Scottish Government update – 8 December 2023

Welfare team

- Scottish Government consulted recently on proposals to extend the animal licensing framework introduced in 2021 to certain animal care services, including livery services, which is currently an unregulated activity. The consultation also proposed revoking the Riding Establishments Act 1964, with a view to regulating these establishments in future under the 2021 framework.
- Analysis of all the responses received to the consultation is ongoing. The Scottish Government will publish a consultation summary report in due course. We will seek to engage and work with all key stakeholders on the development of any future regulations.

Yet to engage with the Minister on our next steps.

ID & Traceability

- We are aware of the issues around the current Equine ID Regulations. We have carried out initial scoping work however, this is a significant piece of work and future work depends on resource and priority. Resource would need be aligned to move future changes forward.
- Currently we are working toward the introduction of Bovine EID. This area of
 work is both resource intensive and currently the top priority of the Disease
 Prevention Team. Any change in priority could potentially lead to a significant
 delay in the longstanding industry request to introduce Bovine EID in
 Scotland.
- Other areas where resource will be required in future relates to sheep & goats, pigs and deer. There are valid reasons across all species as to what we look at next and will prioritise accordingly.

Import/Export - International trade

 Under the UK Government's new Border Target Operating Model, imports of live animals will be subject to 100% physical checks. High health equines will be subjected to a set of different rules but this is still to be finalised by UKG. They will of course communicate with industry as soon as they know more.

The trade team are happy to take questions back from the meeting if any come up.