

Winter Grazing Action Group

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

- Implement the recommendations applicable to the Action Group, as outlined in *Improving animal welfare on winter grazing systems*, report, that was prepared by the Intensive Winter Grazing Taskforce, and released by Minister O'Connor on 25 November 2019.

Principles

- Discussions held by the Action Group may be shared outside of meetings provided individual comments are not attributed. Members are encouraged to communicate with their peers/membership to keep them informed, seek feedback or to progress actions.
- The Ministry for Primary Industries will publish meeting summaries and key documents on its website, and these notes can be discussed freely outside of meetings. Within published documents no comments will be attributed to any individuals of the group.
- Members work together as a team and will be free and frank with information and advice, whilst being respectful of each other's views. Where possible decisions will be taken on a consensus basis.
- The Chair will report to the Minister of Agriculture, however if appropriate, the Chair may escalate issues to;
 - The Chair of the Winter Grazing Taskforce
 - The DGG Agriculture & Investment Service
 - The DG Ministry for Primary Industries

Expectations for work delivery

- The recommendations outlined in the Winter Grazing Report developed by the Taskforce will be progressed
- Develop an overview of winter grazing systems including parties that influence farm decisions, , which identify the decision points and behavioural drivers at each step of the process, and work to develop an extension and communication approach to encourage the right behaviour at the right time.
- A plan will be agreed that identifies the actions required to achieve the recommendations, using the system map to focus & prioritise resources. The plan will focus on the deliverables and will include key milestones.
- Encourage the primary sector to act on recommendations which will require support from businesses & organisation outside of the Action Group to fully achieve.
- Progress reports will be published on the Ministry for Primary Industries website. Where recommendations are unable to be implemented within expected timeframes, or, following further analysis, are unfeasible to achieve, this will be identified.

Membership

1. Lindsay Burton, Independent Chair
2. Ash Keown, NZ Veterinary Association
3. Caroline Murray, Dairy Companies Association NZ
4. Helen Thoday, DairyNZ
5. Julie Geange, Federated Farmers NZ
6. Milton Munro, PGG Wrightson
7. Miranda Hunter, Farm consultant
8. Pania King, Taskforce member, sheep & beef farmer
9. Peter Young, Farm Consultant
10. Tim Driscoll, Dairy farmer
11. Tony Pearse, Deer Industry NZ
12. Will Halliday, Beef+Lamb NZ
13. Gray Harrison, MPI
14. Leonie Ward, MPI
15. Penny Timmer-Arends, MPI

Administration

- An Independent Chair is appointed by the Ministry for Primary Industries. Up to fourteen additional members are appointed by the Ministry to sit on the Action Group.
- The Chair, in consultation with members, will determine the agenda for each meeting.
- The Action Group will meet face-to-face as needed; meetings can be by Skype and between meetings work will be progressed by email, subgroup meetings and teleconference
- MPI will provide the secretariat support for the Action Group.
- Costs and, if necessary, an honorarium for time, can be claimed back per established MPI policy, which is provided to members prior to the first meeting. It is expected sector organisations show their commitment to improving animal welfare outcomes on wintering systems by covering their staff's costs.
- Members are expected to attend every meeting. If members representing an organisation are unable to attend a meeting, they must ensure a fully informed delegate approved by the Chair attends the meeting on their behalf.
- The Terms of Reference may be reviewed from time to time to maintain relevancy. Any changes made will require consensus from the Action Group.