

FOR INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2020

Agenda Item 2.1

Last updated: **7 September 2020**Prepared by *C.Harrison***NSW NSDIP Report 2019-2020 + Proposed Training****RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the NSDIP Advisory Committee:
 - a. **NOTES** the current NSDIP activities in NSW
 - b. **DISCUSSES and AGREES** in provision of NSDIP funding for NSW's training proposal
 - 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. As a result, limited NSDIP funds have been utilised in NSW for private practitioner investigations prior to 2018.
2. NSW has been and will continue to be involved in EAD private veterinary practitioner (PVP) training supported by a variety of funding sources.
3. NSW identified the plan to activate and promote the utilisation of NSDIP funds by PVPs for laboratory testing in cases of significant disease investigations at the 2018 Annual Meeting.
4. NSW will continue to use NSDIP funded laboratory testing of PVP cases at Elizabeth McArthur Agriculture Institute (EMAI)

DISCUSSION

5. NSW utilised \$11,100 in NSDIP funding for PVP training in NSW in 2019-2020 (see attached reports) – EAD and Zoonotic Disease Webinar Report
6. NSW proposes utilising up to \$7 000 from the NSW NSDIP budget 2020-2021 for facilitation of another webinar series. This series will utilise already recorded presentations. Funding is required for updating and re-recording some of the material already produced and was hosted on Redback Connect in 2019-2020, and to host and facilitate two live Q&A sessions.
 - a. The aim of this proposal is to continue to improve the competence and confidence of PVPs, particularly remote PVPs, in the recognition of significant disease events, appropriate disease investigation, and in collaborating with NSW government veterinarians through a series of webinars and live online discussions. It will also encourage the submission of the full range of appropriate specimens from PVPs to EMAI, to facilitate the timely and appropriate testing of submitted specimens to allow for appropriately thorough significant disease investigations.
 - b. Note: an alternative but equivalent platform to Redback Connect may be utilised
7. A process has been put in place to enable access to NSDIP funds for PVP-managed investigations for laboratory testing, facilitated by EMAI. In 2019-2020 a total of \$29,084.43 was utilised for this purpose.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. None.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

9. There will be contact with Redback Connect to obtain all the material developed from last year and have it transferred to an NSW DPI internal platform. Consultation between the NSW DPI media team and NSW DPI Animal Biosecurity will occur in the coming months to facilitate the development, updating and re-recording of some of the webinar material from last year. An alternative but equivalent platform to Redback Connect may be utilised following consultation.

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

10. Initiate the webinar series using internal NSW DPI platform and in conjunction with promotion via the AVA and District Veterinarians / Local Land Services. Engage the presenters and identify dates for the live discussions.
11. Measures of the NSDIP funded laboratory testing will include:
- The number of private veterinary practitioner managed significant disease investigations occurring in 2020-2019
 - The number of PVP significant disease investigations which have further laboratory testing done beyond that which the PVP initially requested / had permission to request.
 - Any other measures determined to be appropriate through discussion with the EMAI

Attachment A: Report for Private Veterinary Practitioner EAD and Zoonotic Webinar training

Attachment B: Training proposal 2020-2021

FEEDBACK

12. *[Please respond to the questions below in assessing the performance of the NAHIP over the 2019–20 year, and use this as an opportunity to offer feedback and suggested changes for continual improvement.]*

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 2019-20

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	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	X			
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes: The anticipation of accessing this funding has improved engagement between the DPI and EMAI in 2019-20. As of July 2020, the availability of this funding to enable more extensive laboratory testing in PVP-managed SDIs has had a very positive impact on the engagement amongst PVPs, EMAI and DPI.				

Q4 Animal Health Australia is managing the National Significant Disease Investigation Program effectively/satisfactorily.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	X			
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:				