

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment (PiE) Group Meeting (Light)

Wednesday 17 July 2024 10:00-11:00 – MS Teams

Present:

Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) – Chair & Secretariat
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)
Environment Agency (EA)
Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
NHS Highland
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
Welsh Government (WG)

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed UKHSA as a new Group member, the interim SEPA representative and additional WG representatives.

2. Review actions from the May 2024 PiE Group meeting

The Group discussed the actions from the May 2024 meeting.

3. Road map

- Finalise road map

The revised road map was shared with the Group and the key changes following comments at the previous meeting were discussed.

It was highlighted that the timelines would need to provide sufficient time for stewardship initiatives to be developed and implemented for there to be an effect on the levels in the water.

- Discuss potential public version of the road map

The Group agreed it would be beneficial to publish a version of the road map, once finalised and agreed internally by respective member organisations.

4. Update from monitoring subgroup (EA, SEPA, NRW, NIEA)

There had been positive responses from the environment agencies to establish a subgroup – setting up a meeting is in progress.

- Discussion on timeframes

Discussed under agenda item 3.

5. Update on satellite meetings (VMD)

NOAH had agreed to take the proposal for an industry-led stewardship initiative to the NOAH Committee. VMD will be meeting with NOAH in due course for an update. BVA were supportive of the proposal and offered to help coordinate contact with other relevant stakeholders in the veterinary sector. NOAH and BVA agreed that simple cohesive message was needed.

- Define and agree the key stakeholders

The Group discussed additional stakeholder groups to engage to initiate voluntary stewardship.

6. Update on the RUMA Companion Animal & Equine subgroup (VMD)

- Overview of subgroup meeting discussions

The RUMA Companion Animal and Equine (RUMA CA&E) group has formed a subgroup that is focusing on the potential need for stewardship approaches in classes of medicines

BULLETIN UPDATE #4

beyond antibiotics and it was noted that there are several parallels with the PiE Group and that further collaboration may be beneficial.

- Discuss potential PiE Group/RUMA CA&E collaboration

The Group discussed the best way forward for engaging with RUMA CA&E. It was agreed to have a satellite meeting with RUMA CA&E to understand how best to work together.

7. Discuss R&D and ways forward to address evidence gaps

The Group agreed to the development of a shared document to collate evidence gaps and proposed research to address the gaps.

8. AOB

Agreed to include the interim SEPA representative on the distribution list.

9. Date of next meeting: TBD