

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

63rd Meeting of ACAF on 26February 2014

Information Paper

**Update on Feed Law Enforcement Review Implementation
Programme**

Members are asked to note the progress on the Feed Law Enforcement Programme.

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Feed Review Implementation
Team
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Update on Animal Feed Implementation Programme

Purpose

1. This paper provides an update on the Animal Feed Implementation Programme since the ACAF meeting held on 9 October 2013.

Background

2. There are a number of project work-streams contributing to the programme:
 - updating the Feed Law Code of Practice (Code) to reflect changing risks within the feed industry;
 - developing the recognition and role of assurance schemes within the feed industry;
 - reducing the burden of inspections, enabling controls to be focused on more pressing priorities;
 - better provision of data between LAs and the FSA to enable better targeting of interventions; and
 - working with Other Government Departments (OGDs) involved in different aspects of feed to share information to effectively prioritise interventions and reduce duplication and costs where possible.

Update

3. The programme, which takes full account of the different delivery models across the UK and requires no additional LA resources is progressing on time and in budget with sustained input from all partners (industry, LAs and OGDs). Formal consultation (consumer views on how we propose to use earned recognition, and consultation on the draft law Code of Practice) have provided positive feedback and input.
4. Some improvements have been piloted (including FSA funding in four regions in England) ready for national roll-out in April 2014. The FVO visited GB on 20 January 2014 to audit the improvements made and those planned for April

2014, along with measures in place for identifying and managing hazards and risks along the feed chain including for oils and fats. Consequently, further/different recommendations may follow. Outlined below is a programme summary.

Code of Practice

5. The revised draft Feed Law Code of Practice public consultation closed 12 December 2013. It is proposed to be introduced in England and Wales from April 2014, Scotland's process runs parallel to the development of the new food body and Northern Ireland will revise their Guidance Document.
6. The amendments offer more flexibility for enforcement officers to target resources at the highest risk premises; ensure a wider range of enforcement officers can carry out inspections at low risk premises; greater use of earned recognition of FSA approved assurance schemes and/or alternate enforcement strategies for compliant and low risk businesses.

Earned Recognition (ER)

7. The revised Code explains how ER is applied, including how assurance schemes are approved and the mechanisms in place to monitor scheme membership. The Code explains how ER is attained for compliant businesses that are not part of an FSA approved assurance scheme. Governance arrangements have been agreed to ensure effective monitoring of schemes.

Better provision of data

8. To ensure efficient and consistent delivery, whilst adhering to DCLG's required 30% reduction in requests to LAs for data, we are using data from OGDs and industry to check the accuracy of LA animal feed data held by the FSA. This new 'master list' is being piloted to understand the impact of ER and the revised Code on LA inspections. This will enable improved targeting and reduce multiple visits by different OGDs in short timescales.

National co-ordination of LA delivery through NTSB in England.

9. Development of an improved LA delivery model through NTSB is progressing well. Four pilots for regional delivery of FSA grants are on target to deliver improved consistency; sub-projects including the creation of model documents, raising the profile of feed in LAs, and improving import controls are on target to deliver before April 2014. A contract to enable NTSB to administer FSA feed grant funding along with other related projects to improve consistency from April 2014 is ready for sign-off. This will benefit all feed authorities in England, enabling them to use resources and expertise more effectively at a local and national level.

National Surveillance and sampling plan

10. An effective surveillance and sampling plan is a key priority. Actions are in hand through NTSB and sub-project work to ensure improved national coordination and place greater focus on feed controls at ports.

FVO audit

11. The FVO's two-week audit commenced on 20 January 2014. It is the third feed audit since 2009 and the second visit to look at progress on the 2011 audit recommendations. Members of the Feed Programme have been in contact with the FVO regularly to discuss the delivery model and the FVO has signalled its approval.

Benefits realisation plan

12. The Programme has developed a detailed benefits realisation plan to ensure the benefits identified throughout the Programme are delivered. Benefits and dis-benefits are being tracked for the consumer, the FSA, LAs, industry and the FVO.

13. For further information contact Toni Smith, Programme Manager
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