POLICY NOTE

The Specified Diseases (Notification and Slaughter) Amendment (Scotland) Order 2021

SSI 2021/160

The above instrument is made in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 32(2) and 87(2)(a) of the Animal Health Act 1981.

The instrument is to be laid only.

Purpose of the instrument:

This purpose of this instrument is to confer on the Scottish Ministers a power to slaughter animals affected with, suspected of being affected with, or exposed to, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Ebola virus or surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*).

Policy Objectives

The Animal Health (Notification and Control Measures) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Order 2021, which was made on 10 March 2021, will create certain notification and reporting duties in relation to certain organisms and diseases, including contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Ebola virus or surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*).

There will be an expectation that, on confirmation of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Ebola virus or surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*), the Scottish Government will adopt a control and eradication programme. The policy objective is to provide Scottish Ministers with a power to slaughter mammals affected with, or suspected of being affected with, or exposed to, any of those three diseases.

Consultation

Similar legislative proposals are being prepared in the other GB Administrations giving powers to their respective Ministers a power to slaughter animals affected or suspected of being affected with, or exposed to, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Ebola virus or surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*).

Consultation has taken place collectively with UK-wide stakeholders at industry Core Group meetings.

Impact Assessments

Full Impact Assessments have not been prepared for this instrument as it is urgently required to reduce the risk of disruption to ongoing trade with NI and the EU. The amendments do not alter Scottish Government's current environmental policies and priorities and, therefore, do not have a significant impact on the environment. No Data Impact Assessment has been completed, as there have been no risks identified with data protection law.

Financial Effects

A Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been carried out for this instrument as an animal disease outbreak is unpredictable and its impact would vary depending on the location and nature of an outbreak.

Scottish Government
Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate
March 2021