

Winter Grazing Taskforce

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

- Propose mitigations for short, medium and long-term, evidence-based animal welfare improvement to support behaviour change so that all farmers comply with animal welfare requirements.

Expectations for work delivery

- Identify key animal welfare risks and mitigations associated with intensive winter grazing on crop.
- Identify a set of practical, pan-sector initiatives to improve animal welfare in intensive winter grazing practices, focussed on education (including farmers, public), policy, operational, compliance and research needs.
- Draw on advice and expertise from various groups and individuals outside the Taskforce across the country, who can inform and challenge the taskforce's thinking.
- Milestones for actions to be set within this season, and onwards.

Membership

Taskforce	
John Hellström	Independent Chair
Arnja Dale	SPCA
Helen Beattie	NZ Veterinary Association
Stephen Hopkinson	NZ Veterinary Association (Dairy Cattle Branch)
Angus Robson	Environment campaigner
Ross Monaghan	AgResearch
Elaine Cook	DairyNZ
Dave Harrison	Beef+Lamb NZ
Ewen Mathieson	Dairy farmer
Pania King	Sheep & beef farmer

Administration

- Discussions held by the Taskforce are not shared outside of meetings without notice to other members and the Chair, and approval from the Minister, including through the media and social media.
- Members work together as a team and will be free and frank with information and advice, and respectful of each other's views.
- An Independent Chair is appointed by the Minister of Agriculture. Up to ten members are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture.
- Agendas are agreed by the Taskforce at each meeting.
- The Taskforce will meet face-to-face at least once and otherwise as needed; meetings can be by web meeting and work can be by email.
- MPI provides the secretariat.
- 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.
- Members are expected to attend every meeting.
- The Taskforce will report back to the Minister an update on progress and next steps by the end of August 2019, and with a draft action plan by the end of September 2019.
- The Taskforce will be disestablished on instruction from the Minister.
- Conflicts of interest are registered.