

FOOT AND MOUTH REVIEW: 2007

Chairman, Dr Iain Anderson
Room 3.21, 26 Whitehall, London SW1A 2WH

1 October 2007

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Dr Iain Anderson has been asked by the Government to chair a review of the Government's reaction to the 2007 Foot and Mouth disease outbreak. Dr Anderson conducted an inquiry into the 2001 outbreak. He has been asked to review his lessons drawn from the 2001 outbreak and identify any others arising from the current outbreak of foot and mouth disease.

The terms of reference for the **Foot and Mouth Review: 2007** are:

To conduct a review of the Government's handling of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease during 2007, in order to:

- * *establish whether relevant points from the Lessons to be Learned Report on the 2001 outbreak were implemented;*
- * *establish whether new lessons might be drawn from the handling of the 2007 outbreak;*

and to make recommendations by the end of 2007 to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the future handling of foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks.

The review is now beginning its formal programme of work. Dr Iain Anderson, supported by a small secretariat of staff chosen from across Government and externally is conducting the review.

Dr Anderson said:

“As I said at the end of 2001, the Foot and Mouth epidemic of 2001 was, in social and economic terms, one of the most fundamental and traumatic events for this country since the Second World War and it is essential that lessons are learned. I neither expected nor wanted to return to this subject after conducting that Inquiry as I hoped that the country would not have to go through an outbreak of FMD in the near future.

“However, we have been faced over the past couple of months with another outbreak and I will be interested to see how the lessons learned from 2001 have been applied.

“The world has changed since six years ago and the science of foot and mouth disease has advanced in many ways. I will be asking if further lessons could or should be applied to future animal disease outbreaks and what Government and industry might do to prevent further outbreaks.

“The review will be inclusive, and seeks views from everyone as to what lessons should be learned. We have the full co-operation of the Government.”

Notes to Editors

1. The Terms of Reference and website for the Foot and Mouth Review: 2007 can be found at www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/fmdreview/
2. Comments about the 2007 outbreak and its handling should be sent via e-mail to: fmdreview@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
3. Alternatively, written comments should be sent to The Secretary, Foot and Mouth Review: 2007, Room 3.21, 26 Whitehall, London SW1A 2WH. The deadline for all comments is 16 November 2007.
4. If you have any enquires about the above please contact the review press officer Rupert Cazalet on 0207 276 2583.