

FOR DISCUSSION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2021

Agenda Item 2

Last updated: 8 November 2021

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NSW NSDIP Report 2020-2021 & Proposed Training**RECOMMENDATION**

- a. **NOTES** the current NSDIP activities in NSW
- b. **DISCUSSES and AGREES** in provision of NSDIP funding for NSW's training proposals
- c. **NOTES** the ongoing use of NSDIP funded laboratory testing of private practitioner cases facilitated by the State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Elizabeth McArthur Agriculture Institute (EMAI)

BACKGROUND

1. NSW has an extensive network of government veterinarians who provide disease investigation and other livestock services to private practitioners and producers.
2. NSDIP funds have been utilised for funding of laboratory investigation of PVP cases since 2018. Last financial year NSW spent \$3588.30 ex-GST on NSDIP funded laboratory testing.
3. NSW utilised \$10,500 in NSDIP funding for PVP training in NSW in FY20-21 as part of a continuing education and extension program for private veterinarians (Emergency and Zoonotic Disease Webinar series).

DISCUSSION

1. NSW will continue to use NSDIP funded laboratory testing of eligible PVP cases at Elizabeth McArthur Agriculture Institute (EMAI).
 - a. There were a limited number of eligible cases for 2020-21 financial year and first quarter of 2021-22.
2. NSW proposes utilising up to \$15,027 from the NSW NSDIP budget 2021-2022 for development of a sheep necropsy video resource, which will be freely available to veterinarians online via the state diagnostic laboratory website.
 - a. EMAI receive frequent requests from PVPs for necropsy training. Accessibility of live in-person sessions is limited due to time and travel constraints on regional and remote PVPs.
 - b. See attached for a funding proposal (Att A).
3. NSW proposes utilising up to \$5,000 from the NSW NSDIP budget 2021-2022 for relaunch of the Emergency and Zoonotic Disease Webinar program. This series will utilise already recorded presentations and develop new complementary content. Funding is required for participant places on the Total education platform.
 - a. Development of new webinars and hosting / facilitation of two live Q&A sessions will be provided by in-kind support of NSW DPI.
 - b. See attached report of last year's webinar series (Att B) and a funding proposal for 21-22 (Att C).
4. The aim of training proposed in 2 and 3, above, is to:

- a. improve the competence and confidence of private veterinarians in disease investigations through education and engagement with NSW government veterinarians and laboratory staff, and
- b. increase the quality and number of submissions for notifiable disease exclusion or those eligible for NSDIP funding.

Online platforms will make these programs accessible to vets in remote areas who are challenging to reach and educate via face-to-face seminars, but who are key to our EAD surveillance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. None

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

2. A professional video production company will be engaged to record at EMAI and edit the content. Magpie Creative has done work with EMAI in the past, including for the spills training video and promotional videos. They specialise in healthcare and government clients.
3. The video recording will be reviewed by an audience of field veterinarians at the 2022 District Veterinarians Conference and a feedback survey will be collected prior to release.
4. Tocal will continue to be the hosting platform for the Emergency and Zoonotic Disease Webinar series.

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

5. Engagement of Magpie Creative and Tocal for the training proposals, if approved
6. Measures of the NSDIP funded laboratory testing will include:
 - a. The number of private veterinary practitioner managed significant disease investigations occurring in 2020-2019
 - b. The number of PVP significant disease investigations which have further laboratory testing done beyond that which the PVP initially requested / had permission to request.
 - c. Any other measures determined to be appropriate through discussion with the EMAI

Attachment A: NSW Training proposal – necropsy video 21-22

Attachment B: Report to AHA – NSDIP funded EAD webinar series 20-21

Attachment C: NSW Training proposal – EAD webinar series 21-22

FEEDBACK

- 7.

Q1 My organisation's needs and expectations of the NSDIP are being met.				
Strongly agree	Agree x	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:				
The availability to utilise the funds to train and subsidise PVP initiated investigations at EMAI, allows and promotes PVP engagement with government veterinarians, it is highly valuable.				

Q2 The National Significant Disease Investigation Program has provided opportunities to private veterinarians for gaining the necessary knowledge and skills to investigate and report on disease events.				
Strongly agree	Agree x	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes: See EAD and Zoonotic webinar Report for PVP training conducted in NSW in FY20-21				

Q3 The National Significant Disease Investigation Program has helped to improve the level of notifiable disease investigations through effective engagement with private veterinarians and assisting in funding investigations that may not have progressed otherwise.				
Strongly agree	Agree x	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes: Access to this funding has improved engagement between the DPI and EMAI in 2020-21. As of July 2021, the availability of this funding to enable more extensive laboratory testing in PVP-managed SDIs has had a positive impact on the engagement amongst PVPs, EMAI and DPI and facilitated further investigation where it might have otherwise not progressed due to monetary considerations.				