

Get funding to improve animal health and welfare: new support to tackle endemic diseases

Introduction

- At the Farm To Fork Summit on 14 May the Prime Minister announced a comprehensive package of support for the farming sector in England.
- That includes a new fund to support cattle, pig and sheep keepers in England to address key endemic diseases; Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD), Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) and a range of different health conditions in sheep.
- We have prepared this note to provide further details about this new support to cascade through your networks.

Key message: We're building on the Annual Health and Welfare Review

- Through co-design with vets and farmers Defra will be offering financial support to help keepers of cattle, sheep and pig:
 - eradicate Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD)
 - control Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)
 - tackle range of different health conditions in sheep.
- This builds on the support already available through the Annual Health and Welfare Review.
- To access the new support you will need to have a Review first, so if you haven't had one already you can learn more about it and apply on GOV.UK
<https://apply-for-an-annual-health-and-welfare-review.defra.gov.uk/apply>
- If you have already had a Review you'll be able to access the new support as soon as it is available

Key message: You can get funding for practical, ongoing support to tackle endemic diseases

- Tackling endemic diseases on farm is never a 'one and done' job; it takes ongoing effort and the support of trusted partners like a farmer's own vet.
- To help farmers continue to focus on tackling endemic diseases they will be able to claim funding annually at set rates for each species
- These rates are:
 - £923 for pigs;

- £639 for sheep; and
 - £215 for cattle with no BVD, or a higher rate of £837 for beef cattle or £1714 for dairy cattle where BVD is present in the herd.
- This will pay for more in-depth diagnostic testing for PRRS; identifying persistently infected cattle on farms with BVD; and bespoke veterinary advice on how to eliminate the disease from the farm.
 - In the case of sheep the farmer will, in consultation with their vet, choose from a range of health improvement packages. These will target the specific syndrome that is most prevalent and provides most benefit to treat in each flock.
 - All eligible farmers will also receive funding for the delivery of a biosecurity assessment followed by bespoke advice to help farmers identify how diseases are most likely to spread into their herd or flock, and across their farm.

Key message: This new support will be available soon

- Defra will make this new support available in Summer 2024, starting with sheep, pig and beef cattle, before expanding to include dairy farmers soon after.
- Subscribe to Defra's [Farming Blog](#) and [E-Shot service](#) to stay up to date on the latest announcements.