

12 June 2015

## **HELP SHAPE A NATIONAL APPROACH TO MANAGING BJD** Australian

**Producers are invited to comment on the second discussion paper, published as part of the National Bovine Johne's Disease (BJD) Review which is helping determine the future of BJD management in Australia.**

Animal Health Australia (AHA) is coordinating the Review and is seeking submissions from all interested parties and in particular is keen to hear feedback on the *Looking Ahead* sections in the paper, said AHA's Executive Manager of Biosecurity, Duncan Rowland.

"Following two rounds of constructive public feedback we are now asking for the public's assistance in reviewing the proposed steps to move the Review into its next phase.

"Importantly, this third round of feedback will provide a useful guide to help us get a clearer understanding that the progress being made by the Review's reference panel is on the right track.

"This round of submissions will be used by the Review's reference panel to revise existing or develop new systems and tools required for a successful national approach to the management of Johne's disease in cattle.

"Submissions on the discussion paper will be received from any interested parties up to midnight on 29 June 2015, with all submissions being made public, unless otherwise requested, and placed on the Review's webpage.

"Public consultation on this second discussion paper is the third of five opportunities provided for public feedback on the development of future BJD activities in Australia.

"The reference panel will meet again on 21 July to review the submissions and progress the development of the new plan and members of the public interested in sharing their feedback are invited to attend the meeting in the morning to discuss the review," Mr Rowland said.

The discussion paper and further information on the National BJD Review can be found on the AHA website at [www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au](http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au). Enquiries into the Review can be sent to [bjdreview@animalhealthaustralia.com.au](mailto:bjdreview@animalhealthaustralia.com.au)

The National BJD Strategic Plan is a cooperative program involving Australian livestock industries, government and the veterinary profession to help cattle industries reduce the spread and impact of BJD in Australia.

AHA is a not-for-profit member-funded company working to protect and improve animal health within Australia. It does this through its partnerships with industries and governments, which help keep Australia disease free, builds the sustainability of our livestock industries and promotes the humane use of animals for food, companionship, recreation and sport.

**ENDS**

**For further information contact AHA's Communication Coordinator, Harley McNamara on 02 6203 3977**