

FOR INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting Nov 2025

Agenda Item ##

Last updated: 5 November 2025

Prepared by Anna Erickson, WA

WA State Report**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the NSDIP Advisory Committee NOTE the information included in this report

BACKGROUND

2. The Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) values a strong relationship with rural private veterinarians to assist with the reporting and investigation of significant livestock disease events to support early detection of a notifiable disease and provide evidence of absence of trade sensitive diseases. The NSDIP is a contributing funding source for subsidising disease investigations undertaken by private veterinarians in WA in cattle, sheep and pigs.

DISCUSSION

3. In 2024/5, A total of 119 cases were accepted for a subsidised disease investigations from private veterinarians, which was a small increase in the number of cases from 2023 24. These investigations were carried out by 28 different veterinary businesses, which represents over 50% of the businesses in the South-West Agricultural area. Selection for disease exclusion for reportable diseases is on a syndromic basis: 55 submissions were tested for reportable diseases. In 47 cases reportable diseases were excluded: the other seven returned positive results for the reportable disease- Johnes disease. Cases subsidised this year, were able to exclude the following reportable diseases when consistent syndromes presented in the investigations:

Brucella abortus	Bluetongue in sheep, BVD Type 2
Bovine leukaemia virus (enzootic bovine leukosis)	Johne's disease JD; Liver fluke - fascioliasis
Mycoplasma iowae	Anthrax
Rift Valley fever virus	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. Subsidised significant disease investigations carried out by private veterinary practitioners in WA in 2024-2025 incurred a total cost of \$371,667.78. Veterinarians were paid \$52,584 to support their disease investigations, and an additional \$6301.39 to contribute to travel costs. The laboratory testing cost for these investigations totalled \$312,782.39. The 2022 - 2025 NSDIP business plan allocates \$18,942 to the SDI program in Western Australia for the 24-25 financial year. This contributed 5% of the total cost of the Western Australia SDI program.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

5. Consultation and communication are ongoing. DPIRD field veterinary officers maintain regular contact with private veterinarians in WA to supply suitable sampling equipment, description investigation bench guides and support to allow them to perform high quality disease investigations.

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

6. It is proposed that the 2025 – 2026 NSDI funding be used to help support a private veterinarian's workshop. A training proposal and agenda have previously been circulated to the NSDIP Advisory Committee.

Attachment A: Agenda for Private Veterinarians November 2025

FEEDBACK

7. *[Please respond to the questions below in assessing the performance of the NSDIP over the 2024–25 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	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
NSDI only contributes a small financial amount (5%) to the overall SDI program in WA. NSDI funding does not enable the promotion of the program as demand is significantly higher than financial assistance provided.				

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	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
WA runs workshops for private veterinarians annually which is focused on awareness and knowledge of Emergency Animal Diseases. DPIRD promotes support available to private vets including subsidised freight costs and awareness activities within WA. This is separate to the NSDI funded activity.				

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
The NSDIP has helps to improve awareness of the importance of disease investigations for early detection and supporting evidence of trade sensitive diseases. Having a national program supports the importance of this activity.				