



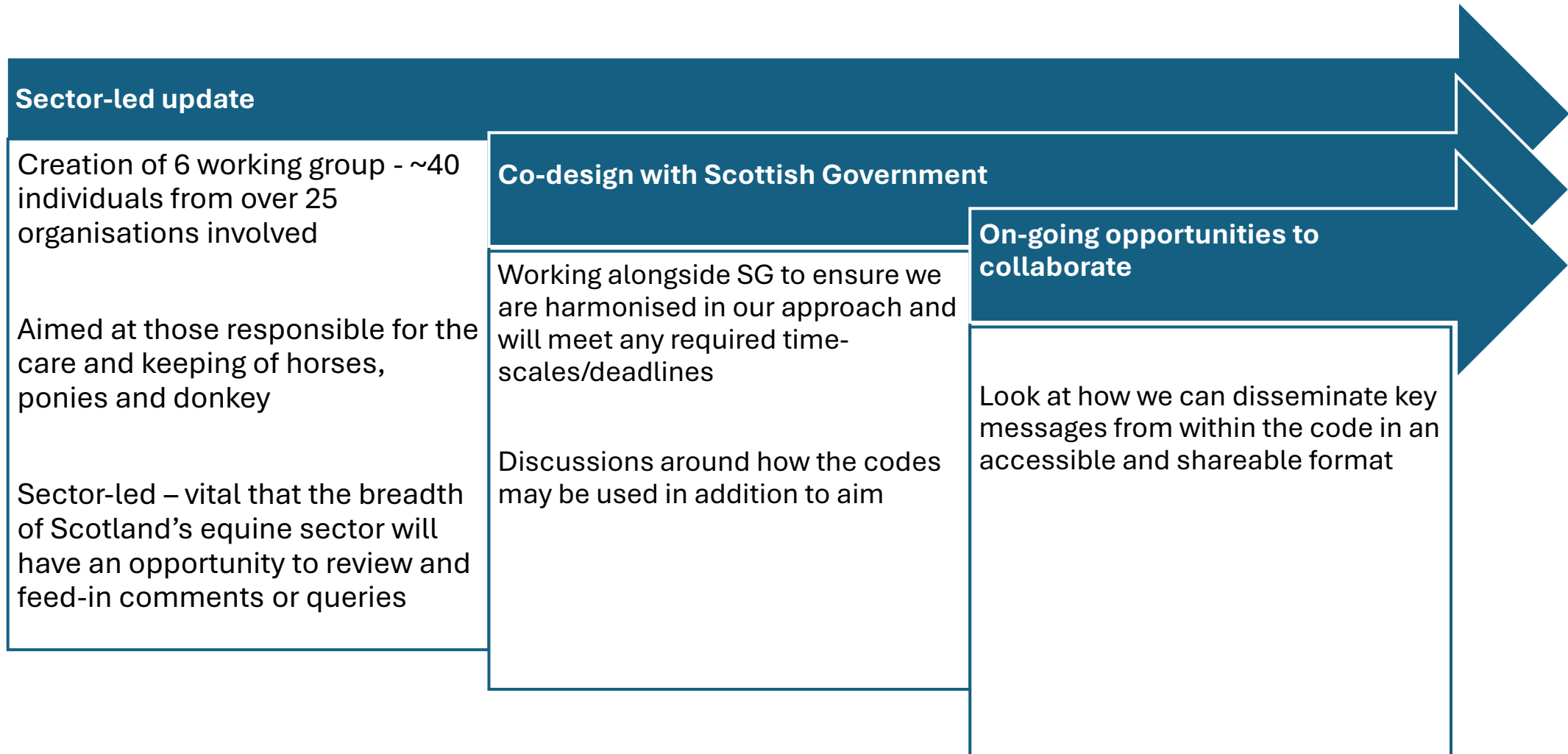
# Equine welfare

British Horse Council

27 June 2025

Kim Ayling

# Updating the Scottish Code of Practice



# Current progress and time-frame

September 24 - Working groups formed

October 24 – February 25 - Working group meetings

March 25 – All first drafts submitted

March - June 2025 – Formatting and initial review of all drafts

July – August 25 – Formatted drafts circulated out to sector and feedback worked through

September – Final draft circulated for “red flags”

October 25 – Hand over to SG and work together on next steps

Complete by end of 2025

# Scotland – FPN consultation



- Consultation on the use of fixed penalty notices for animal health offences – deadline May 2025
- BHC response supported proportionate use of FPNs, highlighting need for:
  - appropriate guidance and training for enforcement agencies
  - electronic data collection
  - scale of harm to be further consulted on for equines



# Update: opportunities in England



- June 2025: Second Ministerial roundtable/working groups for companion and non-companion animals
- Animal Welfare Strategy being developed and expected Q4 2025
  - Enforcement expected to be a key theme
- Legislative time constrained – EU reset

# Progress in Europe



- SPS agreement EU-UK
- The European Commission has published its call for evidence on revision of the EU Animal Welfare legislation
- Welfare during transport:
  - Commission's proposed text is currently being discussed and amended by European Parliament & Council
  - Over 3, 000 amendments in EP
  - Progress expected to be slow