbon audits and soil analysis.

Our aim is to encourage livestock keepers in Scotland to improve the health and welfare of their livestock, regardless of the size of their business or current health status.

Funding available for cattle and sheep clients

Participating sheep and cattle farmers and crofters can claim back a standard cost of £250 per intervention. Each intervention is made up of a completed investigation plus expert advice given on the basis of results. Each keeper can do a maximum of two interventions this year and two (same or different) next year. We also want to support all farmers and crofters in learning how to make their business more sustainable so in the first year of claiming, an additional £250 will be paid to cover learning and development. This adds up to a maximum of **£750 per claimant in 2023**, and for those who continue to participate next year, **£500 in 2024**. I.e. a maximum of £1250 per keeper over two years.

Those who leave it until next year before participating will only be eligible for a maximum of £750 in 2024.

Available interventions

The seven interventions are summarised below and there is more information online at: [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org)

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
Cattle	1. Bull pre-breeding examination to British Cattle Veterinary Association standard	Vet treatment programme followed by re-testing and/or culling where appropriate
Cattle	2. Calf respiratory investigation +/- virus screen	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	3. Screen 12 animals per management group (or all animals in group of less than 12 sheep) to determine sheep scab status of whole flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan that avoids unnecessary treatment, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Sheep	4. Targeted iceberg disease investigation (options: Maedi Visna, Johnes, Border Disease, Contagious Lymphadenitis, lung scanning for OPA). Screen cull ewes prior to sale,	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures for screening and/or isolating purchased and returning stock, using appropriate expert advice

Cattle or sheep?	Summary of investigation options For more detail, see online guidance	Outline of actions that may be required For more detail, see online guidance
	selecting animals with low condition scores	
Sheep	5. Flock lameness assessment by vet: identify conditions (including Contagious Ovine Digital Dermatitis) and their prevalence within the flock	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	6. Liver fluke: Faecal Egg Count on sentinel animals and flukicide efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice
Cattle or Sheep	7. Gastrointestinal parasite (worm) investigation: Faecal Egg Count and wormer efficacy testing	Implement sustainable prevention and control plan, including biosecurity measures where relevant, using appropriate expert advice

We know that £250 won't always cover the full cost of investigation plus advised action. We hope it will start a conversation between the vet and the farmer, and we know that it will cover a significant part of the cost for most of the interventions, depending on farm size.

Why have we kept the list short and costs limited to £250?

Current greenhouse gas calculations tell us that cattle and sheep farms contribute significantly to the emissions from Scotland's agricultural sector, hence our focus on sheep and cattle. This is a short-term programme: it has to be simple to explain, easy for claimants and straightforward to run and audit. That is why we have restricted the list to seven well-known and effective interventions that should be applicable across Scotland, regardless of location or farm size. That is also why we have employed a standard cost model (£250 per intervention) and why we are relying on the Expert Advisor (in most cases, the farm vet) to certify that the intervention has been done. The Expert Advisor certifies that an investigation has been completed, results have been received **and** specific advice has been given. We **do not** require the Expert Advisor to confirm that their client has followed the advice. The EA form is attached for ease of reference and can be downloaded from the website [Preparing for Sustainable Farming full guidance \(ruralpayments.org\)](https://www.ruralpayments.org/Preparing-for-Sustainable-Farming-full-guidance)

Claiming the money back

Farmers/crofters are only allowed to make one Animal Health and Welfare claim per year. They do not need to apply or register in advance, simply claim the money using the completed EA form/s as proof. Claims are made online via the PSF Portal, the Animal Health and Welfare claims system will go live later this year. Claiming is a straightforward process that has already been well-received by users claiming for carbon audits and soil sampling. **Be aware** that if claiming for the maximum of two interventions, claimants must upload both EA forms at the same time. The interventions might be several months apart: you may wish to keep a copy of the EA form for your own records and so that you can re-send to your client if they have lost the original by the time it comes to making the claim.

Start and finish dates

Any intervention completed (i.e. investigation done and expert advice received) between 1 January and 31 December 2023 is eligible for payment. Farmers/crofters have until 29 February 2024 to claim. The same start and finish times apply for the 2024 claim year, with claims being made by 28 February 2025.

The vet's role

- We would be delighted if you are able to promote the Animal Health and Welfare package to your clients, customers, members, colleagues and other contacts in the sheep and cattle sector.
- We would welcome feedback on anything that is unclear in this email or the online guidance. We would be happy to circulate more detailed guidance to vets if useful – the detail would be based on any feedback we receive from you.
- We will contact all vet practices in September and again in December to gauge the level of farmer and crofter engagement. We want as many sheep and cattle keepers to benefit from this opportunity as possible. If your feedback suggests that more publicity is needed, we will launch targeted communications to reach the relevant groups or regions.

Thank you for your support,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

BVD Policy Manager | Scottish Government | Animal Health and Welfare Division |
Disease Prevention Team | P Spur | Saughton House | Broomhouse Drive |
EDINBURGH | EH11 3XD

T: [Redacted] | E: [Redacted]@gov.scot