EXECUTIVE NOTE

THE POULTRY BREEDING FLOCKS AND HATCHERIES (SCOTLAND) ORDER 2007 (SSI 2007/254)

The above instrument was made in exercise of powers conferred by sections 1, 8 and 29(3) of the Animal Health Act 1981. The instrument does not require to be laid before Parliament. .

Policy Objectives

The EU Zoonoses Directive 2003/99/EC on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents and Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of salmonella and other food-borne zoonotic agents, provide for the protection of human health against zoonoses and zoonotic agents in animals and products of animal origin. Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 implements Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and sets a target for the reduction of the prevalence of salmonella in all adult breeding flocks (comprising at least 250 birds) to 1% or less by 31 December 2009.

A mandatory control programme for the monitoring and control of salmonella in breeding flocks has been in operation since 1993. This was based on Council Directive 92/117/EEC and implemented by the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993. A new National Control Programme for breeding flocks sets out the framework of controls described in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 to meet the target and sampling described in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005. The Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Scotland) Order 2007 will expand upon and replace the monitoring and control provisions introduced by the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 and implement the new National Control Programme.

Consultation

A public consultation ended in December 2006 and regular working group meetings have been held with major stakeholders across the UK poultry industry to discuss how the requirements of Regulation 1003/2005 could be implemented most cost effectively. These stakeholders and government officials from the Devolved Administrations worked in partnership to produce the National Control Programme. Technical experts at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency and other relevant departments, in particular the Food Standards Agency, also contributed to the programme.

Financial Effects

The implementation of the National Control Programme will have financial implications for the organisations, groups and individuals responsible for the health and welfare of poultry, organisations and groups involved in primary food production and consumer/retail associations. It is anticipated that costs will be borne by the operators and not the Executive but this will be the subject of separate legislation. A Regulatory Impact Assessment has been prepared for this instrument.

Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department
20 March 2007

REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (RIA)

1. Title of proposal

The Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 2007. This Order, which implements the National Control Programme for Breeders, will come into effect early in 2007 as required by Zoonoses Regulation 2160/2003.

2. Purpose and intended effect

- **Objectives**

  The National Control Programme for Breeders, which will be implemented by The Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 2007, is a framework of measures for the control and monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents in the UK. Its objective is to meet the requirements of EU legislation which seeks to ensure that Salmonellas of human health significance are detected and controlled in breeding flocks and their environment in order to reduce the threat they pose to human health further along the food chain. In particular, Regulation 1003/2005 requires the reduction and/or maintenance of the prevalence of Salmonellas of human health significance in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* to a target level of 1% or less of adult breeding flocks remaining positive by 31 December 2009. It also sets out requirements and testing methods for official control sampling to verify the achievement of the Community target and requires that samples are submitted to an authorised laboratory which applies quality assurance systems. Salmonellas of human health significance are *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium, *Salmonella* Hadar, *Salmonella* Infantis and *Salmonella* Virchow. New legislation will be introduced in Scotland. England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

- **Background**

  A programme for the control of the two most important Salmonellas of public health significance, *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium, in breeding flocks of Gallus *gallus* has been in operation in the UK since 1989 and in its present form since 1993 when the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 was brought in to implement the sampling requirements of Directive 92/117. The National Control Programme was submitted to the Commission in 2005 and has been approved. This programme requires operators across the UK to implement the sampling programme specified in Regulation 2160/2003 and to verify the achievement of the target as detailed in Commission Regulation 1003/2005. Zoonoses Regulation 2160/2003 is intended to harmonise the reduction of Salmonellas of public health significance in breeding flocks across the Community.

  The UK breeding flock sector is already meeting many of the National Control Programme's requirements. In recognition of this achievement by industry we are seeking to identify an approach to implementation which avoids undue financial burdens while still complying with EU obligations. The implementation options considered below and feedback from consultations both support this approach.

Over the next four years, separate National Control Programmes will be drawn up for layer and broiler flocks of domestic fowl, for turkeys and for fattening and breeding pigs. These will be subject to separate legislation and RIAs.

- **Rationale for government intervention**

  Early in 2007 all Member States will be required to have a National Control Programme in place which matches the standards of Regulations 2160/2003 and 1003/2005. This should ensure a consistent approach to the reduction of Salmonellas of public health significance and the protection of human health from poultry meat and eggs, particularly those imported from countries which have not reduced Salmonella prevalence in breeding flocks as successfully as the UK. The National Control Programme should ensure that chicks and hatching eggs are from breeding flocks which have been tested free of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

  The controls and testing required by the Regulations cannot be implemented through administration and current legislation, however. The testing regime required by the National Control Programme is recognised as being more sensitive than that currently required and should reduce the risk of Salmonellas of public health significance reaching the meat production sector and the hatcheries, where it could provide a source of contamination for chicks hatched from other breeding flocks, and from where it can be difficult to eliminate from the environment. Failure to implement these controls in full would therefore be a potential threat to public health as well as a breach of our Community obligations.

3. Consultation

A public consultation ended in December 2006 and regular working group meetings have been held with major stakeholders across the UK poultry industry to discuss the requirements and implications of Regulation 1003/2005 for the breeding flock sector. These stakeholders and government officials from the Devolved Administrations have worked in partnership to produce the National Control Programme. Technical experts at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency and other relevant departments, in particular the Food Standards Agency, have also contributed to the programme.

There was no scope for changing the minimum requirements set out and agreed in the Regulations. Consequently the consultation focused on how the collection of the three official control samples required by Regulation 1003/2005 to verify and monitor the achievement of the target could be implemented most cost effectively.

Under Regulation 1003/2005 sampling at the initiative of the operator can take place at the hatchery or at the holding according to which option is preferred by the Member State. Following consultation with industry representatives it was agreed that sampling at the initiative of the operator should take place at the holding.

Five implementation options were presented for consideration.

4. Options

Option 1: Do nothing - continue with current controls under the 1993 Breeding Flocks Order.

The controls and testing required by the Zoonoses Regulation and Regulation 1003/2005 cannot be implemented through administration and current legislation. Failure to comply with these, or implementation which might be perceived to be partial compliance, would be a potential threat to public health. Furthermore, if testing by government and industry were to continue under the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993, it would not be on a consistent basis with the control measures being implemented in the rest of the EU. Non or partial compliance would also be a breach of our Community obligations and would be incompatible with Scottish Ministers' obligations under the Scotland Act 1998 which requires complete implementation of EU legislation.

Option 2: **Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and for the collection / despatch of all samples for testing at the national reference laboratory.**

This option would fulfil the requirements of the relevant legislation but if it were adopted it is difficult to see how official control sampling under the complete control of the Government could be implemented without an increase in resources to the State Veterinary Service (SVS). Under the current Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993, SVS officers visit 55 hatcheries in GB to oversee or conduct the collection of official samples on average at least 12 times per annum. Under this option they would be required to visit 538 holdings with an estimated 2,000 breeding flocks 3 times per annum. This constitutes a considerable increase in sampling.

In addition there are logistical problems. SVS staff work to the highest biosecurity standards and should not present a breach in the biosecurity of holdings visited. However, it will be difficult to have suitable staff always available to visit holdings on a routine basis where the biosecurity is maintained at a very high level, as is the case in the grandparent / elite breeder sector.

Option 3: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body and to conduct the collection of official control samples for testing to the national reference laboratory.

At working group meetings industry representatives proposed this as an approach to be considered. It would be consistent with the food business operator taking on full responsibility for complying with the legislation. However, if government were to play a minimal role in the official control sampling we have serious reservations over whether it could be implemented in such a way as to meet our obligations under EU legislation and our responsibilities for human and animal health for which government would ultimately be held accountable.

Although Regulation 1003/2005 does not provide a definition of 'official sampling' it anticipates that government will play a significant role in official control sampling. If operators are permitted to act as the control body, government would have to be satisfied that the official control samples were taken, handled and stored as specified. This could raise difficult questions of impartiality and consistency that would have to be addressed.

Option 4: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body for official control sampling and to collect and despatch all official control samples for testing at the national reference laboratory under the direct supervision of government officials.

This option is similar to option 2 but would require SVS staff to supervise, as opposed to conduct, the collection of official control samples on breeding flock holdings. An operator will have complied with the official sampling requirements of Regulation 1003/2005 if agents of the government observe each collection of the official control samples and are satisfied that they have been taken as specified.

This option will nonetheless require a comprehensive role for the SVS in the official controls, with the likelihood of increased expenditure to government and industry. A cost recovery mechanism would have to be put in place - although this would be the subject of separate legislation - and our objective would be to implement it in such a way that costs for industry were controlled. Limiting the SVS role to supervision of the collection would not necessarily substantially reduce the time spent on premises by government officials. It could, however, overcome to a large extent logistical problems in relation to biosecurity, as contact with the birds would be minimised.

Option 5: Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and be fully responsible for collecting and despatching the samples to the national reference laboratory, with a proportion of this work being conducted by approved operators acting on the Government's behalf.

Under this option government will retain full responsibility and control for the official control sampling but not all official samples would be taken by government officials. Additional monitoring could be conducted on the samples taken by authorised official control samplers to provide assurance that they had been taken and handled appropriately. It would allow government officials to manage their resources more flexibly and to concentrate them on those areas where there was the greatest need.

In practice, the SVS would manage the official control sampling which would be allocated to their staff or other government body or person authorised to take a target of official samples. Flock operators would be obliged to notify their local Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) when a breeding flock was moved to the egg laying unit or entered its production period to make arrangements for the official sampling. The DVM would then make arrangements for the official sampling of the flock on three occasions during its production period. The SVS would always use its own staff (or other government officials) to take official samples where a risk based analysis indicated that the holding may have a Salmonella problem; for example, a positive Salmonella finding in an operator sample. Suspected infection with the five Salmonellas of public health significance would have an official sample taken by staff from the SVS or other government official.

For non-government personnel to be approved to collect official control samples, such persons would be required to apply to the SVS to be trained by staff from the SVS (or possibly the local Veterinary Laboratories Agency) in the sampling protocol set out in Regulation 1003/2005. This approval would be administered by a formal accreditation system and could be subject to renewal. Approval would only apply to the individual who has received the training and shown competence. There would be provision for removal and addition of authorised official control samplers from the accredited list.

A Salmonella outbreak in a breeding flock has serious ramifications for business, in particular if the infection reaches the hatchery. Most of the large breeding flock operators are considered to take the control of Salmonella in breeding flocks seriously, as demonstrated by the low levels of infection which have been achieved in breeding flocks in recent years.

We would not implement this option without reserving the right for government to take a larger role in the official control sampling if there were a change in the epidemiological situation or in response to concerns about the success of the scheme. Article 2 of Regulation 1003/2005 provides for a review of the target in the first year of implementation, and this would be an opportunity to consider the success of the National Control Programme and the need for any amendments.

In conclusion, this option successfully identifies maximum flexibility within the legislation without compromising the monitoring and controls it puts in place and takes account of the economic situation of the poultry industry. During discussions with industry representatives this has emerged as an option which they are provisionally prepared to support.

Option 6: Government to delegate responsibility for official control sampling to an accredited control body.

This option is similar to option 5 except that the SVS would audit and monitor a control body's management of the official control sampling as opposed to directly managing the official control sampling itself. Such a body would have to be independent of breeding flock companies and be contracted to work for the government.

The implementation of this option would mean that whilst government / SVS would act as the competent authority for the National Control Programme they would accredit another organization to act as the control body for the day to day management of the sampling programme (both sampling at the initiative of the operator and official control sampling).

For this option to be adopted the prospective organisation would have to present a case which fulfilled the legislative requirements to be considered. Accreditation process would also be contingent on regular external appraisal by government / SVS. This would require the competent authority (probably the SVS) to ensure that the control body was conducting / supervising the sampling requirements to an acceptable standard, possibly through a programme of on the spot auditing at breeding flock farms.

Accreditation would require the organisation to demonstrate that it had the expertise and infrastructure to carry out the task delegated to it and was free from any conflict of interest with the companies it was over-seeing. There are precedents for the accreditation of non-government control bodies and it has become an accepted arrangement for some animal welfare in transport legislation. For instance some transport companies are accredited by government to act as a control body for the carriage of pets.

If the control body managed the sampling programme the owner / operator might still be authorised to collect a proportion of the official control samples, although authorisation would come from the control body as opposed to the competent authority. In practical terms this could amount to the same thing, i.e. owner / operators will conduct a proportion of the official control sampling but under the risk-based supervision of (for instance) a farm assurance scheme. However this option would lead to a different relationship between farmers and the competent authority in the implementation and enforcement of the National Control Programme.

The most likely organisation would be an existing farm assurance scheme which could extend its activities to act as the control body for the National Control Programme, and which would be able to make a strong case for accreditation. At the moment no such body has come forward but this approach is feasible and would be considered.

5. Costs and benefits

- **Sectors and groups affected**

The sector most affected by these proposals will be organisations, groups and individuals responsible for the health and welfare of poultry. Others most affected will be organisations or groups in primary food production and consumer / retail associations.

- **Benefits**

Whichever of the options from 2 to 6 we decide can be successfully implemented they will enable the breeding flock sector to be part of an integrated approach to food safety through adequate and harmonised monitoring and controls across the EU. In this way our industry and consumers should also be able to benefit from other Member States implementing this legislation and reaching their targets. By agreeing to meet the same criteria – even though the prevalence of Salmonella in the UK is low – we agree to bear the same costs in return for the benefits to industry and consumers of standards and methods which are equal across the EU for the production of layers and broilers.

The benefits of sampling at the initiative of the operator are the same for options 2 to 5 considered below. The benefits to operators of sampling at their own initiative under the legislation are:

- Detection of Salmonellas of public health significance during the breeder / rearing phase as early as possible is important to ensure that infected birds do not produce hatching eggs.

- During production, to detect Salmonellas of public health significance at an early stage so that spread to the next generation is minimised, and to minimise the risk of spread to other flocks on the site.

Forthcoming EU legislation will impose controls on Salmonellas of public health significance in flocks laying eggs for human consumption, and on chickens produced for meat. It is vital that these producers can have assurance that the birds in their flocks did not originate from infected breeder flocks or become contaminated at the hatchery.

In addition, there would be human health benefits to society as a whole of effective sampling practice and action as detailed in the legislation to reduce the risk of Salmonellas of public health significance entering the food chain.

Option 1: Do nothing - continue with current controls under the 1993 Breeding Flocks Order.

Under option 1, the current system of sampling and testing under the Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 would continue. No additional benefits over the current system would occur if this option was followed.

Option 2: Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and for the collection / despatch of all samples for testing at the national reference laboratory.

This system would fully meet all EU requirements, in particular meeting the preference for government to take a comprehensive role in sampling. Such a degree of control by the government would avoid issues of partiality and consistency, achieving the greatest certainty that sampling procedures have been met. This, in turn, would offer the greatest degree of protection of both human and animal health from Salmonella.

Option 3: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body and to conduct the collection of official control samples for testing to the national reference laboratory.

This option produces the greatest benefits from limiting government intervention, and from limiting any potential biosecurity risk or staffing issues from repeated visits by government officials. The benefit of the reduction of the burden on government is the equivalent of 10,000 person-hours per year, worth £540,000 per year compared to current SVS costs under option 1. Providing that the system operates effectively and it can be verified that trained operators are conducting sampling in line with EU requirements, this option would also confer the same benefits as option 2.

Option 4: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body for official control sampling and to collect and despatch all official control samples for testing at the national reference laboratory, under the direct supervision of government officials.

This option confers all the same benefits as option 2 as the SVS will oversee collection of samples to ensure that the EU requirements on procedures are being met. There is potential for saving time on visit costs if officials were not required to collect samples.

Option 5: Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and be fully responsible for collecting and despatching the samples to the national reference laboratory, with a proportion of this work being conducted by approved operators acting on the Government's behalf.

This option permits flexibility in who takes the samples while giving assurance that all official samples are taken as specified in the legislation. This option achieves all the benefits of options 2 and 4 in ensuring that sampling meets EU requirements, and some of the benefits of option 3 in allowing government to reduce its input.

Option 6: Government to delegate responsibility for official control sampling to an accredited control body.

This option, like option 5, offers sufficient flexibility in the implementation of the National Control Programme to enable industry to take a large part of the responsibility for official control sampling. By enabling a control body which is separate from the competent authority to manage the Programme (assuming proper auditing is in place) this option could allow all the benefits of options 2, 4, and 5 in ensuring that sampling meets EU requirements, as well as the benefits of option 3 and 5, by encouraging industry to be self-regulating as far as possible. By limiting the role of the competent authority to accrediting the control body, as opposed to approving operators for the collection of official control samples, there could be savings to

government. There could also be potential savings to industry if the control body was able to operate sampling collection at lower costs than the SVS.

- **Costs**

The National Control Programme will be implemented throughout the UK. Although this RIA is intended to cover implementation in Scotland only, figures have been presented for all Devolved Administrations within GB. In all tables, small anomalies in totals are due to rounding.

The costs of sampling at the initiative of the operator are the same for options 2 to 5 considered below. Costs to operators of sampling at their own initiative under the legislation are:

- Cost of familiarising themselves with the new legislation and sampling requirements.
- Cost of collection of samples (3 during rearing phase and 12 during production phase).
- Cost of testing samples.

It is anticipated that these costs would be borne by the operator and not by government. The total costs of sampling at the initiative of the operator (which are the same under all options 2 to 6) are summarised in the following table. It is possible that there will be a 10% increase in costs laid out in the current Poultry Breeding Flocks Fees Order, covering cost of tests and SVS visits. Therefore costs are shown with prices as they are in the current Fees Order, and with a 10% increase in those prices.

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
Current Fees Order costs				
Total common costs to operators	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
10% increase in current Fees Order costs				
Total common costs to operators	£1.2 million	£23,000	£108,000	£1.3 million

Currently, cost recovery is in place for official sampling and testing under the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 (option 1). Under the National Control Programme it is expected that full cost recovery will continue for the testing (the cost of sampling equipment and laboratory analysis) and collection of official control samples (although as already stated this will be the subject of separate legislation). There is also potential for government (or the control body) to recover the following costs from industry –

- Costs of training for the new sampling techniques
- Administration and running costs of checking systems (options 3 and 5)

Option 1: Do nothing - continue with current controls under the 1993 Breeding Flocks Order.

Despite continuation of sampling and testing under the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 (PBFHO 1993) and farm assurance schemes, following the 'do nothing' option could lead to costs arising from two different strands of legal action taken against the government by the Commission. Firstly, legal action could be taken against the UK for failing to implement the UK's obligations. Secondly, failure to implement the sampling regime might be perceived to be a partial implementation of Regulations 1003/2005 and 2160/2003 which would be incompatible with Scottish Ministers' obligations under the Scotland Act 1998.

Most importantly, the failure to bring the Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Scotland) Order 2007 into force could result in the absence of powers to enforce the official control sampling, operator sampling, and auditing required to implement the National Control Programme. Without these powers government could fail to verify the achievement of the target for the reduction of Salmonellas of human health significance and confirm that operators are observing the general requirements. The UK would be unable to contribute data to the EU database on the health status of breeding flocks. This would mean we would fail to support the over-arching objective of the EU Commission to reduce or maintain the low prevalence of Salmonellas of human health significance in breeding flocks of domestic fowl, in Member States. Any potential benefits of improved EU-wide disease control would therefore be lost under this option.

There could be costs of increased risk to human health and bird health as the testing required under the National Control Programme is more sensitive than under the current system. Failure to enforce the Programme would prevent government and industry from ensuring that Salmonella does not reach the hatcheries and spread to the wider food chain. This would impact on other sectors of the poultry sector which the breeding flocks supply – broilers and layers – whose own National Control Programmes would be weakened without one in place at the beginning of the food chain.

There would also be significant risk of failing to maintain the success of the breeding flock sector in reducing the occurrence of the five Salmonella serovars in the control programme to below the 1% target set by the Commission. This could prejudice confidence in the high quality of UK produced chicks and hatching eggs and have a possible impact on exports and trade of day old chicks and hatching eggs which must originate from breeding flocks operating to the requirements of the National Control Programme. If sampling schemes were seen not to fulfil EU requirements, there is a possible further risk that the EU could refuse British breeding fowl exports although we cannot be sure whether the EU would succeed in attempting such restrictions. The current value of live fowl exports from the UK to the EU is around £29 million.

The costs of the current sampling and testing regime under the PBFHO 1993 are contained in the table below. Full cost recovery under this Order is applicable so total costs are costs to the operator.

	England	**Wales**	**Scotland**	**GB Total**
SVS supervision				
sample collection, supervision and testing costs	£706,000	£11,000	£57,000	£774,000
Initiative of the operator				
sample collection, supervision and testing costs	£652,000	£10,000	£53,000	£715,000
Total PBFHO costs	£1.4 million	£21,000	£110,000	**£1.5 million**

Option 2: **Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and for the collection / despatch of all samples for testing at the national reference laboratory.**

Options 2 and 4 would result in the highest costs to industry. Under option 2, the SVS will take the official control samples but it is expected that the operator will want to be present during the sampling process. During the official control sample visits, the SVS will also spend time checking documentation for sampling at the operator's initiative.

The heavy reliance on the SVS in this option increases the burdens on SVS beyond those of the current system, under Option 1. An additional 4,000 person-hours per year is needed under option 2

(roughly equivalent to two additional full-time SVS staff). Under cost recovery, total costs of option 2 reflects the **additional** cost of SVS time compared to option 1, which would be borne by industry. Estimations of additional recruitment due to increased burdens on the SVS have not been calculated. Total costs are the value of time that the SVS spends sampling and checking paperwork for all samples, plus the value of operator's time for the duration of each SVS visit.

Table 1 – Total costs to the operator assuming full cost recovery

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
Sampling at the initiative of the operator	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Official control samples & testing	£0.9 million	£17,000	£78,000	£1 million
Total Option 2	£2 million	£38,000	£176,000	**£2.2 million**

Table 2 - Costs to industry and government of full and partial cost. (Please note that this table is illustrative only and not necessarily an accurate reflection of the charges that would be made).

OPTION 2	**England**	**Wales**	**Scotland**	**GB Total**
FULL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator presence during SVS collection	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
SVS visit costs	£700,000	£13,000	£60,000	£773,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Total	£2 million	£38,000	£176,000	**£2.2 million**
PARTIAL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator presence during SVS collection	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Industry total	£1.3 million	£25,000	£116,000	**£1.4 million**
Costs to government				
SVS visit costs	£700,000	£13,000	£60,000	**£773,000**
% total cost to industry	66%	66%	66%	66%
% total cost to government	34%	34%	34%	34%

Option 3: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body and to conduct the collection of official control samples for testing to the national reference laboratory.

Option 3 entails the least involvement from the SVS and, as such, presents the lowest costs. As the SVS will not be taking or supervising sample collection, operators will be provided with guidance. It is expected that each holding will identify one operator to collect the official control samples. One half-hour visit from the SVS will ensure that the operator is following the correct sampling method. The submission of official control samples by trained, approved operators and the cross-checking of lab results will involve admin costs at both the local animal health office and in central government.

These admin costs will be above those incurred under options 1, 2 and 4 where the SVS is in full control of all official control sampling. Under full cost recovery, the operator will bear these admin costs as well as the direct costs of training, sampling and testing.

As already stated, EU Member States, and third countries, may not accept industry run official sampling unless there are sufficient verification procedures in place, despite the current low prevalence of Salmonella in UK breeding flocks. Therefore there could be the additional cost of the reduction in the value of exports to the breeding flocks sector.

Table 1 – Total costs to the operator assuming full cost recovery

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
Sampling at the initiative of the operator	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Official control samples training, collection & testing	£312,000	£6,000	£27,000	£345,000
Total Option 3	£1.4 million	£27,000	£125,000	**£1.6 million**

Table 2 - Costs to industry and government of full and partial cost. (Please note that this table is illustrative only and not necessarily an accurate reflection of the charges that would be made).

OPTION 3	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
FULL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator costs of training	£8,000	£200	£700	£9,000
Operator cost of collecting samples	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
SVS training visit (1/2 hour)	£14,000	£300	£1,000	£15,000
gov administrative costs	£88,000	£2,000	£8,000	£98,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Total	£1.4 million	£27,000	£125,000	**£1.6 million**
PARTIAL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator costs of training	£8,000	£200	£700	£9,000
Operator cost of collecting samples	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Industry total	£1.3 million	£25,000	£116,000	**£1.5 million**
Costs to government				
SVS training visit (1/2 hour)	£14,000	£300	£1,000	£15,000
gov administrative costs	£88,000	£2,000	£8,000	£98,000
Government total	£102,000	£2,000	£9,000	**£113,000**
% total cost to industry	93%	93%	93%	93%
% total cost to government	7%	7%	7%	7%

Option 4: Operators / owners of breeding flock holdings to be accredited as the official control body for official control sampling and to collect and despatch all official control samples for testing at the national reference laboratory, under the direct supervision of government officials.

Operators will collect the official control samples, being observed or supervised by the SVS. Cost of the SVS time for the visit and operator time to collect the samples are the same as under option 2, where again both the SVS and the operator are present during official control sampling. Also as under option 2, the SVS will conduct admin checks on sampling at the initiative of the operator.

As option 4 requires the same amount of SVS presence as option 2 (even though the SVS is in an observational role), the additional burdens on staffing for the SVS are also the same.

Under full cost recovery, total costs to operators are the same as under option 2. These are the highest costs to industry.

Table 1 – Total costs to the operator assuming full cost recovery

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
Sampling at the initiative of the operator	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Official control samples & testing	£0.9 million	£17,000	£78,000	£1 million
Total Option 4	£2 million	£38,000	£176,000	**£2.2 million**

Table 2 - Costs to industry and government of full and partial cost. (Please note that this table is illustrative only and not necessarily an accurate reflection of the charges that would be made).

OPTION 4	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
FULL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator official control sampling	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
SVS visit for supervised collection	£700,000	£13,000	£60,000	£773,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Total	£2 million	£38,000	£176,000	**£2.2 million**
PARTIAL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator official control sampling	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Industry total	£1.3 million	£25,000	£116,000	**£1.5 million**
Costs to government				
SVS visit for supervised collection	£700,000	£13,000	£60,000	**£773,000**
% total cost to industry	66%	66%	66%	66%
% total cost to government	34%	34%	34%	34%

Option 5: Government to be responsible for the official control sampling and be fully responsible for collecting and despatching the samples to the national reference laboratory, with a proportion of this work being conducted by approved operators acting on the Government's behalf.

This option seeks to balance rigor and certainty in collection of official control samples with a light touch approach and minimal burdens to industry. Therefore the costs of option 5 lie between those for option 3 and options 2 and 4.

As for option 3, one operator per holding will be trained and approved to collect official control samples. Again, this is done by the operator familiarising themselves with the guidelines, plus an additional half an hour of SVS time for verification. Under option 5 we have assumed, that the SVS will visit each flock once per year for supervising the collection of official control samples (rather than three times). It is expected that the SVS checks on the operator's training will take place at the beginning of this visit to reduce the number of visits made by the SVS. During the same visit, the SVS is expected to spend time checking samples taken at the initiative of the operator, as under options 2 and 4.

Administration of official control samples submitted by approved operators will lead to costs at both local animal health offices and at central government, as under Option 3. Additional administration costs over option 3 are for the assessment of risk per holding, which will be used to verify the number of SVS visits per year for supervision of official control sampling. Total costs to operators are presented in the following table.

Table 1 – Total costs to the operator assuming full cost recovery

	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
Sampling at the initiative of the operator	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Official control samples training, collection & testing	£600,000	£10,000	£48,000	£600,000
Total Option 5	£1.7 million	£31,000	£146,000	**£1.8 million**

Table 2 - Costs to industry and government of full and partial cost. (Please note that this table is illustrative only and not necessarily an accurate reflection of the charges that would be made).

OPTION 5	England	Wales	Scotland	GB Total
FULL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator costs of training	£8,000	£200	£700	£9,000
Operator cost of collecting samples	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
SVS training visit (1/2 hour)	£14,000	£300	£1,000	£15,000
SVS visit for one official control sample	£220,000	£4,000	£19,000	£243,000
gov administrative costs	£109,000	£2,000	£9,000	£120,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Total	£1.7 million	£31,000	£146,000	**£1.8 million**

PARTIAL COST RECOVERY				
Costs to industry				
Sampling at the initiative of the operator (sampling and testing costs)	£1.1 million	£21,000	£98,000	£1.2 million
Operator costs of training	£8,000	£200	£700	£9,000
Operator cost of collecting samples	£99,000	£2,000	£9,000	£110,000
Testing official control samples (x3)	£103,000	£2,000	£9,000	£114,000
Industry total	£1.3 million	£25,000	£117,000	**£1.4 million**
Costs to government				
SVS training visit (1/2 hour)	£14,000	£300	£1,000	£15,000
SVS visit for one official control sample	£220,000	£4,000	£19,000	£243,000
gov administrative costs	£109,000	£2,000	£9,000	£120,000
Government total	£343,000	£6,000	£29,000	**£378,000**
% total cost to industry	80%	80%	80%	80%
% total cost to government	20%	20%	20%	20%

Option 6: Government to delegate responsibility for official control sampling to an accredited control body.

This option would be implemented with the intention of taking a light touch approach to regulation (as in option 5) and to encourage industry to take as full responsibility as possible for its compliance with legislation (option 2). The specific tasks and associated costs which could be delegated to the prospective control body would be a matter for the control body and the farmers (assuming these arrangements met the requirements for accreditation). In these circumstances it is not possible to provide a reliable estimate of the costs of this option.

Although the administrative costs of the official control sampling would clearly have to be either fully or partially recovered by the control body instead of the competent authority, there would be costs to government associated with the accreditation and auditing of control bodies. If government was not prepared to meet these they could be recovered, most probably by charging for accreditation.

If breeding flocks' operators were authorised by the control body to collect a proportion of the samples the structure of the costs to farmers, if not the actual costs, under option 6 might not be substantially different to those in option 5. Indeed, it is feasible that, if implemented, this option would not make a substantial difference to operator costs. However, a farm assurance scheme control body by, for instance, combining management of the National Control Programme - in particular the official control sampling - with other services it offers to members, might have potential to charge farmers less than the SVS.

6. Small Firms Impact Test

The UK breeding flock sector is already meeting many of the National Control Programme's requirements. In recognition of this achievement by industry we are seeking to identify an approach to implementation which avoids undue financial burdens on small firms and keepers of breeding flocks while still complying with our EU obligations to minimise the risks of Salmonella to animal

and human health. The implementation options and feedback from consultation at working group meetings between major stakeholder groups across the UK such as the National Farmers Union of Scotland and Government officials, both support this approach. Further working group meetings will take place during and after the consultation process to ensure that stakeholders are kept fully informed of developments. The interests of all Scottish farmers will therefore continue to be represented.

The target of 1% or less of adult breeding flocks remaining positive by 31 December 2009 applies only to flocks of 250 birds or more so very small keepers of breeding flocks will not be affected by these proposals. Since the majority of Scottish keepers of breeding flocks with more than 250 birds in Scotland have quite substantial flocks, it is not anticipated that there will be a disproportionate impact on small firms.

7. "Test Run" of business forms

The proposed Order and implementation of the National Control Programme for Breeders, will not oblige operators to complete any new forms.

8. Competition assessment

The 2007 Breeding Flocks Order will apply to all breeding flocks' holdings with 250 birds or more whose flocks could contribute to the prevalence of Salmonella. Options 2-6 are not likely to have a negative effect on competition in any primary production sector or lead to higher start up costs for primary producers.

Currently, there is only one target in place, which relates to Salmonella in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*, as described above. As the UK breeding flock sector is already meeting many of the National Control Programme requirements due to existing monitoring and disease reducing schemes, it is in a much more competitive position compared to other EU countries where Salmonella incidence exceeds this target. The Zoonoses Regulation and Regulation 1003/2005 are intended to ensure that monitoring and controls in the breeding flock sector are even across the EU, which might help UK producers exploit such a competitive advantage.

9. Enforcement, sanctions and monitoring

The Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Scotland) Order 2007 will be enforced by Local Authorities. Breach of the Order is an offence under section 73 of the Animal Health Act 1981, punishable in accordance with section 75. No serious non-compliance problems are anticipated since none were experienced under the 1993 Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order. If any primary producers do refuse to co-operate with the National Control Programme, however, it would ultimately be self-defeating since it would gradually exclude them from their largest markets. Constant monitoring will be an ongoing part of the programme.

10. Implementation and delivery plan

Implementation of the National Control Programme will commence as soon as the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Scotland) Order 2007 is in place. A copy of the National Control Programme accompanies this RIA.

11. Post-implementation review

The Zoonoses Regulation includes an amendment clause under which certain provisions could be changed to take account of technical and scientific progress. The Zoonoses Regulation requires that the progress made under the National Control Programmes is assessed at the end of their three year life span. Regulation 1003/2005 includes an amendment that the EU Commission will review the reduction target in the light of the first year of implementation.

12. Summary and recommendation

About 85% of breeding flock producers supported the implementation of the National Control Programme and agreed that industry and government should take a partnership approach to the collection and auditing of the sampling requirements. The preferred implementation option was for breeding flock operators to collect all official control samples (option 3). However, the industry could not come up with a robust enough plan regarding official controls for **all** farm producers which would ensure that our obligations under the EU Regulations are met. It is proposed for at least an initial period, therefore, that the SVS Agency will act as the control body for the official controls on behalf of SEERAD and the other Devolved Administrations in the UK (option 5). Divisional Veterinary Managers (DVMs) will take a risk-based approach to managing the collection of all official control samples. However, in recognition of the good record of the breeding industry in controlling Salmonella and the high proportion of operators covered by recognised assurance schemes, it is anticipated that DVMs will routinely authorise suitably trained breeding flock operators to collect two of the three official samples. As a minimum each breeding flock operator should receive at least one visit from a member of the SVS Agency staff each year for sampling and auditing purposes. DVMs will retain the power to collect all three samples where, for example, there has been a recent history of infection.

While our intended approach is not fully in line with industry's preferred option it does enable industry to manage the sampling programme in partnership with government. This will control costs to operators and demands on veterinary resources without compromising the monitoring and controls which the legislation puts in place. Ongoing meetings with industry representatives indicate that the industry is prepared to accept this approach. Once the National Control Programme is in operation ongoing monitoring will determine how successfully the breeding flock sector adjusts to the new requirements and whether further delegation of responsibility is possible.

Summary Costs and benefits table

The following table summarises costs and benefits under all options, compared to option 1 (the additional costs or benefits that would be incurred over the current costs of the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993) and takes into account a possible 10% increase. The table shows that Option 5 achieves all the benefits of the Regulation without the risks of Option 3 and at lower cost than options 2 and 4.

	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Benefits				
Increased protection of animal and human health	Yes	Yes – risk of partiality or inconsistency	Yes	Yes
EU requirements met o Avoided legal costs o Avoided export ban o GB contribution to EU-wide database	Yes	Yes – risk of partiality or inconsistency	Yes	Yes
Costs				
GB costs (above option 1)	51% to 58% increase £760,000 to £870,000	7% to 13% increase £100,000 to £190,000	51% to 58% increase £760,000 to £870,000	27% to 35% increase £400,000 to £520,000
Burden on SVS capacity	Increased by 4,000 hours	Decreased by 10,000 hours	Increased by 4,000 hours	Decreased by 5,000 hours

Declaration

I have read the Regulatory Impact Assessment and am satisfied that the balance between cost and benefit is the right one in the circumstances.

Signed: ROSS FINNIE……

Date: 20TH March 2007…….

Ross Finnie
Minister for the Environment and Rural Affairs

Contact: Sheena Keith, SEERAD, Animal Health & Welfare 3, Pentland House (Ext 46174)

UK National Control Programme for Breeders (*Gallus gallus*)

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Aim of the programme

To reduce and/or maintain the prevalence of *Salmonellas* of public health significance in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* on holdings in the UK at least to the target level set out in Regulation 1003/2005 which is a reduction of the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks (comprising at least 250 birds) remaining positive to 1 % or less by 31 December 2009.

1.00 General

1.01 *Salmonellas* have been recognised as important pathogens and *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium have accounted for the majority of cases of human salmonellosis for many years and have consistently been the most commonly implicated pathogens in general outbreaks of foodborne disease.

1.02 A programme for the control of the two most important *Salmonellas* of public health significance, *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* has been in operation in the UK since 1989, and in its present form since 1993. As a result of the control programme the number of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium infected breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* in the UK is currently very low. Of the other three *Salmonella* serovars, *Salmonella* Hadar, *Salmonella* Infantis and *Salmonella* Virchow, the occurrence is likewise at low levels. Information was submitted to the Commission relating to the occurrence of *Salmonella* isolates in breeding flocks in the UK in 2004 (SANCO/1143/2005 http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/salmonella/impl_reg_en.htm). Analysis of the information submitted indicated that the level of *Salmonella* Hadar, *Salmonella* Infantis and *Salmonella* Virchow was 0.00%, 0.15%, 0.30% percent respectively. The overall occurrence of all *Salmonella* serovars was estimated at 6.3% percent. The occurrence of the five *Salmonella* serovars in the control programme was calculated as 0.4% percent.

1.1.0 The occurrence of the zoonosis or zoonotic agent concerned in the Member State.

Laboratory reporting trends – Salmonellosis in humans

1.1.1 A sharp rise in the incidence of human salmonellosis in the UK was observed in the mid 1980s. This was largely due to an increase in *S.* Enteritidis phage type 4 (PT 4) infection. The incidence of this phage type reached a peak in the early 1990s and remained broadly stable until 1998 when a significant fall was recorded throughout most of the UK which continued for the next two years. Since then, the decline has continued, albeit less sharply. However, in 2001 and 2002 there was an increase in non-PT4 *S.* Enteritidis in England & Wales, but not in Northern Ireland. In 2003, there was an increase in non-PT4 *S.* Enteriditis in all parts of the UK, accounting for a slight increase in total *S.* Enteriditis reports overall.

1.1.2 In England and Wales in 2004, 63% of the salmonellosis total of 12,887 were due to *S.* Enteritidis. *S.* Enteritidis PT 4 reports have continued to decline since 1997, when there were over 15,000 reports, to 2,201 reports in 2004. As in previous years, S. Typhimurium remains the second most commonly isolated serotype in humans (10.0%) in England and Wales. In Scotland In 2004, 1,143 *Salmonella* cases were reported, compared with 1,254 in 2003. The fall can be attributed to a reduction in isolates of *S.* Enteritidis PT 4 and in *S.* Typhimurium.

1.1.3 There was a marked increase in *Salmonella* reports from Northern Ireland with 451 reported in 2004 compared to 214 the previous year. This was the highest annual total since 1999 (689 reports). This increase was attributable to three outbreaks: *S.* Typhimurium DT104 (77 reports), *S.* Newport (92 reports) and *S.* Virchow (21 reports). Together these outbreak cases accounted for 190 reports and 42% of the annual total. Reports of *S.* Enteritidis and *S.* Enteritidis PT4 have fallen for the fifth consecutive year. Northern Ireland has not experienced the rise in human reports of *S.* Enteritidis non PT4 noted elsewhere in the UK.

1.1.4 The number of *Salmonella* Typhimurium reports continued its general downward trend in 2004 with 1,648 reports. *S.* Typhimurium DT 104 has continued to decrease and is now at its lowest level for over 30 years. *S.* Enteritidis remains the most commonly isolated *Salmonella* serotype, followed by *S.* Typhimurium, *S.* Newport, and S. Virchow in 2004 (Annex 1) in the UK as a whole. The outbreak involving S. Typhimurium put this serotype in first place in 2004 in Northern Ireland. Whilst *S.* Enteritidis and *S.* Typhimurium are the two most common serovars reported in humans, the next 3 most common serovars, which are reported less frequently, vary from year to year.

1.1.5 The top ten laboratory confirmed *Salmonella* serotypes isolated from people in the UK in 2003 and 2004 are given in Annex 1.

1.1.6 *Salmonella* control programme in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* in the UK

1.1.7 A programme has been in operation in the UK based on Directive 1992/117 since 1993. The programme has been successful in reducing the number of breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* infected with *S.* Enteritidis and *S.* Typhimurium to a low level. As mentioned above the percentage of flocks infected with *S.* Enteritidis, *S.* Typhimurium, *S.* Hadar, *S.* Infantis, and *S.* Virchow in 2004 using current detection methods is below the 1.0% target set for 31 December 2009. Further details of the programme and the success achieved are given in Annex 2.

1.1.8 A new national control programme will be implemented to comply with Regulation 2160/2003 and is planned to come into effect on or before 01 January 2007.

1.1.9 All breeding flocks of 250 birds or more, and all hatcheries with an incubator capacity of 1000 eggs or more will be required to register with the Competent Authority,

1.1.10 Operators will be required to implement the sampling programme in Annex IIB of EC Regulation 2160/2003. Samples for the detection of *Salmonella* will be taken from *Gallus gallus* day-old chicks to be used for breeding, when the birds are approximately 4 weeks of age, and approximately 2 weeks before the birds come into lay. During the production phase of laying eggs for hatching the flocks will be sampled every two weeks by the operator on the holding to verify the achievement of the target in adult breeding flocks. Sampling to verify the achievement of the target will be as detailed in the Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005. Samples will be submitted to a laboratory authorised by the Competent Authority and which applies quality assurance systems that conform to the requirements of the current EN/ISO standard.

1.2.0 The geographical area in which the programme will be implemented

1.2.1 The National Control Programme will be implemented throughout the UK and will cover all breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* containing 250 birds or more.

1.3.0 The structure and organisation of the relevant Competent Authorities.

1.3.1 The Competent Authority for this National Control Programme in respect of EC Regulation 2160/2003 for the control of *Salmonella* in breeder flocks of *Gallus gallus* is:

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 1A Page Street, London, SW1P 4PQ.

- In Northern Ireland the operation of the Control Programme is under Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).
- The programme in Wales operates with the collaboration of the Welsh Assembly.
- The programme in Scotland operates with the collaboration of the Scottish Executive for Environmental and Rural Development.

1.3.2 The Competent Authority in respect of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules is the:

- Food Standards Agency, Aviation House, Holborn, London.

1.3.3 Further information on the Food Standards Agency is given in Annex 3.

1.3.4 The Meat Hygiene Service is an Executive Agency of the Food Standards Agency and is responsible for the protection of public health and animal health and welfare in Great Britain, through proportionate enforcement of legislation in licensed meat premises. Enforcement in licensed premises in Northern Ireland is the responsibility of DARDNI.

1.3.5 In respect of EC Regulation No 183/2005 on feed hygiene, the Competent Authorities are the Food Standards Agency and local authorities (Trading Standards Departments and some Environmental Health Services).

1.4.0 Approved laboratories where samples collected within the programme are analysed.

1.4.1 The laboratories listed in Annex 4 have been authorised by the Competent Authority to test samples submitted under the current control programme. It is expected that these will be authorised under the control plan to be introduced on or before 01 January 2007. Official samples collected within the National Control Programme are analysed by the National Reference Laboratory for *Salmonella*, Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Weybridge, or at one of the regional laboratories of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency under its control. For samples in Northern Ireland the National Reference Laboratory is DARD, Veterinary Sciences Division, Stormont, Belfast. It is expected that by the time the national control plan is operational due to administrative changes the National Reference Laboratory in Northern Ireland will be in a new non-departmental public body.

1.4.2 The laboratories listed in Annex 4 may also be authorised to test samples taken under the Animal By-Products Regulations 2005 which make provision for the administration and enforcement of Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption (OJ No. L273, 10.10.2002, p1.). It requires operators of rendering plants to test samples of rendered animal protein that is intended for use in animal feedingstuffs for *Salmonella*. The feeding of processed animal protein to farmed animals is also covered by the TSE Regulations 2002 (as amended) which makes provision for administration and enforcement of certain Community legislation in relation to TSE. Under the terms of these Regulations only fishmeal tested under the Animal By-Products Regulations can be fed to poultry.

1.4.3 The laboratories which are authorised in Annex 4 are also required to report to Defra or DARD the number and type of samples which are examined in the national control plan for breeders each month for *Salmonella*, the number positive, and to supply the isolate for serotyping on request. (Laboratories authorised in Great Britain are also required to report findings in the examination of feed materials such as vegetable protein.)
The results of these analysis are published each year
http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/vla/science/science-salm-intro.htm

1.4.4 The operators of all laboratories are required to report the isolation of *Salmonella* from any sample taken from livestock (including breeding birds of *Gallus gallus*), their environment, or their feed to the Competent Authority and to provide a sub-culture of the isolate on request under the Zoonoses Order 1989, and the Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991.

1.4.5 For food the testing undertaken by Food Business Operator's when complying with the Microbiological criteria regulations (SANCO/4198/2001 Rev. 19 (PLSPV/2001/4198/4198R19) is carried out according to the specified reference method (ISO 6759).

1.5.0 Methods used in the examination of the zoonoses or zoonotic agent.

1.5.1 Samples from birds and their environment are tested in accordance with the requirements of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 using the method recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for *Salmonella* in Bilthoven, Netherlands: The method is a modification of ISO 6579 (2002), where a semi solid medium (MSRV) is used as the single selective enrichment medium. The semi-solid medium is incubated at 41,5 +/– 1 °C for 2 × (24 +/– 3) hours.

1.5.2 Samples taken under the Animal By-Products Regulations 2005 which make provision for the administration and enforcement of Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption are examined by a method that conforms with—
ISO 6579/2002/BS-EN 12824:1998 (Detection of *Salmonella*) or equivalent,
or
NMKL 71: 1993 or equivalent

1.5.3 The reference method in the microbiological criteria regulation for broilers and processed meat is ISO 6579.

1.6.0 Official controls

1.6.1 Three samples will be taken under the control of the Competent Authority for Regulation 2160/2003 from each breeding flock during production of eggs for hatching as specified in 2.1.2.2 of Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005.

1.6.2 The records of samples taken by the operator will be made available for inspection to the Competent Authority and provide details of date of sample, type of sample, laboratory carrying out the examination, and the result.

1.6.3 The sampling under the Animal By-Products legislation is monitored by the Competent Authority with inspections carried out using a risk-based approach.

1.6.4 Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 of 15 November 2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs requires poultry abattoirs to undertake microbiological testing for *Salmonella* on 5 samples a week (each sample is 3 neck skins). Establishments producing minced meat, meat preparations and mechanically separated meat must also undertake weekly testing for *Salmonella*. FSA are the Competent Authority which monitors these controls.

1.6.5 The official monitoring of feed controls is described in 2.2 below and in Annex 5

1.6.6 Operator/owner's Obligations

1.6.7 Operator/owners are required to take samples from rearing flocks of *Gallus gallus* intended for breeding for the detection of *Salmonellas* of public health significance as detailed in Annex II B 1of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 when the chicks are day old, when they are approximately 4 weeks of age, and approximately 2 weeks before the birds come into lay or moved to layer accommodation.

1.6.8 Operator/owners are required to take the samples as defined in Commission Regulation (EC) No1003/2005 in Annex 2.2.2.1 and submit them to a laboratory which has been authorised by the Competent Authority for the detection of *Salmonella* in a control programme under Commission Regulation (EC) 2160/2003.

1.6.9 The owner shall keep a record of date when each flock is sampled for *Salmonella*, the identity of the flock sampled, the age of the flock sampled, the laboratory which undertook the analysis, and the result of the tests and make these records available to the Competent Authority.

1.6.10 Samples taken as above shall be sent immediately (or may be stored for up to 48 hours in a refrigerator 3-5° C) to a laboratory authorised by Defra or DARD for the detection of *Salmonella* in Breeding flocks.

1.6.11 Reporting of results

1.6.12 The person in charge of any laboratories which detects *Salmonella* or an isolate believed to be *Salmonella* in any sample from a breeding flock or its environment must notify (under the Zoonoses Order 1989, and the Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991) the Competent Authority without delay, and supply information on the type of sample, the name and address of the breeding flock, the name and address of the owner/operator, and supply the *Salmonella* isolate or sub-culture to the Competent Authority. The laboratory shall at the same time also advise the person/organisation who submitted the sample the results of the test. In practice the reports are made to the Senior Veterinary Investigation Officer in the local regional laboratory of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency in England and Wales, to the Divisional Veterinary Manager or Officer in Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively.

1.7.0 Official controls at other stages of the food chain.

1.7.1 Under the terms of the EC Feed Hygiene Regulation 183/2005 feed businesses must be approved or registered with their local authority. Approvals/registrations relate to producers of compound feeds, feed materials, feed additives and premixtures. The Regulation also covers transporters and storers of feed, food companies selling co-products for use as feed and pet food manufacturers. Approval requires a prior-inspection visit by a local authority to ensure that the premises are working to the required

standards (possibly by taking samples), registration involves the placing of premises on a list with follow-up checks of their activities. Livestock farms growing and using or selling crops for feed use are also within the scope of the Regulation, although those which supply small quantities of primary products to local establishments directly supplying the final consumer (e.g. other producers) are not required to be registered or approved.

1.7.2 The Animal By-Products Regulations 2005 requires operators of rendering plants to test samples of rendered animal protein that is intended for use in animal feedingstuffs for *Salmonella*. The feeding of processed animal protein to farmed animals is also covered by the TSE Regulations 2002. Under the terms of these Regulations only fishmeal tested under the Animal By-Products Regulations can be fed to poultry.

1.8.0 Measures taken by the Competent Authorities with regard to animals or products in which zoonoses or zoonotic agents have been detected.

1.8.1 When a breeding flock of *Gallus gallus* is suspected of being infected with *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium the flock is placed under official control by the Competent Authority. This applies to breeding flocks from day old through to end of production. If the flock is in the laying phase no further eggs may be sent for hatching and no birds or hatching eggs may leave the holding, except under licence issued by the Competent Authority. When infection with *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium has been confirmed, the owner is required to have the birds slaughtered in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. Infection with *S.* Typhimurium and *S.* Enteritidis will be confirmed by samples taken by the Competent Authority as detailed in with Annex 2.2.2.1 of Regulation (EC) 1003/2005.

1.8.2 The owner or person responsible for the flock is required to clean and disinfect the building where the infected birds were kept, and provide evidence to the Competent Authority that the cleaning and disinfection has been satisfactory. Re-stocking may not take place until the cleaning and disinfection has been carried out.

1.8.3 Hatching eggs present in the hatchery from the time the flock was suspected to be infected are removed and destroyed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002.

1.8.4 When a breeding flock is suspected of being infected with *S.* Hadar, *S.* Infantis, or *S.* Virchow, the operator/owner of the flock will be required to draw up a plan in consultation with his/her veterinarian and the Competent Authority for the monitoring and control of the infection. The plan should include an epidemiological investigation, a review of biosecurtiy measures, any additional monitoring procedures, and measures to be taken to reduce or eliminate the infection. As appropriate the flock may be placed under official control.

1.8.5 The operator/owner in consultation with his/her veterinarian may consider vaccination of the flock against *Salmonella* with a product which has a marketing authorisation in line with the requirements of Commission Regulation (EC) No.1091/2005 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella*. Vaccination may only be used as a preventative measure; it is not an alternative to the requirements in Annex II C of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella*.

1.8.6 Antimicrobial treatment may not be used for the control of *Salmonella* in the national control programme except within the limits set by Commission Regulation (EC) No.1091/2005.

1.9.0 Relevant national legislation.

1.9.1 The following legislation is administered by Defra or the Competent Authorities in the devolved administrations where equivalent legislation is in place.

- Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 – requires owners of more than 250 breeding birds to register the name of the holding with the Local Animal Health Divisional Office of the State Veterinary Service, which is an Agency of Defra. In Northern Ireland the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1994 is similar to above Order with the same requirements to register with DARD. The Orders also require samples to be taken and examined in a laboratory for *Salmonella* in order to comply with Directive 92/117. This legislation will be reviewed and after consultation will be amended as necessary in order to bring it into line with the sampling required in Regulation EC No. 2160/2003 and Regulation EC No.1003/2005

- Zoonoses Order 1989 and in Northern Ireland, the Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991– requires the person responsible for all laboratories to report the isolation of a *Salmonella* and to provide a sub-culture on request. This legislation will be reviewed in 2006 to ensure that it supports the national control plan, and if necessary will be amended after consultation.

- The Animal Health Act, 1981 designates *Salmonella* as a disease of poultry and provides powers for the slaughter of flocks which are confirmed to be infected. In Northern Ireland the Disease of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 designates *Salmonella* as a disease of poultry and provides similar powers as above.

- The Animal By-Products Regulations 2005 – covers the disposal of animal by-products

1.9.2 The following legislation is administered by the Food Standards Agency:

- Regulation EC No. 852/2004 requires food business operators to 'ensure that primary products are protected against contamination' ['contamination' means the presence or introduction of a hazard].

1.9.3 Further legislation will be introduced or current legislation amended during 2006 to provide a legislative basis for the National Control Plan for Breeders (*Gallus gallus*).

1.10.0 Financial assistance provided to food and feed businesses in the context of the national control programme.

1.10.1 Currently, when *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium is confirmed in a flock the owner is compensated. Compensation is based on the costs incurred in rearing the bird to a certain age, less any income which has been derived from the bird (e.g., hatching eggs). A scale of compensation is published on a monthly basis according to the age of the bird, and whether it is a breeding flock on the meat production side or a breeding flock on the egg production side. An example of compensation rate is available at Annex 6

2.0.0 Food and Feed businesses covered by the programme.

2.1.0 The structure of the production of the given species and products thereof.

2.1.1 The structure of the breeding flocks in the UK is given in Annex 7

2.2.0 The structure of the production of feed.

2.2.0.1 A number of Competent Authorities are involved in feed law policy and its enforcement. The Food Standards Agency deals with the composition and marketing of animal feeds (including undesirable substances, additives and labelling); Defra (Veterinary Medicines Directorate VMD) which deals with zootechnical and medicated feeds; and Defra animal health and veterinary group, or its equivalent in the devolved administrations, covers processed animal proteins and *Salmonella*. See 1.4.2 for the requirements on operators of rendering plants and the controls on the use of processed animal protein in feed.

2.2.0.2 Many low moisture feeds, in particular those derived from cereals, oilseeds and sugar processing industries are widely used in the manufacture of compound feeds and blends. Soya bean and rapeseed meals are major sources of protein. The Animal By-Products Regulations 2005 requires operators of rendering plants to take samples of rendered animal protein (fishmeal) that is intended for use in animal feedingstuffs. The samples must then be tested at an approved laboratory for the presence of *Salmonella*.

2.2.0.3 Only a few feed compounders operate on a national scale, manufacturing and distributing compound livestock feeds on a nation-wide

basis. Other feed compounders operate on a regional basis. Some feed compounders may be farmer controlled or co-operatives. A number of companies manufacture feeds as part of an integrated process of poultry and egg production.

2.2.1 The structure of the production of food

2.2.2 At the end of the Breeder production period the birds are slaughtered and may go for human consumption. In accordance with Regulation 853/2004, chicken meat for human consumption must be slaughtered in approved slaughterhouses. There are 127 of these in Great Britain and 7 in Northern Ireland. The enforcement authority in these plants is the Meat Hygiene Service (an executive agency of the Food Standards Agency) in Great Britain and DARD Veterinary Service in Northern Ireland. The industry guide entitled "A guide to the food hygiene and other regulations for the meat industry" sets out the detailed requirements that apply to the slaughter and processing of broilers in such meat plants.

2.2.3 Producers who rear and slaughter on the farm, and who subsequently sell the meat locally or direct to the consumer, are exempt from the detailed requirements of Regulation 853/2004 and thus do not have to slaughter the birds in approved slaughterhouses. The rules that apply to these producers are also set out in the industry guide "A guide to the food hygiene and other regulations for the meat industry". The enforcement authority on these exempt premises is the local food authority. However, the number of producers of breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* who slaughter on farms is thought to be very low.

2.3.0 Relevant guides for good animal husbandry practices or other guidelines

2.3.1 A number of voluntary guides have been produced in collaboration with representatives of the industry on the control of *Salmonella* in poultry production. Relevant ones are listed in Annex 8, and some are also available on the website at
http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/zoonoses/salmonella-cop.htm
Hard copies are available on request.

2.4.0 Routine veterinary supervision of farms.

2.4.1 The owner is responsible for the health and welfare of the poultry on the holding, and for ensuring that a veterinarian is consulted on disease and welfare issues as appropriate. The Competent Authority carries out inspections on farms for animal welfare reasons, to take samples for residues and to check medicine records.

2.5.0 Registration of farms.

2.5.1 All poultry breeding flocks of more than 250 birds are registered (Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993). The register is

maintained at the local level by the Competent Authority or its agent (State Veterinary Service in Great Britain, DARD in Northern Ireland).

2.6.0 Record-keeping at farms.

2.6.1 All breeding flock operators are required to keep records of medicine usage, including vaccines, which must be available for inspection.

2.6.2 Members of the Poultry Health Scheme or the Northern Ireland Poultry Health Assurance Scheme must keep records (for two years after the flock has left the premises) on the movement of stock onto and off premises, morbidity and mortality with causes, laboratory tests and the place of origin of the flock.

2.6.3 The records at 2.8.0 below must also be kept.

2.6.4 The records mentioned at 1.6.0 above on details of sampling for *Salmonella* and results must be kept either at the holding or be readily available.

2.7.0 Documents to accompany animals when dispatched.

2.7.1 Operators wishing to export more than 20 birds or hatching eggs to another EU Member State (or certain third countries) must comply with EU Directive 90/539/EC and ensure that the consignment is accompanied by a completed and signed Intra-trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC) for poultry breeding and production. This can be obtained from a local Animal Health Divisional Office and must be completed and signed by the Official Veterinarian as well as the operator to confirm compliance with the relevant articles of Directive.
The IAHC will also require the reference number of the operator's poultry health certificate.

2.7.2 Under the Welfare of Animals Transport Order 1997 operators wishing to transport birds on a journey longer than eight hours (either within the UK or to another Member State or third country) must ensure that the consignment is accompanied by a completed route plan which has been signed and stamped by the appropriate veterinarian.

2.7.3 The ITAHC will be amended to include the results of the last test for *Salmonella* as required in Commission Regulation (EC) 2160/2003 Article 9.1 prior to any dispatching of the live animals, or hatching eggs, from the food business of origin. The date and the result of testing shall be included in the relevant health certificates provided for in Community legislation.

2.8.0 Other relevant measures to ensure the traceability of animals.

2.8.1 The Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 and the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1994 also requires the operators of hatcheries and the keepers of breeding

flocks to keep records of poultry or hatching eggs entering or leaving the premises. The records must contain information on the number, date, and origin or destination. These records must be retained for one year and be available to the Competent Authority for inspection. The Diseases of Poultry Order 2003 (and equivalent legislation) extends this requirement to every person who is engaged in the transport or marketing of poultry.

2.8.2 All official veterinary health certificates issued for the export of poultry and hatching eggs are recorded on either the Centaur system or the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES). Both of these systems allow tracking of exports of live animals and hatching eggs accompanied by veterinary health certification. Centaur creates Export Health Certificates for exports to third countries while TRACES generates ITAHCs issued for intra-Community movements. TRACES is an internet-based service which is owned and maintained by the Commission. It is possible for traders (economic operators) to apply for both Centaur EHCs and TRACES ITAHCs on-line or using paper application forms. Operators wishing to export birds to EU Member States can register with TRACES via Defra's website or their local Animal Health Office.

3.0.0 Approved plans from Food Business Operators

3.0.1 Approval has been granted to plans submitted by the following Food Business Operators.

Name of plan
Food Business Operator
Date of approval

3.0.2 The Commission will be advised of any food business operator plans which have been approved by the Competent Authority.

Annex 1

The top ten laboratory confirmed *Salmonella* serotypes isolated from people UK

Table 1: The top ten laboratory confirmed *Salmonella* serotypes isolated from people UK 2004 (provisional)

England and Wales		**Scotland**		**Northern Ireland**	
Serotype	Rate per 100,000	Serotype	Rate per 100,000	Serotype	Rate per 100,000
S. Enteritidis	15.60	*S.* Enteritidis	12.00	*S.* Typhimurium	8.57
S. Typhimurium	2.45	*S.* Typhimurium	4.23	S. Enteritidis	5.29
of these DT104	0.88	of these DT104	1.56	of these DT104	5.46
S. Newport	1.22	*S.* Newport	0.69	*S* .Newport	5.40
S. Virchow	0.51	*S.* Virchow	0.45	*S.* Virchow	1.41
S Stanley	0.25	*S.* Hadar	0.34	*S.* Dublin	0.06
S. Braenderup	0.21	*S.* Montevideo	0.30	*S.* Bredeney	<0.01
S. Hadar	0.20	*S.* Braenderup	0.28	*S.* Ohio	<0.01
S. Agona	0.19	*S.* Agona	0.22	*S.* Infantis	<0.01
S. Infantis	0.18	*S.* Java	0.22	*S.* Kottbus	<0.01
S Thompson	0.16	*S.* Infantis	0.16	*S.* Montevideo	<0.01

Table 2: The top ten laboratory confirmed *Salmonella* serotypes isolated from people UK 2003

England and Wales		**Scotland**		**Northern Ireland**	
Serotype	Rate per 100,000	Serotype	Rate per 100,000	Serotype	Rate per 100,000
S. Enteritidis	18.82	*S.* Enteritidis	13.92	*S.* Enteritidis	5.30
S. Typhimurium	3.67	*S.* Typhimurium	4.11	*S.* Typhimurium	2.53
of these DT104	1.39	of these DT104	1.00	of these DT104	0.59
S. Virchow	0.47	*S.* Virchow	0.39	*S.* Virchow	0.24
S. Hadar	0.40	*S.* Newport	0.37	*S.* Infantis	0.24
S. Agona	0.33	*S.* Infantis	0.37	*S.* Kottbus	0.24
S. Infantis	0.32	*S.* Braenderup	0.29	*S.* Bredeney	0.18
S. Braenderup	0.30	*S.* Java	0.29	*S.* Ohio	0.12
S. Java	0.29	*S.* Agona	0.25	*S.* Newport	0.12
S. Newport	0.23	*S.* Montevideo	0.18	*S.* Dublin	0.12
S. Montevideo	0.14	*S.* Hadar	0.14	*S.* Montevideo	0.06

Annex 2

Control programme under Directive 92/117

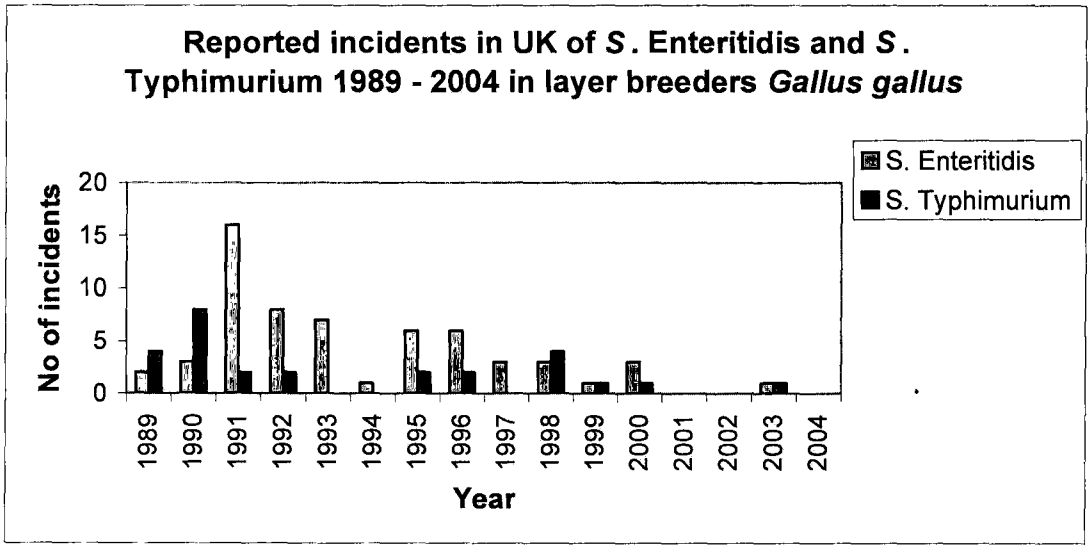
All breeding flocks of at least 250 breeding birds are registered and monitoring is carried out at the hatchery in line with Directive 92/117. When *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *S.* Typhimurium were isolated at the hatchery the suspect flock is placed under official control and a bacteriological investigation is conducted as described in Directive 92/117. When *S.* Enteritidis or *S.* Typhimurium are confirmed in the samples taken the flock is slaughtered and no further eggs are permitted to go for hatching. The same action is taken if the flock is confirmed to be positive for *S.* Enteritidis or *S.* Typhimurium during the rearing stage. Official controls are conducted at the hatchery for each breeding supply flock each 8 weeks during egg production (or each 4 weeks if the breeding flock is at the grandparent level or above). Operator controls in line with Directive 92/117 are carried out on breeding flocks at day old, when the birds are 4 weeks of age and approximately 2 weeks before the birds come into lay.

Up until 1998 antimicrobial treatment under the supervision of the Competent Authority was an option for broiler breeder parent flocks infected with *S.* Enteritidis. Treatment was last authorised in 1997 and is no longer available as a control option.

In the mid-1990's vaccines were authorised for use in the UK for the control of *S.* Enteritidis and there is widespread uptake of these vaccines in the broiler breeder parent flocks. More recently vaccines have been authorised for the control of *S.* Typhimurium.

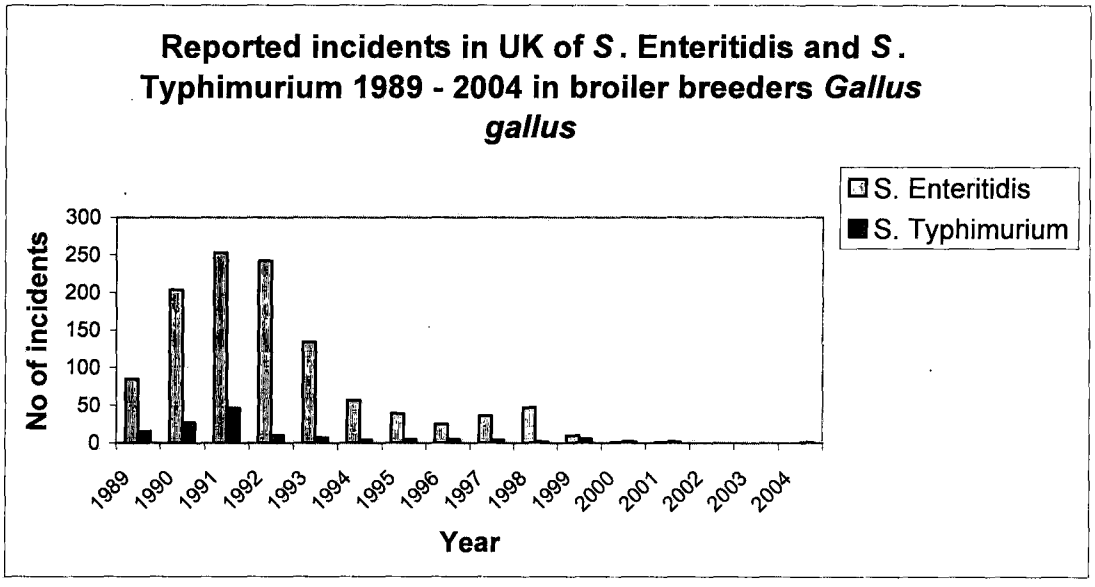
The figures below illustrates the progress of the control programme in the 1990's to the present.

Figure 1



Not all reported incidents were confirmed

Figure 2



Not all reported incidents were confirmed.

Annex 3

The Food Standards Agency

The Food Standards Agency is an independent Government department set up by an Act of Parliament in 2000 to protect the public's health and consumer interests in relation to food. The Agency is led by a Board that has been appointed to act in the public interest and not to represent particular sectors. Board members have a wide range of relevant skills and experience. Their UK headquarters are in London, but the Agency also has national offices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Food Standards Agency is accountable to Parliament through Health Ministers, and to the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for its activities within their areas.

Annex 4

Approved Laboratories for the testing of samples taken by the operator

Register of authorised laboratories under the animal by-products Regulations 2003 (ABPR) and/or the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Order 1993 (PBFHO) and the Animal By-Products Regulation (Northern Ireland) 2003 and/or the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1994.

Name	Name
England and Wales	
British United Turkeys Limited Veterinary Department Platts Lane, Old Moss, Stapleford, Tarvin Chester CH3 8HR **PBFHO *Salmonella.***	Horncastle Laboratories Southwells Lane Horncastle, Lincolnshire LN9 5DT **PBFHO *Salmonella.***
Weald (Fridays Ltd) Laboratory Services. Chequer Tree Farm Benenden Road, Cranbrook, Kent **ABPR *Salmonella.***	Crowshall Veterinary Services 1 Crows Hall Lane, Attleborough Norfolk NR17 1AD **PBFHO *Salmonella.***
Cobb Breeding Co. (UK) Ltd Quality Control Centre, Elsing Lane, Bawdeswell Dereham, Norfolk NR20 4QH **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Nationwide Laboratories Limited Lancefield House 23 Mains Lane Little Singleton, Poulton Le Fylde Lancashire FY6 7LJ **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella.***
Leeds Veterinary Laboratories Millcroft, Gate Way Drive Yeadon Leeds LS19 7XY **ABPR *Salmonella*.**	Retford Poultry Partnership Unit 5 Stirling Road West Carr Road Industrial Estate Retford Nottingham DN22 7SN **ABPR *Salmonella*, Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella.***

Wickham Laboratories Limited Winchester Road, Wickham Fareham Hampshire PO17 5EU **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae,Clostridium perfringens.**	Axiom Veterinary Laboratories 5 George Street, Teignmouth Devon TQ14 8AH **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens. PBFHO *Salmonela*.**
Natural Resource Management Ltd Stockbridge Technology Centre, Cawood North Yorkshire YO8 3TZ **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae,Clostridium perfringens.**	Salamon & Seaber Ltd. Britannia House, 68 Hanbury Street London E1 5JL **ABPR *Salmonella*.**
PHLS (Hull & East Yorkshire Hospital NHS Trust) Hull Royal Infirmary, Anlaby Road Hull HU3 2JZ **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae,Clostridium perfringens.**	Northern Hygiene Labs.(Nigel Horrox Vet Group.) Thorpe House Kelleythorpe Estate, Driffield Humberside East Yorkshire YO25 9DJ **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriacea, Clostridium perfringens. PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
The Microbiology Laboratories. 56 Northumberland Road North Harrow Middlesex HA2 7RE **ABPR *Salmonella*.**	Poultry Health Service Limited, Lakeside Veterinary Centre Marsh Lane, Hemingford Grey Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE28 9EN **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae. PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
SCI-Tech Laboratories The Grove, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 8DA **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae. PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Lloyd Maunder Laboratory, Willand, Cullompton, Devon EX15 2PJ **ABPR *Salmonella* PBFHO *Salmonella*.**

Sun Valley Foods Ltd. Veterinary Laboratory, Grandstand Road Hereford HR4 9PB **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella.***	Slate Hall Veterinary Practice Units 7 & 9. New Close Farm Business Park Bar Road, Lolworth, Cambridgeshire CB3 8DS **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella.***
TROUW (UK) Ltd Minsal Works, Wincham Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6DF **ABPR *Salmonella.***	Microbiology Cerester- A Cargill Company UK Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1PA **ABPR *Salmonella.***
Micro-Search Laboratories Units 3/7 Scotts Trading Complex, Burnley Road, Mytholmroyd, Halifax West Yorkshire HX7 5LH **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**	RHM Technology The Lord Bank Centre, Lincoln Road, High Wycombe Buckinghanshire HP12 3QR **ABPR *Salmonella.***
Gloucester Labs (Veterinary Limited) The Cattle Market, St Oswalds Road Gloucestershire GL1 2SJ **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella.***	Eclipse Scientific Unit 7 Torbay Road, Castle Cary Somerset BA7 7DW **ABPR *Salmonella.***
Beeford Laboratories Salus House, 97a Main Street, Beeford East Yorkshire YO25 8AY **ABPR *Salmonella.***	Faccenda Chicken Ltd. Willow Road, Brackley Northamptonshire NN13 7EX **ABPR *Salmonella.***
Central Laboratory Acorn Way, Wildmere Industrial Estate Banbury, Oxon, Oxfordshire OX16 3XS **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**	Don Whitley Scientific Limited 14 Otley Road, Shipley West Yorkshire BD17 7SE **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**

G W Padley (Poultry) Anwick, Nr Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 9SL **ABPR *Salmonella*.** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Anitox Ltd Anitox House, 80 Main Road, Earls Barton Northamptonshire NN6 0HL **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**
Cheshire Scientific Limited Roften House, North Road Ellesmere Port Cheshire CH65 1AB **ABPR *Salmonella*.**	Precision Analysis (North West) Ltd Essex House, Bridge Road Netherton, Merseyside L30 4UE **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**
Scientific Services Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Tunstead, Norfolk NR12 8HP **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae.**	Kerry Ingredients, Bristol Unit 20 Dragons Court, Crofts End Road St. George Bristol BS5 7XX. **ABPR *Salmonella*.**
Devan Laboratories Ltd. Oakland House, Hortonwood 35, Telford, Shropshire TF1 7FR **ABPR*Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae,Clostridium perfringens.**	Interfish Limited Wallsend Industrial Estate, Cattledown Road Cattledown Plymouth PL4 0RW **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae.**
Wincanton Laboratory Limited Alfred's Way, Wincanton Business Park Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9RU **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Abbott Analytical PO Box 95, New Ferry, Wirral CH62 6HA **ABPR *Salmonella*.**
Microcheck Technical Services 10 Sandown Centre, White Horse Business Park Trowbridge BA14 0XD **ABPR *Salmonella*.**	International Laboratory Services Limited Shardlow Business Park, London Road, Shardlow Derbyshire DE72 2GD **ABPR Enterobacteriaceae.**
Direct Laboratory Services Ltd Microbiology Department Woodthorne, Wergs Road Staffordshire WV6 8TQ **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**	Newtec Laboratories Belasis Hall Technology Park, Greenwood Road, Billingham, North Yorkshire, TS23 4AZ **ABPR *Salmonella* Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**

Stockton Quality Control Laboratory 163 Durham Road, Stockton on Tees TS19 0EA **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae.**	Nestle Quality Assurance Laboratory Block 73, Haxby Road, York North Yorkshire YO91 1XY **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae.**
Nestle Quality Assurance Laboratory Block 73, Haxby Road, York North Yorkshire YO91 1XY **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae.**	Alcontrol Laboratories Yoemanry Road Battlefield Enterprise Park Shrewsbury, SY1 3EH **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae.**
VLA BURY ST EDMUNDS Rougham Hill, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 2RX **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	VLA LANGFORD Langford House, Langford, Bristol BS40 5DX **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
VLA NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE Whitley Road, Longbenton Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 9SE **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	VLA PENRITH Merrythought, Calthwaite, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 9RR **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
VLA PRESTON Barton Hall, Garstang Road Barton, Preston PR3 5HE **ABPR *Salmonella*** **PBFHO Salmonella.**	VLA SHREWSBURY Kendal Road, Harlescott Road, Shrewsbury Shropshire SY1 4HD **ABPR *Salmonella*** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
VLA STARCROSS Staplake Mount, Starcross Exeter Devon EX6 8PE **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	VLA SUTTON BONINGTON Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5RB **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
VLA THIRSK West House, Station Road, Thirsk North Yorkshire Y07 1PZ **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	VLA WINCHESTER (Hampshire) Itchen Abbas Winchester, Hampshire SO21 1BX **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
VLA LUDDINGTON Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9SJ **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	VLA ABERYSTWYTH Y Buarth, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 1ND **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**

VLA CARMARTHEN Job's Well Road, Johnstown, Carmarthen Carmarthenshire SA31 3EZ **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	
Scotland	
VLA LASSWADE Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0PZ **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae and** **Clostridium perfringens.** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Scottish Agricultural College Veterinary Science Division Mill of Craibstone, Bucksburn, Aberdeen AB21 9TS **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
Avaigen Limited, Veterinary Laboratory Willow House, Drover's Road, East Mains Industrial Estate, Broxburn West Lothian EH52 5ND **ABPR *Salmonella*** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Grampian Country Foods, Chicken (Rearing) Ltd Main Street, Newton Village, Mid Lothian EH52 6QY **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
Stonehaven (formerly Microchem Bioscience Limited) Unit 4, Arduthie Business Centre Kirkton Rd, Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire AB39 2NQ **ABPR*Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae,Clostridium** **perfringens.**	Grain & Seed Analysis (Aberdeen) Orchardbank, Industrial Estate, Forfar Angus Aberdeen DD8 1TD **ABPR *Salmonella*.**
Scottish Agricultural College Veterinary Science Auchincruive, Ayr KA6 5AE **ABPR *Salmonella*.**	CCRM Biotech (formerly BS &S Limited) Unit 16, Cromarty Campus, Rosyth Europark Rosyth, Fife KY11 2WX **ABPR *Salmonella*** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
Northern Ireland	
Biosearch (N.I.) Ltd Dufferin Road, Belfast BT3 9AA **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium** **perfringens** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Anser Laboratories Ltd 69A Killyman Road Moy, County Tyrone BT71 7EA **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**

Mid Antrim Laboratory 42A Broughshane Road Ballymena BT43 7DX **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Moy Park Laboratories 49 Seagoe Industrial Estate Craigavon, Co. Armagh BT63 5QE **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens** **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
Beechwood Laboratories 120 Ballymena Road Doagh, Ballyclare Co. Antrim BT39 0TL **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**	Veterinary Science Division Stoney Road, Stormont Belfast BT4 3SD **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**
Veterinary Science Division 43 Beltany Road Coneywarren, Omagh BT78 5NF **PBFHO *Salmonella*.**	Food Microbiology Division New Forge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX **ABPR *Salmonella*** **Enterobacteriaceae, Clostridium perfringens.**

Please note that the list of laboratories approved to test under the legislation is subject to change.

Annex 5

Authorities involved in Feed Law and its Enforcement

	Policy, Regulation and Implementation of Legislation	Enforcement Legislation
Composition and Marketing of Animal Feeds (undesirable substances, additives, labelling etc)	Food Standards Agency	GB: Local Authorities NI: (Northern Ireland): Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)
Zootechnical and Medicated Feeds	Defra (Veterinary) Medicines Directorate VMD) DARD (Animal Health and Welfare Policy Division)	GB: Animal Medicines Inspectorate NI:DARD
Animal Disease related Legislation (BSE, Processed Animal Proteins, Salmonella)	Defra (Animal Health and Veterinary Group) DARD (Animal Health and Welfare Policy Division)	GB: Checks carried out by State Veterinary Service (Defra) Prosecution: Local Authorities NI: DARD
Pesticide Residues	Defra (Pesticides Safety Directorate – PSD) Agri-environmental Policy Division	GB: Pesticides Safety Directorate and Local Authorities NI: DARD

Annex 6

Compensation Table for Category Broiler Breeder

Effective from 01 November 2005

Age (in weeks)	Value (£)	Age (in weeks)	Value (£)
Day old	2.71		
1	2.99	37	7.75
2	3.27	38	7.45
3	3.55	39	7.14
4	3.83	40	6.83
5	4.11	41	6.53
6	4.39	42	6.22
7	4.66	43	5.91
8	4.94	44	5.60
9	5.22	45	5.30
10	5.50	46	4.99
11	5.78	47	4.68
12	6.06	48	4.38
13	6.34	49	4.07
14	6.61	50	3.76
15	6.89	51	3.46
16	7.17	52	3.15
17	7.45	53	2.84
18	7.73	54	2.54
19	8.01	55	2.23
20	8.29	56	1.92
21	8.56	57	1.62
22	8.84	58	1.31
23	9.12	59	1.00
24	9.40	60	0.69
25	9.68	61	0.00
26	9.96	62	0.00
27	10.24	63	0.00
28	10.51	64	0.00
29	10.21	65	0.00
30	9.90	66	0.00
31	9.59	67	0.00
32	9.29	68	0.00
33	8.98	69	0.00
34	8.67	70	0.00
35	8.37	71	0.00
36	8.06	72	0.00

Compensation table for category Layer Breeder

Effective from 01 November 2005

Age (in weeks)	Value (£)	Age (in weeks)	Value (£)
Day old	6.10		
1	6.26	37	8.29
2	6.41	38	8.06
3	6.57	39	7.82
4	6.72	40	7.58
5	6.88	41	7.35
6	7.03	42	7.11
7	7.18	43	6.87
8	7.34	44	6.64
9	7.49	45	6.40
10	7.65	46	6.16
11	7.80	47	5.93
12	7.96	48	5.69
13	8.11	49	5.45
14	8.26	50	5.21
15	8.42	51	4.98
16	8.57	52	4.74
17	8.73	53	4.50
18	8.88	54	4.27
19	9.04	55	4.03
20	9.19	56	3.79
21	9.34	57	3.56
22	9.50	58	3.32
23	9.65	59	3.08
24	9.81	60	2.85
25	9.96	61	2.61
26	10.12	62	2.37
27	10.27	63	2.14
28	10.42	64	1.90
29	10.19	65	1.66
30	9.95	66	1.43
31	9.71	67	1.19
32	9.48	68	0.95
33	9.24	69	0.72
34	9.00	70	0.48
35	8.77	71	0.24
36	8.53	72	0.00

Annex 7

Census data 2004 June Agricultural Survey

Using census data it is estimated that there are approximately 9 million breeding birds in the UK; the majority of these are on holdings with more than 5,000 birds.

UK 2004

Registered breeder holdings/flocks

Holdings/ Flocks	Layer Breeders	Layer Breeder Grandparent	Broiler Breeders	Broiler Breeder Grandparent
745	87	8	533	97

Actual number of flocks on a holding not always known and will vary with time.

Annex 8

Codes of practice for the control of *Salmonella*

1. Code of Practice For The Prevention and Control of *Salmonella* - In Commercial Egg Laying Flocks. Ref No PB 2205
2. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* – For The UK Fish Meal Industry Ref No PB 2203
3. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* – In The Production of Final Feed For Livestock In Premises Producing Less Than 10,000 tonnes Per Annum. Ref No 2201
4. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* – In the Production of Final Feed for Livestock In Premises Producing Over 10,000 Tonnes Per Annum. Ref No 2200
5. Code of Practice For the Prevention and Control of *Salmonella* – In Chickens Reared For Meat Farm. Ref No
6. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* – During the Storage, Handling and Transport of Raw Materials Intended For Incorporation Into, or Direct Use As, Animal Feedingstuff. Ref No 2202
7. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* - In Animal By-products Rendering Industry. Ref No 2199
8. Code of Practice For The Prevention of Rodent Infestation In Poultry Flocks. The Control of *Salmonella.* Ref No 2630
9. Code of Practice For The Prevention and Control of *Salmonella* - In Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries. Ref No PB 1564
10. Code of Practice For The Control of *Salmonella* - In The Production Of Final Feed For Livestock. Ref No 2200 & 2201

See also
http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/zoonoses/salmonella-cop.htm