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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.gov.wales

Consultation on the Introduction of Quarantine Units

Date of issue: **7 December 2015**

Action required: **12 February 2016**

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| Overview | The Welsh Government is inviting your views on the introduction of Quarantine Units (QUs) as an exemption to the current six day standstill arrangements for cattle, sheep and goats. |
| How to respond | You can provide your comments by completing the consultation form at the back of the document and submitting it via email or post to the addresses below. |
| Further information and related documents | Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request. The consultation document is available from: www.wales.gov.uk/consultations |
| Contact details | Exotic Animal Diseases Team Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer The Welsh Government Cathays Park CARDIFF CF10 3NQ Email: animaldiseases@wales.gsi.gov.uk |

Data protection

How the views and information you give us will be used

Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about. It may also be seen by other Welsh Government staff to help them plan future consultations.

The Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps to show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out.

Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, though we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including the Welsh Government. This includes information which has not been published. However, the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it or not. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. However, there might sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we finally decided to reveal the information.

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Part A – Background and reasons for the change

Standstill Rules

The current standstill rules were introduced to reduce the risk of spreading disease following the 2001 Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak and revised in 2003.

Prior to the 2001 FMD outbreak, no standstill period existed and long-distance movements of animals were considered to be responsible for significant spread of disease.

Movement controls have evolved since their introduction in 2001. The initial standstill period was 21-days which was reduced to 6-days for cattle, sheep and goats. The standstill period for pigs was 20-days, which remains the case today. The 6-day standstill (6DSS) also applies in England and in Scotland a 13-day standstill is combined with self-certified isolation facilities.

The current controls, with some exceptions, require that when animals are moved onto a holding, a standstill period on that holding is triggered preventing any animals moving off the holding, except direct to slaughter.

At the request of the livestock industry a number of exemptions to the standstill rules were allowed to enable specific business activities at certain times of the year. Whilst these exemptions could increase the risk of disease spread they are balanced against animal welfare and management needs.

The standstill rules and exemptions are specified within the Disease Control Order 2003¹.

What are the reasons for change?

The “Working Smarter” Report² was commissioned in 2011 to investigate the regulatory burden placed on farmers and land managers. The Report made recommendations to the Welsh Government on how to deliver better regulation, improve customer service for farmers and increase the profitability of the sector.

During the course of the study the 6DSS was identified as an unpopular Regulation. The Report highlighted that the current standstill rules were considered by some farmers to be impacting on their ability to trade and they did not see the merits of the rules in terms of limiting the potential spread of infectious disease. They also believed that the many exemptions have made the rules complicated and difficult to understand.

¹ The Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 is available from <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2003/1966/contents/made>

² The Working Smarter report can be accessed via the following link: <http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/farming/workingsmarter/?lang=en>.

Recommendation 33 of the Report is as follows:

“The issues around the 6-day standstill rule must be addressed and resolved by the Welsh Government and the farming industry working together. All options must be considered including the Macdonald modelling on separation and isolation facilities, farm-to-farm movements and also the Scottish Government’s approach. Solutions must permit efficient cross border movements and be easily understood by farmers.”

Current veterinary opinion is that the standstill rules should be retained in order to mitigate the risk of the spread of animal diseases. However, it is acknowledged that the rules could be simplified to provide a balance between disease control measures and flexibility of movements for trade.

The Welsh Ministers accepted this recommendation and the Welsh Government has been working collaboratively with the farming industry, operational partners and other stakeholders to develop an acceptable improvement to the current standstill rules.

The proposals developed and presented in more detail below are for a general standstill exemption for farms using Quarantine Units (QUs). If farmers choose not to employ QUs then the whole farm would be required to observe the 6DSS period.

It is intended that this will provide clarity for farmers, by removing or amending many exemptions currently available and provide an option for farmers, which will provide a balance between disease control measures and flexibility to trade.

Part B – The proposed changes

General Summary

Following discussions and agreement with stakeholders, the preferred approach was to introduce a general exemption to the Standstill Rules for farms using a Quarantine Unit (QU). This would replace all existing exemptions involving isolation facilities.

The term 'Quarantine Unit' (as opposed to 'Isolation Unit/Facilities') was adopted to reflect the higher degree of separation and biosecurity measures required.

QU Principles

QUs will adhere to the following principles:

- An exemption to standstill rules for farms with approved QUs will replace all existing exemptions involving Sole Occupancy Authorities (SOAs) and isolation units.
- Livestock owners/keepers will be able to choose between using QUs or adhering to the current 6DSS.
- QUs could be indoor and/or outdoor facilities and must be separate from other animals, with separate feed, water, double fencing and access.
- Strict biosecurity and practical requirements must be met in order to prevent the spread of disease.
- QUs must be certified by a Certification Body (CB) accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) that would be accessible for all livestock owners/keepers to apply to.
- Approval would be required before they can be certified for use and every 18 months thereafter, paid for by livestock owners/keepers.
- No changes are proposed for 20 day standstill rules for pigs, at the request of the pig industry and in consideration of the risks.
- Electronic notification of animal movements within 24 hours and individual identification of animals would be required to ensure inspections can be carried out on in-use facilities.

The requirements and rules for the use of QUs will be clearly set out in specific guidance prior to implementation and will include:

QU Requirements

- An indoor QU facility should consist of a separate building and/or field, with its own dedicated access, effluent management, feeding and welfare arrangements. There should be no direct contact with other animals on the farm.

- An outdoor QU facility should provide effective separation between quarantined and other animals with stock proof double-fencing at least 3 metres apart, with its own dedicated access, effluent management and feeding arrangements. There should be no direct contact with other animals on the farm.

QU Operational Rules

- No direct contact between animals in a QU and resident or other stock at any point.
- People entering a QU must either wear dedicated clothing, gloves and footwear or use items that can be disinfected, ensuring that they are cleansed and disinfected when entering and leaving a QU.
- If dedicated gloves are not used hand washing facilities must be available for people entering and leaving a QU.
- No feed, equipment or machinery to be shared between the farm and its QU, except where feed can be 'dropped' into the QU by equipment, which has been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before its use.
- For essential welfare and exceptional husbandry reasons, vehicles can enter a QU e.g. to move animals off. Vehicles must be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected when entering and leaving a QU.
- Incoming animals must be transported directly into a QU and the transporting vehicle must be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected when entering and leaving the QU.
- A QU can be used for other purposes when no animals are in quarantine. This must be clearly indicated and with appropriate biosecurity procedures in place.
- Appropriate signage must be displayed when the QU is in use so all farm staff are aware that they must follow the required biosecurity procedures.
- Lactating animals cannot be moved between a QU and the farm's milking parlour, but can be milked in the QU with a mobile milking facility provided it is thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before and after its use.
- Animals must remain in the QU facility for 6 days (i.e. arrival of animals into QU is day 0 and then remain for the subsequent 6 whole days. If animals are part way through the 6 day quarantine period when other animals are introduced then this resets the clock and all animals must remain in the QU for 6 days from that point).
- Show animals may leave a QU in under 6 days if they are attending a further licensed show, provided they undergo 6 days quarantine before attending the first show and after returning from the last.
- Animals may leave a QU for veterinary treatment, but on return, they (and any new born offspring) must stay in the QU for the remainder of their 6 day standstill period.

- Records of animals' ID and dates of entry and departure from the QU must be maintained on the farm.
- QUs will be allocated a separate CPH number.
- In order for the standstill exemption to apply, movements into and out of a QU must be reported electronically within 24 hours.
- A QU must be approved by a UKAS accredited Certification Body and re-approved every 18 months, paid for by the livestock owner/keeper.
- Unannounced inspections will be used to verify compliance when the QU is in-use.

The creation and use of a QU on a farm would be a specific choice for each livestock owner/keeper based on their specific needs.

Given that there are costs involved with the creation of QUs (adhering to the specific requirements, the required approval process and re-approval every 18 months thereafter) each farmer will need to balance the benefits of having a QU or otherwise.

For farms with a QU, animal movements onto the farm would be direct into the QU and the 6DSS period would be observed there without affecting the animals on the remainder of the farm.

For farms without a QU, animal movements onto the farm would trigger a 6DSS for the whole of the farm.

The Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003, which sets out the standstill and exemption requirements, will need to be amended to effect this change, which is considered further in pages 27 to 34.

It is currently intended that the implementation of the QUs, subject to the consultation responses and Ministerial approval, will be completed by December 2016.

The original working assumption was that there should be only one QU per farm premises, but in recognition of a suggestion that there should be more, a number of options have been developed and are provided in pages 23 to 26 along with the suggested pros and cons for each. Your views would be appreciated.

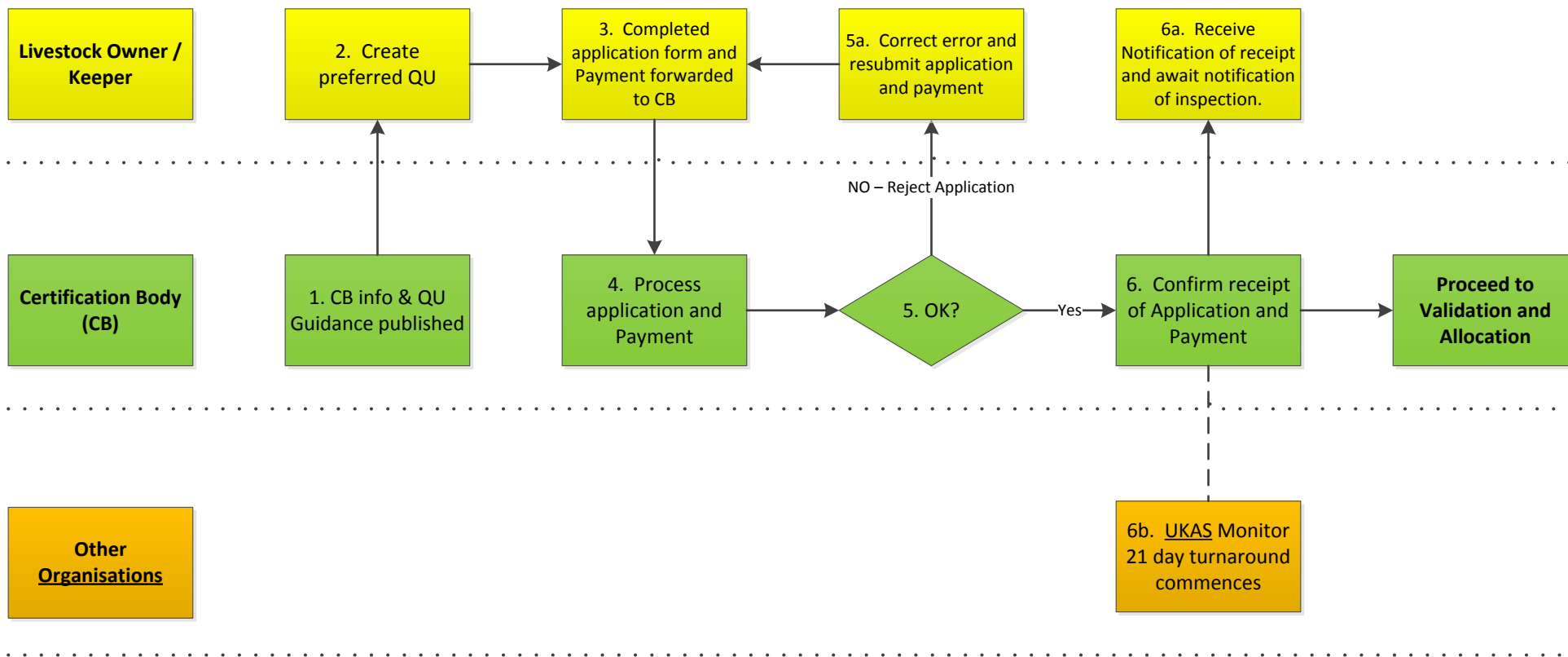
The process flows and supporting notes are set out in pages 12 to 22, broken down into the following four stages for ease of reference.

1. Applying for a QU
2. Validation and Allocation of QU CPH Number
3. Maintaining a QU – 18 Month Re-Approval
4. QU In-Use Inspections.

The expected benefits of QUs include:

- A simplification of the standstill arrangements, providing reduced complexity and administrative burden for the industry. This may also lead to a reduction in accidental or deliberate non-compliance with standstill rules thereby reducing the enforcement actions required.
- Continued mitigation against the risk of spreading animal diseases.
- Improved biosecurity awareness and practices amongst those considering / employing QUs.
- Enhance the reputation (both domestically and internationally) of the farming industry in Wales through improved efficiency and animal health and welfare standards.
- Improved animal health and welfare - QUs could help to contain both exotic and endemic diseases, facilitating the maintenance or improvement of the overall health and welfare status of the main herd. They could also enable easier administration of veterinary treatments.
- Provide greater flexibility for those farmers adopting QUs to move animals and trade more safely and efficiently. Potential benefits for industry in terms of financial savings from avoiding standstill rules and ease and convenience of trading.
- Specifically address recommendation 33 of the Working Smarter review.

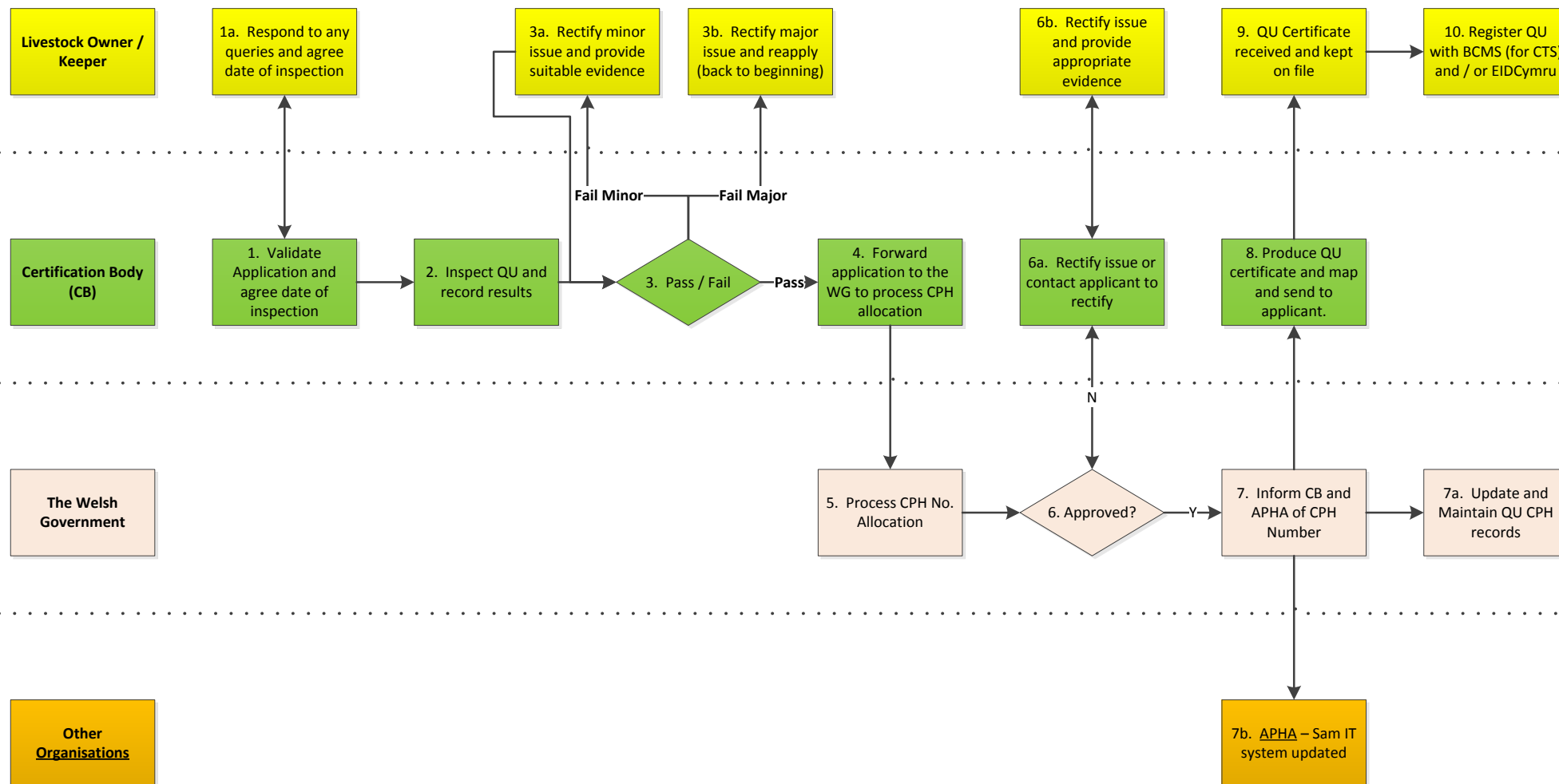
Applying for a Quarantine Unit (QU)



Applying for a Quarantine Unit (QU) – Supporting Notes

| Step | Description |
|------|---|
| 1 | Appropriate guidance, application forms and information relating to the Certification Bodies (CB) will be published and made available on line or on request. |
| 2 | The livestock owner/keeper creates their preferred QU, adhering to the guidance. |
| 3 | Before it can be used as a QU it must be approved by a CB, which will charge a fee for this service - this will be clearly set out in the guidance and application forms. The livestock owner/keeper should complete the application form and forward it, with the relevant fee, to the CB. |
| 4 | The CB would process the application form and payment. |
| 5 | If any errors are identified or the payment cannot be processed then the CB will contact the livestock owner/keeper to ask them to rectify. If it cannot be rectified then the application stops and the paperwork is returned to the livestock owner/keeper along with the fee. |
| 5a | Livestock owner/keeper resolves the issues identified and resubmits the application and/or payment to the CB. |
| 6 | If there are no outstanding issues with the application and payment then the CB would contact the livestock owner/keeper to confirm receipt of the application and payment and proceed to the validation and CPH allocation process. |
| 6a | Livestock owner/keeper awaits notification of an inspection. |
| 6b | Under the UKAS accreditation scheme there is a requirement for applications to be processed within 21 days and so UKAS would start monitoring at this point in time. |

Validation and Allocation of QU CPH Numbers

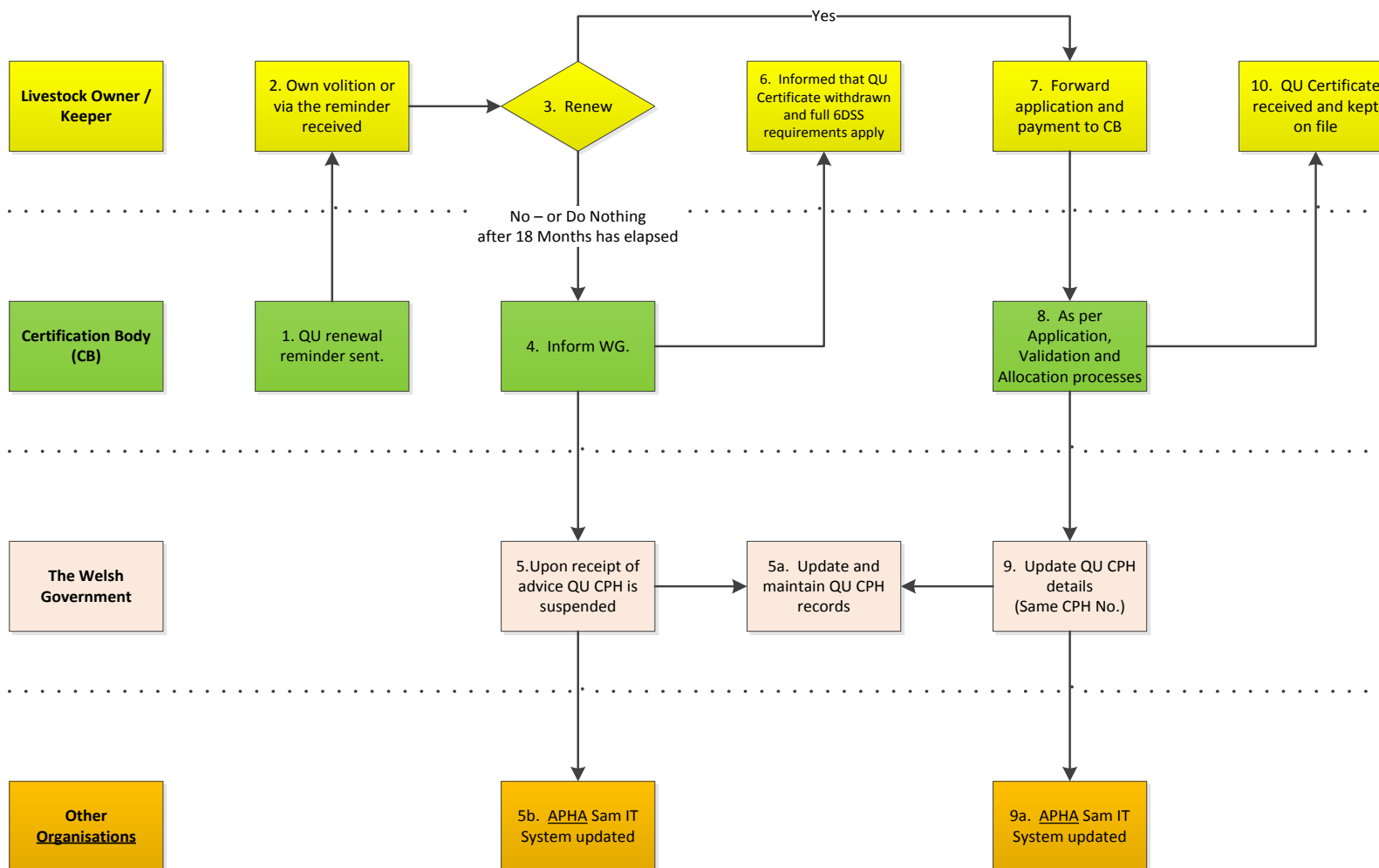


Validation and Allocation of QU CPH Numbers – Supporting Notes

| Step | Description |
|------|---|
| 1 | CB validates the application form and agrees a date to inspect the QU with the livestock owner/keeper. |
| 1a | Livestock owner/keeper agrees a date and their availability for the inspection. |
| 2 | The CB visits the farm to inspect the QU to ensure that it adheres to the QU requirements and that all procedures, facilities etc. are in place and meet the operational rules. The CB will record all of their results on a checklist. |
| 3 | The checklist will be discussed and signed by both parties with a copy passed to the livestock owner/keeper and a copy retained by the CB. The inspection will indicate whether the QU can be certified i.e. pass or fail with either minor or major issues. If it meets all of the required criteria then the application will proceed to step 4. If only minor issues are required to be addressed then it will proceed to step 3a, but if major issues are identified it will proceed to step 3b. |
| 3a | <p>The livestock owner/keeper rectifies the minor issues and provides evidence, as agreed with the relevant CB. This may take the form of photographic evidence if that is sufficient/appropriate or may require a further visit, which may incur a further charge. If the CB is content that the minor issues have been addressed then the application will proceed to step 4.</p> <p>Under the UKAS accreditation scheme there is a requirement for a CB to have an appeal process in place and the livestock owner/keeper must be made aware of this and how it can be accessed.</p> |
| 3b | <p>If a major issue is identified then the application cannot proceed and the CB will advise the livestock owner/keeper that they will need to reapply once it has been rectified. This will effectively be starting again and so the livestock owner/keeper will be required to pay another fee.</p> <p>Under the UKAS accreditation scheme there is a requirement for CB to have in place an appeal process and so the livestock owner/keeper must be made aware of this and how it can be accessed.</p> |
| 4 | The CB will forward copies of the completed QU application form and inspection checklist to the Welsh Government for a CPH number to be allocated for the QU. |
| 5 | The Welsh Government validates the papers received and checks for any errors and any previous records. |
| 6 | If any errors are identified it will be referred to the CB (6a refers) to address. If everything is in order then the application will continue to step 7. |
| 6a | If the error can be addressed by the CB then it is rectified immediately and sent back to the Welsh Government i.e. step 6. If it is for the livestock owner/keeper to rectify then the CB will ask them to rectify |

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| | (6b refers) and when rectified passes it back to the Welsh Government i.e. step 6. |
| 6b | Livestock owner/keeper rectifies issue and provides the required information to the CB. |
| 7 | The Welsh Government allocates a CPH number for the QU and informs the CB and the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) of the details. |
| 7a | The Welsh Government updates and maintains their records. |
| 7b | APHA update their Sam IT system. |
| 8 | The CB will then prepare a QU certificate, which will include the CPH number, start and end dates and a map showing the QU. This is then forwarded to the livestock owner/keeper for their records. |
| 9 | The livestock owner/keeper must retain the QU Certificate and ensure that it is available to be presented to APHA when they undertake in use inspections. |
| 10 | The livestock owner/keeper must either inform BCMS to register the QU CPH on the CTS system and/or update EIDCymru. |

Maintaining a QU – 18 Month Re-approval

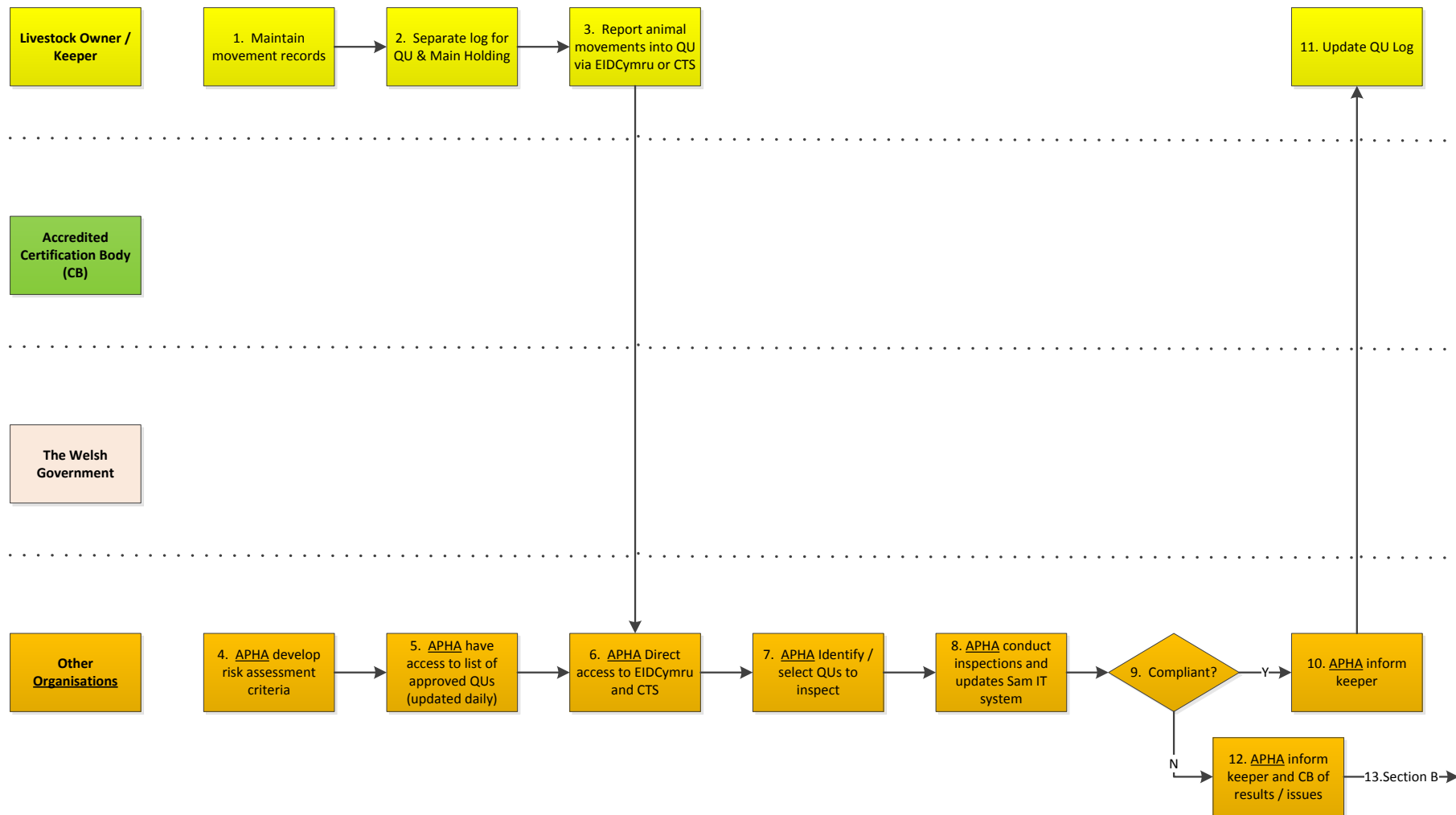


Maintaining a QU – 18 Month Re-approval – Supporting notes

| Step | Description |
|------|---|
| 1 | CB will issue a reminder to livestock owners/keepers of the need to have their QU re-approved before expiry after 18 months and the implications of not re-approving their QU. |
| 2 | Before the expiry of the 18 month anniversary of the QU approval the livestock owner/keeper will either of their own volition or in response to the reminder from the CB determine whether they wish to continue using a QU. |
| 3 | If the livestock owner/keeper wishes to continue using their QU then they must apply to the CB for re-approval and proceed to step 7. If the livestock owner/keeper does NOT wish to continue using their QU then they can either notify the CB or do nothing. |
| 4 | If the QU is no longer required the CB will notify the Welsh Government and also contact the livestock owner/keeper to remind them of their 6DSS obligation for the whole farm (step 6). |
| 5 | Once the Welsh Government is notified that the QU is not required the WG will suspend ³ the QU CPH Number so that it is unavailable for use. This information will also be passed to APHA. |
| 5a | The Welsh Government updates and maintains their QU CPH records. |
| 5b | APHA update their Sam IT system. |
| 6 | Having decided not to have a QU the livestock owner/keeper ensures that they observe the 6DSS requirements for the whole farm. |
| 7 | Once a QU has lapsed the livestock owner/keeper must reapply to the CB for approval of their QU under the above process before it can be used again. |
| 8 | CB receives application and follows the process outlined above. |
| 9 | The Welsh Government again follows the process outlined above and updates their QU CPH records (step 5a) accordingly so that it remains live. Also provides this information to APHA. |
| 9a | APHA will ensure that their Sam IT system is updated. |
| 10 | The livestock owner/keeper must retain the QU Certificate/s and ensure that it is available to be presented to APHA when they undertake inspections. |

³ QU CPH numbers are suspended and not deleted, should a livestock owner / keeper decide in the future that they do wish to have a QU again then they can apply again to the CB and the Welsh Government upon reviewing their records will not issue a new CPH number, but will instead reactivate the suspended one updating any details as necessary. This would also apply if a farm with a QU was sold on to another party – the new owner of the farm would need to apply for a QU and then the QU CPH details would be updated on the system and a new QU certificate issued.

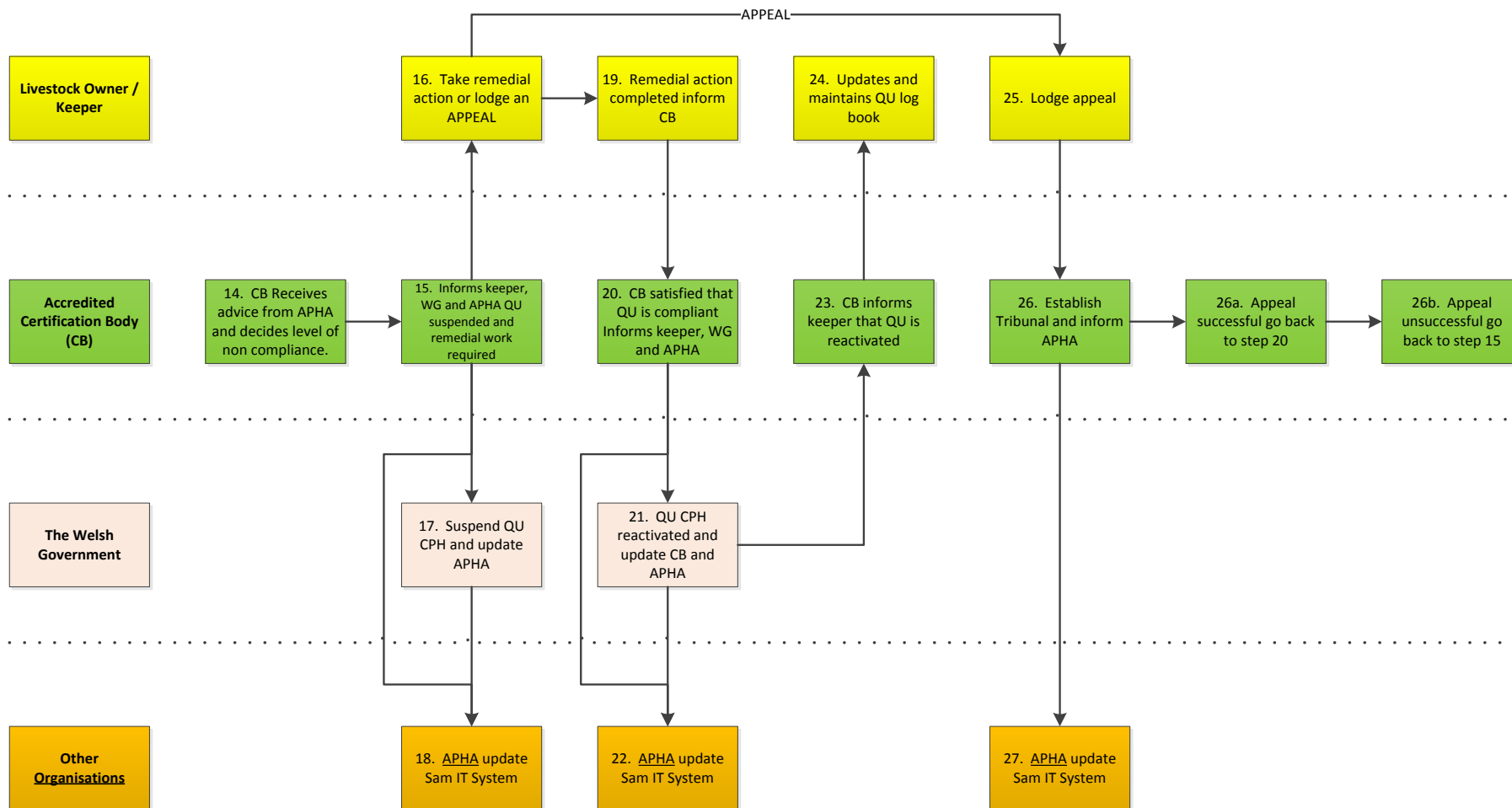
QU In-Use Inspections Section A (Continues in Section B Below)



QU In-Use Inspections – Supporting Notes Section A

| Step | Description |
|----------|--|
| 1 & 2 | Livestock owner/keeper to keep their own movement records, with separate logs maintained for the QU and the main holding. |
| 3 | Livestock owner/keeper reports animal movements electronically via the EIDCymru or CTS systems. |
| 4 | APHA to develop risk assessment criteria building on experience and usage levels. |
| 5 | Daily list of approved QUs to be accessible by APHA. |
| 6 | APHA will have direct access to EIDCymru and CTS data. |
| 7 | APHA will identify the QUs in use and select QUs to undertake unannounced inspections. |
| 8 | APHA conduct the in use inspections and record their findings on a checklist. APHA will also update their Sam IT System to record the fact that an inspection has been completed. |
| 9 | If the QU is operating correctly then APHA will inform the keeper (step 10) however if the QU is non compliant with the operational rules then APHA will inform the CB and keeper (step 11). |
| 10 | APHA provide a copy of their completed checklist to the keeper and inform him of the result. |
| 11 | The keeper must keep a copy of the inspection records with the QU log book. |
| 12 | APHA provide a copy of their completed checklist to the CB and the keeper, informing him of the result and that the CB will be contacting them. |
| 13 | The process then continues in section B. |

QU Resolution of In-Use Inspection Issues Section B



QU Resolution of In-Use Inspection Issues Section B – Supporting Notes

| Step | Description |
|------|---|
| 14 | Upon receipt of the inspection results from APHA the Certification Body (CB) will decide the non-compliance sanctions and inform the keeper, Welsh Government and APHA (to support the ongoing development of the Risk Analysis). |
| 15 | The CB informs the livestock owner/keeper, WG and APHA that the QU is to be suspended and of the remedial work required to make the QU compliant. |
| 16 | The keeper decides to either complete the remedial work required (step 19) or to lodge an appeal (step 25). |
| 17 | The WG suspends the QU CPH number so that it cannot be used and informs APHA. |
| 18 | APHA update their Sam IT System. |
| 19 | The livestock owner/keeper completes the remedial action required and informs the CB, providing the required evidence. |
| 20 | If the CB is satisfied that the QU is now compliant they will inform the WG and APHA. |
| 21 | The WG will reactivate the QU CPH number so that it is available for use, informing both APHA and the CB. |
| 22 | APHA update their Sam IT System. |
| 23 | The CB informs the livestock owner/keeper that the QU has been reactivated. |
| 24 | The livestock owner/keeper updates and maintains their QU movement records. |
| 25 | The livestock owner/keeper lodges an appeal with the CB. |
| 26 | The CB establishes a Tribunal to consider the appeal and informs APHA. |
| 26a | If the appeal is successful then the process should go back to step 20. |
| 26b | If the appeal is unsuccessful then the process should go back to step 15. |
| 27 | APHA update their Sam IT System. |

Nature and number of QUs per farm premises

The original working assumption was that there should be only one approved QU per farm premises, which are either indoor or outdoor or both. In developing the proposal this assumption was challenged and it was suggested that multiple QUs may be required for each farm premises.

Therefore, the following four options were developed:

- Option A** Only one approved QU per farm on only one site (which could comprise both indoor and outdoor facilities)
- Option B** Only one QU per farm, comprising either one or two separate sites operating as one unit i.e. any animals entering either site would restart the 6DSS on both sites
- Option C** Two QUs per farm with separate CPH numbers, but only one can be in use at one time
- Option D** Two QUs per farm with separate CPH numbers and both can be in use at the same time.

The pros and cons for each option are presented below for your consideration. Your views are sought as to which option should be considered further and whether there are any other pros or cons that have not been considered.

Please note that in the following options we have considered both one or two QU sites and either one or two QU CPH numbers only. For higher numbers, the pros for farmers associated with increased flexibility to trade would increase. Conversely, the cons associated with difficulties in monitoring and inspecting QUs, risks of improper biosecurity procedures and costs would also increase.

| Option A - only one approved QU per farm on only one site (which could comprise both indoor and outdoor facilities). | |
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| Pros | Cons |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplest and cheapest Option for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators to establish, manage and maintain. • Easiest Option in relation to movement reporting, the ability to effectively monitor use of QUs and carry out inspections to check adherence to rules. • Least impact in terms of workloads for livestock owners/keepers, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less flexibility for livestock owners/keepers wanting to move different species or sex of animals at the same time. • Frustrating for premises that have suitable areas for QUs on different parts of their premises. • Extra pens/fences may need to be set up to keep different species and sex of animals separate within the QU. |

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| <p>Certification Bodies and Regulators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock owners/keepers would only need to pay for the creation and approval of one QU. • Easiest option to manage for livestock owners/keepers to ensure that all staff are following appropriate biosecurity procedures. | |
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| Option B - only one QU per farm, which could comprise either one or two separate sites operating as one unit i.e. any animals entering either site would restart the 6 day standstill on both sites. | |
|---|---|
| Pros | Cons |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple Option for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators to establish and maintain QUs. • Provides flexibility for livestock owners/keepers wanting to move different species or sex of animals at the same time. • Ease of movements reporting with only one QU CPH number. • Livestock owners/keepers would only need to pay for the approval of one QU. • Removes the frustration for premises that have suitable areas for QUs on different parts of the site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in complication for effective monitoring of the use of QUs and carrying out inspections to check adherence to rules. • Additional impact in terms of workloads for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators. • Livestock owners/keepers would need to pay for establishing more than one QU if on two separate sites. • Increased complication for livestock owners/keepers to ensure that all staff are following appropriate biosecurity procedures. |

| Option C - Two QUs per farm with separate CPH numbers, but only one can be in use at one time. | |
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| Pros | Cons |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives livestock owners/keepers flexibility in terms of which QU they wish to use at any one time, depending on the type of livestock. • Allows livestock owners/keepers to use a QU for another purpose | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased complication for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators to establish, manage and maintain QUs. • Increased complication for effectively monitoring the use of |

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| <p>e.g. storage of machinery or feed, leaving the other QU available for livestock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removes the frustration for premises that have suitable areas for QUs on different parts of the site. | <p>QUs and carrying out inspections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional workloads for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators. Livestock owners/keepers would need to pay for establishing and approval of more than one QU. Increased complication for livestock owners/keepers to ensure that all staff are following appropriate biosecurity procedures. Movement reporting becomes more complicated with additional CPH numbers involved. |
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| Option D - Two QUs per farm (main holding CPH) with separate CPH numbers – both can be in use at the same time. | |
|---|---|
| Pros | Cons |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides flexibility by enabling livestock owners/keepers to keep different species and sex of animals separate using the two QUs. Removes the frustration for premises that have suitable areas for QUs on different parts of the site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the most complications for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators to establish, manage and maintain QUs. Provides the most complications for effectively monitoring the use of QUs and carrying out inspections. Most impact in terms of workloads for livestock owners/keepers, Certification Bodies and Regulators. Livestock owners/keepers would need to pay for establishing and approval of more than one QU. Provides the most complications for livestock owners/keepers to ensure that all staff are following appropriate biosecurity procedures. Movement reporting becomes more complicated with |

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| | additional CPH numbers involved and QUs operating separately. |
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Proposed Changes to the Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003

To successfully implement QUs the Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 will need to be amended to accommodate the changes required to the standstill related exemptions. The tables below provide an overview of all of the current exemptions and the proposed approach for each.

Your views are being sought as to whether you agree with the changes.

| SCHEDULE 1 – (Article 6 (a) refers) <i>Movements <u>off</u> premises which are permitted during the standstill period</i> | |
|--|---|
| Existing Exemption | Proposed approach |
| <p>Movement for veterinary treatment, etc.</p> <p>1. (1) The movement of an animal to a place for veterinary treatment. (2) The movement of an animal from a place for veterinary treatment provided the animal has not come into contact with other animals while at the place of treatment. (3) The movement of an animal to a laboratory for diagnostic tests to be carried out to ascertain whether the animal is affected by or has been exposed to a disease.</p> | <p>Ref 1 - No Change Proposed This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Movement for slaughter</p> <p>2. The movement of an animal direct to a slaughterhouse. 3. The movement of a pig to a market for pigs intended for immediate slaughter. 4. The movement of an animal to a collecting centre for animals intended for immediate slaughter, provided that— (a) the collecting centre premises have not been and will not be used on the same day for a show or exhibition or for the sale or trading of animals otherwise than for immediate slaughter; and (b) all animals moved to the collecting centre are moved from there direct to a slaughterhouse.</p> | <p>Ref 2 - No Change Proposed This exemption should be retained</p> |

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| <p>Movement for artificial insemination and embryo transfer centre</p> <p>5. The movement of cattle or pigs to an artificial insemination centre. 6. The movement of sheep or goats to an artificial insemination centre provided they have been isolated from all other animals for 6 days before departure.</p> | <p>Ref 3 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended in respect of cattle, sheep and goats to reflect the fact that QUs can be used to house any incoming stock to secure the exemption from standstill which will ensure that moves away to an AI centre can take place. To secure the standstill exemption, movements of incoming stock must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> <p>With respect to pigs no changes are proposed.</p> |
| <p>Animals for export</p> <p>7. The movement of an animal for direct export or to a collecting centre or assembly centre approved under regulation 12(2) of the Animal and Animal Products (Import and Export) (England and Wales) Regulations 2000(a) prior to such export.</p> | <p>Ref 4 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Movement within a sole occupancy group</p> <p>8. The movement of animals between premises in a sole occupancy group.</p> | <p>Ref 5 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption will be removed as part of the wider work to remove existing SOAs.</p> |
| <p>Common land</p> <p>9. (1) The movement of an animal between land over which the owner or keeper of the animal has a registered right of common and— (a) premises occupied by the owner or keeper of the animal and in relation to which the registered right of common is customarily exercised; or (b) premises occupied by any other person who has a registered right of common over that land and in relation to which the registered right of common is customarily exercised. (2) The movement of an animal between premises occupied by the owner or keeper of the animal and in relation to which a registered right of common over land is customarily exercised and premises occupied by any other person who has a registered right of common over that land and in relation to which the registered right of common of that other person is customarily exercised. (3) In this paragraph “registered right of common” means a right of</p> | <p>Ref 6 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be retained</p> |

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| <p>common registered under the Commons Registration Act 1965(b) or a right of common which is exempt from such registration but which is registered, designated, attached, or otherwise recognised, continued or preserved under and in accordance with any of the New Forest Acts 1854, 1949, 1964 and 1970, the Epping Forest Acts 1878(c) and 1880(d) or the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1977(e) or any like right or permission exercised in the Forest of Dean.</p> | |
| <p>Movement of pigs for breeding, etc.</p> <p>10. (1)The movement of a pig intended for breeding or growing in accordance with article 8(3)(b) of the Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002. (2)The movement of a pig intended for breeding other than in accordance with paragraph (1) if that pig has been placed in an isolation facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector for 20 days prior to the movement.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 7 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should remain in place as no changes to the standstill regime for pigs are being proposed.</p> |
| <p>Movement of pigs to shows and exhibitions</p> <p>11. The movement of a pig to a show or exhibition provided that— (a) it is isolated for 20 days prior to the movement taking place in premises approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector; or (b) it has been returned to its premises of origin from a show or exhibition and isolated at its premises of origin in premises approved in accordance with paragraph (a) from the time of arriving from the first show or exhibition to the time of leaving for the second show or exhibition.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 8 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should remain in place as no changes to the standstill regime for pigs are being proposed.</p> |

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| <p>Movement of rams and bulls for breeding</p> <p>12.(1) The movement of rams and bulls intended for breeding to a market, provided that they have been placed in an isolation facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector for 6 days prior to the movement.</p> <p>(2) To qualify for this exemption—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the movement must take place on or after 1st August and before 1st December; (b) the animals must not have shared the isolation facility with animals isolated for any other purpose; (c) the rams must be marked with an individual identification number in accordance with the Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (England) (No. 2) Order 2002(a); and (d) the person sending the animal must sign and send to the local authority without undue delay a declaration that the animal is intended for sale for breeding. | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 9 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended to enable the movement of rams and bulls for breeding purposes, livestock owners / keepers should place any incoming stock into their QU, to secure an exemption from standstill for other resident stock.</p> <p>To secure the standstill exemption, movements of incoming stock must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> |
| <p>Movement of cattle, sheep and goats to shows and exhibitions</p> <p>13. The movement of cattle, sheep and goats to shows and exhibitions provided that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) they have been isolated for six days in a facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector before travelling to a show or exhibition, or (b) they have moved into the isolation facility from another show or exhibition and have not left that isolation facility since being taken on to it. | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 10 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended to reflect the fact that the exemption from standstill will be available through the use of QUs and would allow livestock owners / keepers to move stock to a show at any time, providing they were using their QU to manage standstill impacts associated with any incoming stock.</p> |
| <p>Vehicles dropping off other animals</p> <p>14. Movement of an animal which is on a vehicle which enters premises to drop off other animals, provided it has not left the means of transport while on the premises.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 11 - No Change Proposed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This exemption should be retained</p> |

| SCHEDULE 2 – Article (7 refers) <i>Movements on to the premises that do not trigger the standstill period</i> | |
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| Exemption | Welsh Government position |
| <p>Arrival at a premises licensed under the Animals Gatherings (Wales) Order 2003</p> <p>1. The movement of an animal on to any premises licensed under the Animals Gatherings (Wales) Order 2003 if the movement is for the purposes of a gathering licensed under that Order.</p> | <p>Ref 12 - No Change Proposed This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Arrival at an artificial insemination centre or embryo transfer centre</p> <p>2. The movement of an animal on to an artificial insemination centre.</p> | <p>Ref 13 - No Change Proposed This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Movement of a pig under the Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Interim Measures) (Wales)(No. 2) Order 2002</p> <p>3. Movement of a pig where that movement is as referred to in article 8(3)(b) of the Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002.</p> | <p>Ref 14 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption will remain in place as no changes to the standstill regime for pigs are being proposed.</p> |
| <p>Movement of a pig for breeding purposes</p> <p>4. (1) Arrival of a pig for breeding (other than one being moved under article 8(3)(b) of the Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002) on the breeding premises provided that—</p> <p>(a) prior to being moved, either there is no standstill period on the premises of departure, or alternatively it has been isolated for 20 days prior to the movement taking place in a facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector;</p> <p>(b) it is isolated while on the breeding premises (or for 20 days, whichever is shorter) in an isolation facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector;</p> | <p>Ref 15 - No Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption will remain in place as no changes to the standstill regime for pigs are being proposed.</p> |

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| <p>(c) any pig placed in the isolation facility with the pig brought on to the premise for breeding purposes has been on the breeding premises for at least 20 days before being placed in that facility;</p> <p>(d) any other pig placed into the isolation facility on the breeding premises with the one brought on to those premises remains in isolation for 20 days after the arrival of the pig being brought into the premises, or for 20 days after being placed into isolation with it whichever is later; and</p> <p>(e) the recipient of the breeding pig signs and sends to the local authority without undue delay a declaration that the pig is intended for breeding on those premises.</p> <p>(2) Movement of a pig (other than one being moved under article 8(3)(b) of Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Interim Measures) (England) (No. 2) Order 2002) which is being returned to those premises from a place to which it had been moved for breeding, provided that—</p> <p>(a) it is isolated for 20 days after the date of its return from all other animals, and</p> <p>(b) the occupier of the premises from which the pig has returned from breeding has sent the declaration required in paragraph 4(1)(e) above to the local authority.</p> | |
| <p>Return of pigs, cattle, sheep or goats from a show or exhibition</p> <p>5. The return of pigs, cattle, sheep or goats from a show or exhibition to the premises from which they were consigned to that show or exhibition provided that the animals are isolated for 6 days (or, in the case of pigs, 20 days) after their return in premises approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 16 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended in respect of cattle, sheep and goats to reflect the fact that livestock owners / keepers moving stock back onto the home holding from a show will be able to secure the exemption from standstill by placing the incoming show stock directly into their QU. To secure the standstill exemption, the movement from show to holding must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> <p>With respect to pigs no changes are proposed</p> |
| <p>Return of breeding rams and bulls from a market</p> <p>6. (1) Return of rams and bulls from a market provided that the animals are isolated for 6 days after their return in premises approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector.</p> <p>(2) To qualify for this exemption—</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 17 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended, as proposals for QUs will accommodate this.</p> <p>Livestock owners / keepers returning breeding stock to the home holding from a market will be able to secure the exemption from standstill by placing the</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the movement must take place on or after 1st August and before 1st December; (b) the animals must not have shared the isolation facility with animals isolated for any other purpose; (c) the rams must be marked with an individual identification number in accordance with the Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002. | <p>incoming stock directly into their QU. To secure the standstill exemption, the movement from market to holding must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> |
| <p>Arrival of rams and bulls for breeding</p> <p>7. (1) Arrival of rams and bulls for the purpose of breeding provided they are isolated for 6 days after their arrival in a facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector.</p> <p>(2) To qualify for this exemption—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the movement must take place on or after 1st August and before 1st December; (b) the rams must be marked with an individual identification number in accordance with the Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002; (c) the recipient of the breeding animal must sign and send to the local authority without undue delay a declaration that the animal is intended for breeding on those premises; (d) any ewes placed with that ram must be isolated for six days in that facility. | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 18 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended as proposals for QUs will accommodate this.</p> <p>Livestock owners / keepers bringing rams and bulls onto their holding for breeding purposes will be able to secure the exemption from standstill by placing the incoming breeding rams/bulls directly into their QU. To secure the standstill exemption, the movement onto the holding must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> |
| <p>Arrival of goats for breeding</p> <p>8. (1) Arrival of goats for the purpose of breeding provided that they have been isolated on the premises of origin for 6 days prior to leaving in a facility approved for this purpose by a veterinary inspector.</p> <p>(2) To qualify for this exemption—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the goats must be marked with an individual identification number in accordance with the Sheep and Goats Identification and Movement (Interim Measures) (Wales) (No. 2) Order 2002; and (b) the recipient of the breeding animal must sign and send to the local authority without undue delay a declaration that the animal is intended for breeding on those premises. | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 19 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended as proposals for QU will accommodate this.</p> <p>Rather than serve 6 days in isolation at the premises of origin as per the current exemption, the goats should instead be placed in the QU for 6 days upon arrival at the premises of destination. To secure the standstill exemption, the movement onto the holding must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> |

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| <p>Artificial insemination centres and embryo transfer centres</p> <p>9. Arrival of cattle which are being returned to those premises from an artificial insemination centre.</p> <p>10. Arrival of pigs which are being returned to those premises from an artificial insemination centre provided they are isolated from all other animals for 20 days after their return.</p> <p>11. Arrival of sheep or goats which are returning from an artificial insemination centre provided that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) they are isolated from all other animals for 6 days after their return; and (b) they were isolated from all other animals while at the artificial insemination centre. | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 20 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended in respect of cattle, sheep and goats to reflect the fact that livestock owners / keepers returning stock to their holding from AI centres will be able to secure the exemption from standstill by placing the incoming stock directly into their QU. To secure the standstill exemption, the movement onto the holding must be declared as being via an approved QU.</p> <p>With respect to pigs no changes are proposed.</p> |
| <p>Imported animals</p> <p>12.(1) The arrival of an imported animal at its point of entry into Wales. (2) Movement of an animal from its point of entry into the United Kingdom following its import from another member State.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 21 - No Change Proposed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Movement within a sole occupancy group</p> <p>13. The movement of animals between premises in a sole occupancy group.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 22 - No Change Proposed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This exemption will be removed as part of the wider work to remove existing SOAs.</p> |
| <p>Vehicles collecting other animals</p> <p>14. Movement of an animal brought on to premises in a vehicle to collect other animals provided that the animal is not unloaded at those premises.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 23 - No Change Proposed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This exemption should be retained</p> |
| <p>Arrival from veterinary treatment, etc.</p> <p>15. The arrival of sheep, goats, cattle or pigs being returned to those premises from a place for veterinary treatment or of any offspring to which they have given birth while there provided that, in the case of pigs, they are isolated from other animals for 20 days following their return.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Ref 24 - Change Proposed</p> <p>This exemption should be amended in respect of cattle, sheep and goats to reflect the fact that they should complete the remainder of the 6 day period upon returning to the QU.</p> <p>With respect to pigs no changes are proposed.</p> |

How the proposal was developed

Consideration of the Working Smarter report recommendation was taken forward by the Livestock Identification Advisory Group (LIDAG), which comprised industry representatives and Welsh Government officials. Two proposals emerged, one favoured by the Welsh Government's Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer (OCVO) and the other by the farming industry.

An independent veterinary risk assessment and economic impact assessment were commissioned to consider the two proposals. A Task and Finish Group, comprising members of the LIDAG, the Animal Health & Welfare Strategy Steering Group (AHWSSG) and Welsh Government officials, was established to consider the findings of the two assessments and to inform agreement on a single proposal for changes to the standstill rules to recommend to the Welsh Ministers.

The Group's agreed proposal was presented to the then Minister for Natural Resources and Food. In December 2013, the Minister agreed in principle, subject to the introduction of EIDCymru (to provide the ability to report moves electronically), an assessment of implementation costs and the availability of funding.

A detailed business case was prepared which evaluated the following five options for the implementation of QUs in Wales:

- Option 1:** Use the current process for isolation facilities for QUs
- Option 2:** A QU will be allocated a separate CPH number. Animal keepers would report movements, electronically into and out of the QU
- Option 3:** A QU will be part of an existing CPH e.g. additional attribution via a tick box
- Option 4:** QU will be a separate entity with its own unique identification
- Option 5:** External bodies within the industry will manage the monitoring and inspections of QUs

Further analysis of the above options enabled a short list of the following three options to be prepared for the Welsh Ministers to consider:

- Option 1:** Do minimum.
- Option 2:** Introduction of general standstill exemption for farms using QU. Separate CPH number allocated for each QU.
- Option 3:** Introduction of general standstill exemption for farms using QU. A QU will be part of a CPH. Tick-box for notification that QU is in-use.

The Welsh Government Ministers agreed to the implementation of the QUs, Option 2.

Working collaboratively with LIDAG an agreed approach to enable QUs to be implemented in a practical and cost effective manner was developed.

The approach was mapped out and the draft process flows were presented to the farming industry, operational partners and other key stakeholders at a series of workshops. The purpose of these workshops was to challenge assumptions and ensure that everyone understood and agreed with the proposed process. These proved invaluable in ensuring that issues were considered for every step of the process, facilitating the creation of a set of process flows and a common level of understanding. The process flows are provided on pages 12 - 22 for your reference.

Dependencies

The implementation of QUs is dependant upon the Electronic Identifications Wales (EIDCymru) project and also has links to the County Parish Holdings (CPH) Project.

A summary of each project is provided below and they have been overseen by the Livestock Identification Project Board and the Livestock Identification Advisory Group (LIDAG).

EIDCymru Project

The requirement for an electronic tracing system is to be found in European Regulation 21/2004 in response to the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak of 2001.

The aims and objectives of EIDCymru are to provide Wales with a modern robust traceability system, to provide better information on animals' locations and movement history. This will also have the capability to respond quickly and effectively in any disease outbreak, to protect livestock, whilst delivering against recommendation 37 of the 'Working Smarter' report.

The electronic reporting of sheep movements by livestock markets, abattoirs and collection centres will be compulsory from 18 January 2016. Sheep farmers are not mandated to report their sheep movements electronically but many may find that EIDCymru offers an easier and more efficient way of reporting.

The implementation of QUs is dependent on EIDCymru as it will meet one of the specific QU requirements, that sheep and goat keepers, who wish to use QUs, must report animal movements electronically within 24 hours. This is to enable enforcement visits to QUs during the 6 day window when they are being used.

Real time electronic reporting for cattle movements is already available through the Cattle Tracing System (CTS).

The onset of electronic reporting methods is expected to increase the efficiency and professionalism of farming businesses in Wales, providing a

platform for the industry to consider how they may deliver efficiencies along the supply chain in order to increase the profitability of their business.

A key outcome is to encourage behavioural change within livestock keepers in Wales by considering electronic reporting and identification as an economic benefit to their business to improve efficiency and sustainability.

County Parish Holding (CPH) Project

CPH reference numbers are the identifier for farmed holdings and underpin a number of control systems. Its primary purpose is to identify where livestock are located, as required by European Regulations for cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. The CPH identifier is the base on which livestock movement reporting regimes operate, providing a system capable of tracing livestock through every point along the supply chain.

The aims and objectives of the CPH project are to introduce a number of CPH allocation policy changes. Rationalising the CPH system will enable livestock keepers to improve the efficiency of their business by giving them the opportunity to control all land parcels under their management within the set distance from the main holding and to do this under one CPH reference.

The key high level proposed elements are:

- The introduction of a new set of standard CPH Allocation Rules providing a holding definition consistent across species and based on a single movement reporting distance for all species covered by the Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 (“DCO”), namely cattle, sheep, goats and pigs,
- The removal of Cattle Tracing System (CTS) links,
- The removal of Sole Occupancy Authorities (SOA), and
- Implementation of a distance rule.

The CPH project is currently scheduled to be delivered by 2018.

Whilst not dependant upon the CPH project, the implementation of QUs is linked to it because the proposed way forward involves setting up separate CPH numbers for QUs. Both projects also envisage the removal of Single Occupancy Authorities. Therefore, both projects will continue to work together to ensure that interdependencies are taken into account.

The QU, EIDCymru and CPH projects will provide a robust system for tracing livestock, providing better real-time information about animal movements to support the response to an outbreak of animal disease. They will seek to simplify the rules so that livestock owners/keepers avoid unnecessary paperwork and/or financial penalties for accidentally breaking the rules.

Part C – Tell us what you think

Who will be interested in responding?

This is a public consultation and as such it is open to anyone with an interest to provide comments. The consultation should be of particular interest to the farming industry, particularly the commercial sheep, cattle and goats sector.

Having your say

If you wish to respond, please submit your comments by **12 February 2016**.

You can provide your comments by completing the Consultation Response Form provided at the end and submitting it via email or post to the addresses below.

Contact details Exotic Animal Diseases Team
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
The Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ

Email: animaldiseases@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please note: Unless you specifically request your response to be treated confidentially, responses may be made publicly available.

Consultation Questions

In particular we would be interested in knowing your views on the following:

1. To what extent do you agree with the benefit of implementing Quarantine Units (QU) to replace the current 6-Day Standstill Rule exemptions?
2. The Proposed Changes - What are your thoughts relating to the proposed QU process?
3. Nature and number of QUs per farm premises - your views are being sought as to which option should be considered further and whether there are any other pros or cons that have not been considered.
4. Changes to the Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 - your views are being sought as to whether you agree or otherwise with the proposed changes.

Next steps

All responses will be considered and we will publish the summary of the consultation responses in March 2016.

Subject to the responses received and Ministerial agreement we will continue to develop the QU proposal, working closely with the Farming Industry, Operational Partners and stakeholders.

Subject to Ministerial agreement, we plan to complete the amendments to the Disease Control (Wales) Order 2003 and lay the amended legislation in September 2016 or as soon as practicable thereafter.

The aim is to successfully implement QUs by December 2016.

Consultation Response Form

Consultation on the Introduction of Quarantine Units.

The Welsh Government is inviting your views on the introduction of Quarantine Units to provide exemptions to the current 6-Day Standstill arrangements for cattle, sheep and goats.

This consultation has been issued to capture views from all interested stakeholders, the public, industry and the farming community.

Please submit your comments by 12 February 2016.

DATA Protection

Any response you send us will be seen in full by the Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues covered in this consultation. It may also be seen by other Welsh Government staff to help them plan future consultations.

The Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps to show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out.

Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, though we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including the Welsh Government. This includes information which has not been published. However, the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it or not. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. However, there might sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we finally decided to reveal the information.

Confidentiality

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report.

If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

Response Form

| Consultation on the proposed introduction of Quarantine Units | | |
|--|--|--|
| Name | | |
| Organisation (if applicable) | | |
| Address (include postcode) | | |
| Email Address | | |
| Telephone | | |
| Type (please select by placing a tick next to the appropriate type opposite) | Member of the farming community | |
| | Public Body (Local Authority, Police, Fire and Rescue Services etc.) | |
| | Professional Body / Interest Group | |
| | Third Sector (Community groups, volunteers, self help groups, co-operatives, enterprises, religious, not for profit organisations) | |
| | Other (not listed above) please specify below: | |
| | | |

Question 1

To what extent do you agree with the benefit of implementing Quarantine Units to replace the current 6-Day Standstill Rule exemptions?

(Please tick)

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|----------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> | Agree | <input type="checkbox"/> | Disagree | <input type="checkbox"/> | Strongly Disagree | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|

Please provide an explanation for your response below:

Question 2

The Proposed Changes - What are your thoughts relating to the proposed QU process?

With reference to the process flows and supporting notes provided on pages 11 to 21 we are interested to hear your views on the proposed process and any areas that you feel have been omitted or are unclear.

Applying for a Quarantine Unit

Validation and Allocation of QU CPH Numbers

Maintaining a QU – 18 Month Re-Approval

QU In Use Inspections

Question 3

Nature and number of QUs per farm premises - your views are being sought as to which option should be considered further and whether there are any other pros or cons that have not been considered.

a) Which one of the four options illustrated in pages 22 to 24 do you feel should be considered further (please tick):

(Please tick)

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| Option 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Option 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Option 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Option 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Please provide an explanation for your response below:

