

**PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTING THE WALL REPORT
RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. This paper informs the MHS Board of progress on implementing the recommendations of the Wall Report. Progress against each of the recommendations is shown in the annexed table.
2. The MHS Board is asked to **note** progress on actions being taken to implement the Wall Report recommendations.

Contacts:

Meat Hygiene & Veterinary Division

Peter Hewson Tel: 020 7276 8344 (GTN 276 8344)
Email: peter.hewson@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Meat Hygiene Service

Jane Downes Tel: 01904 45 5520 (GTN 5137 5520)
Email: jane.downes@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

**WALL REVIEW OF CASUALTY TESTING FAILURES: ACTION PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT [As at 20 May 2005]**

Recommendation	Action proposed	Target date	Progress
R1&2 Prioritisation	<p>Agree new TSE sampling of casualty cattle SLA with Defra to include satisfactory key performance measures.</p> <p>FSA, Defra and MHS to hold externally facilitated workshop to prioritise current MHS tasks and agree arrangements for reviewing priorities.</p> <p>Subsequently FSA and Defra to review all other SLAs with MHS taking account of agreed priorities.</p>	<p>New SLA signed by 1 December 2004.</p> <p>Agree current priorities and future arrangements by 18 December 2004.</p> <p>All other SLAs signed by 1 April 2005.</p>	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Workshop held on 17 December and agreed that priorities must be set at task level, rather than at high level of public health, animal health etc. A project plan was agreed at the March 2005 MHS Board meeting. Project to conclude in September 2005, after which SLAs will be reviewed.</p>
R3 Testing instruction	Defra to agree revised MHS instructions for sampling of casualty cattle.	Revised instructions implemented by 1 December 2004.	Completed. Instruction implemented on 17 December 2004.
R4,5,6,7 and first sentence of 10 MHS structure	MHS to appoint an external consultant with expertise in change management to develop and provide costed options for delivery of recommendations.	Options for meeting recommendations delivered to MHS by 1 Feb 2005.	DNV appointed and findings and recommendations discussed at January and March MHS Board meetings. Options for future provision of OVSs and management systems of plant based staff with DNV to undertake cost benefit analysis by 17 June. Stakeholder meeting planned for 1 June.

Recommendation	Action proposed	Target date	Progress
R4 last sentence FSA audit	<p>Scope of FSA audit of MHS to be amended to include BSE testing.</p> <p>Under FSA re-organisation audit of MHS is to transfer to Enforcement Division. Enforcement Division to liaise with Meat Hygiene and Veterinary Division on developing new FSA audit arrangements of MHS.</p>	<p>Scope extended to cover new instruction by 1 December 2004.</p> <p>New audit arrangements to take effect from 1 April 2005</p>	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Function and 2 Veterinary Meat Hygiene Advisors transferred to ED. Current plant based audits continuing. PKF to further develop ED's external audit of MHS.</p>
R8&9 OVS Designation and training	<p>Recommendations are in agreement with proposals being developed to meet the designation and further training requirements of H3.</p> <p>In the meantime, training to be reviewed to ensure BSE testing adequately covered, and arrangements made to introduce checks of OVS competency in this pre-designation.</p>	<p>Provisions of H3 implemented by 1 Jan 2006.</p> <p>Current training arrangements for BSE testing amended prior to first course in 2005.</p>	<p>Included in implementation of new EU Hygiene Regulations project. Will include probationary period for OVSs in line with legal base provided by H3. MHS consulting (i) universities about future OVS syllabus, and (ii) the Royal College about postgraduate training modules to contribute to OVS qualification.</p> <p>BSE element developed for inclusion in February 2005 and subsequent OVS courses.</p>
R10, second sentence MHS, FSA & Defra working arrangements	<p>Effective working relationships have been largely achieved between MHS and FSA since the testing failures occurred.</p> <p>FSA, Defra and MHS use externally facilitated workshop to clarify relationships and agree responsibilities.</p>	<p>Relationships and responsibilities agreed by 18 December 2004.</p>	<p>Relationship and responsibility issues developed at workshop on 17 December and being taken forward as part of implementation plan being developed from the workshop output.</p>

Recommendation	Action proposed	Target date	Progress
R11 Feedback on proposed instructions	MHS have already implemented a system to get feedback on proposed instructions from front line staff. Review effectiveness of system.	MHS to provide report on effectiveness of feedback system by 1 Feb 2005.	Report finalised by MHS and submitted to FSA.
R12 Ante-mortem facilities and staffing levels	MHS, FSA, and Defra to agree the degree of ante-mortem inspection required for each animal and the facilities needed to allow the inspection to occur. Amend SLA accordingly. MHS to carry out survey of current facilities. Take forward under project to approve plants under new EU rules.	Agreement by 1 March 2005. Ante-mortem facility requirements to be incorporated into industry guide to be issued for consultation 1 April 2005. Approve plants 2006.	FSA, Defra and MHS met on 6 December to discuss ante-mortem inspection and facility requirements. Draft of requirements agreed and being consulted on. SLA amended to carry out survey of current facilities.
R13 Link post-mortem and ante-mortem inspection	System to be developed to enable post-mortem findings to be used as a check of effectiveness of the ante-mortem identification of cattle to be BSE tested, prior to IT solution being introduced as part of project to deliver inspection recording requirements of H3.	Temporary system in place by 1 February 2005. System to deliver requirements of H3 in place by 1 Jan 2006.	Temporary paper based system developed. Proposed amendment to operational instructions and implementation timescale being considered.