The State Veterinary Service is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and works on behalf of the Scottish Executive and the Welsh Assembly Government.
The National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre (NSPAC)

The National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre administers the National Scrapie Plan (NSP) within Great Britain on behalf of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), and the Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Environment, Planning and Countryside (DEPC). NSPAC is part of the State Veterinary Service (SVS) which is an executive agency of Defra.

NSP Helpline

If having read this booklet you have questions about the NSP you can ring the NSP helpline which will normally be available between 08:30 and 17:00 hrs Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). If you wish to speak in Welsh, a Welsh speaker is normally available, or will ring you back.

0845 601 4858
Local rate call charges apply

Correspondence

Alternatively, you may write to:
NSPAC
SVS
Whittington Road
Worcester WR5 2SU

We shall try to respond to your letter promptly, generally within five working days following receipt at our offices.

E-mail address
nspac@svs.gsi.gov.uk

NSP web-pages

These are regularly updated and can be found at:
http://www.defra.gov.uk/nsp
## Contents

### Introduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Scrapie, Genotyping and the National Scrapie Plan (NSP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme – overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme – starting the process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Action options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Actions required for sheep – the genotyping and selective culling option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Actions required for sheep – the whole flock cull option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Action required for goats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Slaughter and culling arrangements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Destruction of embryos and ova

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Derogation for sheep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Compensation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NSP Helpline 0845 601 4858
12 Restocking 26

13 Assistance with restocking sheep flocks 27
  13.1 Assistance payments for purchase of replacement breeding rams 27
  13.2 Free genotyping of prospective replacement sheep 30

14 Three year restriction period 34
  14.1 Starting the restriction period 34
  14.2 Restrictions 34
  14.3 Annual audit and genotype testing 35
  14.4 TSE testing 35

15 Completing your CSFS obligations 37

16 Terms and legal notices 39
  16.1 Costs 39
  16.2 Validation checks 39
  16.3 Data Protection Act 1998 – Fair Processing Notice 39
  16.4 Penalties 41

17 Glossary and definitions 42

18 CSFS Forms list 44

Useful addresses and contacts Inside back cover
Introduction

This booklet is issued to flock/herd owners who have had scrapie suspected/confirmed in their flock/herd. It describes the National Scrapie Plan (NSP) for Great Britain’s Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme (CSFS) and how it works.

All sheep flocks or goat herds that have a confirmed case of scrapie in England, Scotland or Wales, subject to a veterinary investigation, will be registered into the compulsory scheme. The statutory instruments applying in England, Scotland and Wales make not complying with this scheme an offence punishable by a fine or imprisonment.

You may also be liable to criminal prosecution if you make a false declaration or provide false or misleading information regarding the animals for which you are claiming compensation.

The scheme has been introduced to comply with European Commission (EC) Regulation 999/2001 as amended that requires all Member States to operate a compulsory scheme to ensure that action is taken on flocks and herds affected with scrapie. This action is additionally being taken to reduce the possible sources of infection and also reduce the theoretical public health risk from Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) such as scrapie and BSE entering the human food chain.

Whilst under movement restrictions, you are still required to adhere to the appropriate biosecurity measures and animal welfare regulations.

The action required on goat herds is very different from that required on sheep flocks, as genes related to scrapie resistance have not been identified in goats.

There are a number of levels of help available to CSFS members, unfortunately this makes the CSFS rules quite complicated. We have done our best to try to explain the rules as simply as possible and there will be plenty of advice available on what action is planned on herds and flocks and why.

Over time modifications may need to be made to the scheme and the UK legislation, for example as a result of changes in the EC legislation or to the NSP. You will be notified of any changes and they will appear on our web-site at www.defra.gov.uk/nsp.

NSP Helpline 0845 601 4858
1 Scrapie, Genotyping and the National Scrapie Plan (NSP)

1.1 Scrapie

1.1.1 Scrapie is an infectious disease of sheep and goats and is one of the group of diseases known as Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs). Scrapie causes changes to occur in a certain protein (the ‘Prion Protein’ (PrP)) in an affected sheep’s brain, nervous system and lymph nodes, ultimately leading to death. A Defra publication ‘Scrapie: Advisory Notes for Farmers’ is available which gives more information on the clinical signs and causes of scrapie. Copies can be obtained from Defra Publications, Admail 6000, London SW1A 2XX or it can be seen on the Defra web-site at www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/bse/othertses/scrapie/adv-note.pdf.

1.2 Genotyping

1.2.1 Genotyping is a test that is performed on DNA; this is normally carried out on DNA taken from a sample of blood. Genotyping involves the examination of part of the DNA from the gene that produces a sheep’s Prion Protein (PrP). Genotyping does not detect disease, it shows whether a sheep is likely to develop scrapie if it is exposed to the agent that causes scrapie. The genotype is described by a combination of three letters, known as an ‘allele’. There are five different allele combinations – ARR, AHQ, ARH, ARQ, or VRQ (the letters represent which amino acids will form part of the PrP). A ‘genotype’ is made up from copies inherited from both parents, so the full genotype of a sheep has two parts e.g. ARR/ARQ or ARQ/VRQ.
The Genotype Predicting Method Chart shown below illustrates the principle of how genotypes can be predicted in progeny.

**Genotype Predicting Method Chart**

- The above combinations are the only possible outcomes for the ram and ewe genotypes used in this example.
- The same outcomes would be generated if the ram and ewe genotypes were reversed.
- This method can be used to work out the possible lamb genotypes from any ram and ewe genotype crossing.
- There is an equal chance of each of the four genotype outcomes occurring, but if two or more of the outcomes are the same, there is a greater chance of this being the result.

1.2.2 Goats are not known to possess resistant genes, therefore a breeding programme based on genotyping is not possible for goats.
1.2.3 There are 15 known genotypes in sheep, with the number and frequency varying by breed. Table 1 below describes their relative resistance to scrapie.

Table 1: NSP Genotypes Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Genotype result</th>
<th>Degree of resistance/susceptibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ARR/ARR</td>
<td>Sheep that are genetically most resistant to scrapie.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ARR/AHQ, ARR/ARH, ARR/ARQ</td>
<td>Sheep that are genetically resistant to scrapie, but will need careful selection when used for further breeding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AHQ/AHQ, AHQ/ARH, AHQ/ARQ, ARH/ARQ, ARH/ARQ, ARQ/ARQ</td>
<td>Sheep that genetically have little resistance to scrapie.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>ARR/VRQ</td>
<td>Sheep that are genetically susceptible to scrapie and should not be used for breeding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AHQ/VRQ, ARH/VRQ, ARQ/VRQ, VRQ/VRQ</td>
<td>Sheep that are highly susceptible to scrapie and should not be used for breeding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 The National Scrapie Plan

1.3.1 The NSP is a long term initiative jointly developed by the three GB Agriculture and Rural Affairs Departments. It aims to reduce and eventually eliminate scrapie from the national sheep flock by genotyping and breeding for resistance to scrapie and tackling the disease in affected flocks. Other TSE diseases that may be present in sheep should also be eradicated as a result of this action. The NSP will therefore remove, over time, the theoretical risk of BSE naturally affecting sheep.
1.3.2 The NSP began in July 2001 by genotyping rams in purebred flocks registered with a breed society. It has since been supplemented by further schemes and one-off initiatives. It focuses on increasing the level of the most scrapie resistant ARR allele and decreasing the level of the susceptible VRQ allele. Blood samples are collected from sheep during a farm visit and are genotyped in a laboratory with the results reported to flock owners. Owners then use these results to breed selectively to increase the resistance of their flocks. Each sheep tested is administered with an Electronic Identification (EID) device in the form of a ruminal bolus so that the results can be precisely matched to the correct animal. NSP Genotype Certificates are issued for the more resistant genotypes so that they can be sold on to other breeders. The most susceptible genotypes have to go for slaughter.

1.3.3 More information on the NSP and genotyping can be found in the NSP Schemes Brochure (NSP1) or on the NSP web pages at www.defra.gov.uk/nsp.

1.4 **NSP Voluntary Scrapie Flocks Scheme (VSFS)**

1.4.1 From April 2004, the NSP Voluntary Scrapie Flocks Scheme (VSFS) has been available to flock owners in Great Britain who have had a confirmed case of scrapie in their flock between July 1998 and the launch of the CSFS on 20 July 2004 in England and Scotland (1 November 2004 in Wales). The VSFS has now been closed to applications. The VSFS rules are similar to those of the CSFS and they should help previously affected flocks prevent further infections. Any member of the VSFS who reports a case of scrapie after 20 July 2004 in England and Scotland (1 November 2004 in Wales) that is subsequently confirmed, will be subject to the CSFS rules. The VSFS Contract will be cancelled.
2 Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme – overview

2.1 The CSFS process for sheep

2.1.1 If a case of scrapie is confirmed in your flock by your local Animal Health Divisional Office (AHDO), an appointment will be made for a Veterinary Officer to visit you to complete a veterinary assessment of your flock(s). There are two possible scrapie control strategies that can be applied to your flock:

- Genotyping and selective culling
- Whole flock cull.

We would expect the option of genotyping and selective culling to meet the eradication and control requirements of the legislation in all but exceptional circumstances. The final decision on this will be made by the NSPAC Veterinary Advisor (VA).

2.1.2 Genotyping and selective culling option:

- A farm visit is arranged to collect blood from all the sheep in the flock so they can be genotyped (with your agreement, some lambs may be culled without genotyping)
- Each sheep is administered with an Electronic Identification (EID) bolus
- Results are issued for the flock and advice will be available (by farm visit in some circumstances) on what action must be taken in the flock
- Sheep that are to be culled will be collected and disposed of. (These are the most scrapie susceptible animals which will not be permitted to enter the food chain and must be destroyed as Specified Risk Material (SRM).) Some genotypes can be slaughtered for the human food chain. (These animals are less susceptible as they have at least one ARR allele – see the NSP Genotypes Table on page 6.)
- Compensation is paid for culled sheep and any embryos and ova destroyed
- The flock is put under restrictions, based on NSP genotype, that determine which sheep can be bought, sold and used for breeding
- Derogations are available in certain circumstances and will be considered by our Veterinary Advisor (VA) – see section 10 for further details
- An assistance payment is available to help with the cost of replacing culled or slaughtered breeding rams with NSP Type 1 breeding rams
- Unrestricted NSP Genotype Certificates are issued for the most resistant sheep
- Two free genotype tests are available per culled sheep (sometimes more) to help find replacement sheep of the required genotypes
- Flocks will be subject to a three-year period of breeding and sale restrictions, based upon NSP genotypes, once a specified level of...
resistance has been achieved within the flock (see section 14 for further information on required resistance levels)

- Annual audit visits to check compliance with the CSFS control measures, to blood sample and genotype progeny and remove sheep with susceptible genotypes are carried out until the three year restriction period is completed
- TSE testing of some culled sheep and all fallen stock over 18 months old during the three year restriction period will be required.

2.1.3 Whole flock cull option:
- All sheep are collected for disposal
- Compensation is paid for all culled sheep and any embryos and ova destroyed
- The holding may be kept completely free of sheep for three years from the date of culling and then restocked with sheep without restriction

Where restocking takes place within the three years
- The holding is put under restrictions, based on NSP genotype, that determine which sheep can be bought, sold and used for breeding
- Derogations are available in certain circumstances, see section 10
- Two free genotype tests are available per culled sheep (sometimes more) to help find replacement sheep of the required genotypes
- Flocks will be subject to a three year period of breeding and sale restrictions, based upon NSP genotypes, once a specified level of resistance has been achieved within the flock (see section 14 for further information on required resistance levels)
- Annual audit visits to ensure compliance with the CSFS control measures, to blood sample and genotype progeny and remove sheep with susceptible genotypes are carried out until the three year restriction period is completed
- TSE testing of some culled sheep and all fallen stock over 18 months old during the three year restriction period will be required.

2.2 The CSFS process for goats

2.2.1 Subject to a veterinary investigation, the only option for goats is to cull the whole herd. In this case:
- All goats on a holding are collected for disposal
- Compensation is paid for all culled goats and any embryos and ova destroyed
- Goats can be reintroduced to the holding when:
  - A thorough cleansing and disinfecting of all sheep and goat housing on the holding has been completed. Separate guidance is available on this; and
  - Any sheep on the holding are NSP Type 1 breeding rams and NSP Types 1 and 2 ewes only
- All culled or fallen goats over the age of 18 months will then be tested for the presence of TSE disease for a three year period.

2.2.2 Should further TSEs be discovered, the holding would be subject to the CSFS measures again.
3 Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme – starting the process

3.1 Reporting scrapie

3.1.1 Scrapie is a notifiable disease so if you suspect that a sheep or goat in your care has the disease you must contact your local Animal Health Divisional Office (AHDO) immediately.

3.1.2 You will be visited by a Veterinary Officer (VO) who will examine the animal. If the VO suspects that the animal is affected with scrapie, he/she will complete a form with you and take the live animal or carcass away for post mortem TSE testing. Your holding will be placed under official movement restrictions at that point by the service of legal notice NSP 47a. The official movement restriction notices (NSP 47a-d) are copied to your Local Authority, which has responsibility for enforcing the TSE Regulations.

3.1.3 Once the TSE tests to confirm disease are completed, you will be informed of the result. If the result is positive (i.e. scrapie is confirmed), you will be notified in writing by your Divisional Veterinary Manager. The official movement restrictions imposed by the legal notice NSP47a served on suspicion of scrapie will remain in place until you are notified otherwise. You will be compensated £90 for the animal or £30 if the animal is at the end of its productive life, and CSFS measures will be applied. If the result is negative (i.e. no scrapie is identified), movement restrictions will be lifted by service of legal notice NSP 47b. There will be no further action. Compensation will be paid up to a maximum of £400.

3.2 When do CSFS measures apply?

3.2.1 The CSFS applies to all sheep flocks or goat herds that have a reported and subsequently confirmed case of scrapie from 20 July 2004 in England and Scotland (from 1 November 2004 in Wales).

3.2.2 Where sheep or goats from different holdings share common grazing, a veterinary decision will be made as to whether or not CSFS measures will apply to flocks or herds other than those from the holding of origin of the scrapie case. Once again this would be based on the risk of disease transfer between distinct groups of animals.

3.2.3 A scrapie case may also be traced as originating from a different holding if, for example, the animal has been purchased. In this case, a veterinary decision will be made as to whether the control measures apply to one or more holdings. The measures will be applied on the holding where it is considered that infection occurred and/or it is believed that the animal may have infected other animals on those premises. This kind of decision will be made very carefully by considering all the available evidence.
3.2.4 A case may be traced from a positive TSE test in an animal slaughtered at an abattoir. Measures to control scrapie would be applied to the flock of origin when, based on all the available evidence, it is certain that the animal came from that holding. A case may also be confirmed through TSE testing for fallen stock.

3.3 **Veterinary assessment**

3.3.1 On confirmation of scrapie on your holding, a report is sent to the National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre (NSPAC) and your details will be registered into the CSFS.

3.3.2 If you are currently a member of any other NSP scheme or schemes, the CSFS will supersede all NSP Contracts and they will be cancelled. You will be notified of these cancellations in writing.

3.3.3 NSPAC will contact your local AHDO to arrange for a VO to visit you to complete a Veterinary Report Form. This form records details of the sheep and goats on the holding, the circumstances of the sheep flocks and goat herds and any other relevant information. It also records if there are any other products, such as ova or embryos in store. The VO will explain to you that the most likely course of action will be to genotype the flock, followed by selective culling. Only in exceptional cases will consideration be given to whole flock culling. You may wish to ask your private vet to attend this visit as well. If you are a tenant, or have a short term grazing agreement, you should discuss the situation with your landlord.

3.3.4 Following this visit, the completed Veterinary Report Form is returned to the NSPAC Veterinary Advisor (VA) for consideration. The VA will make a veterinary assessment and decide what action is appropriate, taking into consideration the most cost effective way of achieving disease control. You will then be informed as to what action is required on the holding.

3.3.5 Sheep in your flock that have previously been NSP tested and that are assessed as subject to the CSFS, will have the appropriate restrictions applied to them immediately (see Table 2 on page 16). This will mean that you may receive some new Slaughter Forms for sheep that previously had Genotype Certificates or some already NSP tested sheep that will need to be culled and disposed of.

3.3.6 A notice will be sent to you setting out the option to be followed, what the provisions are for you to appeal against the notice if you wish to do so, or to waive your right of appeal, and what you have to do next. Your holding will be subject to continuing movement restrictions as set out in any legal notice NSP47a, c and/or d served on your holding. If you transfer your holding to another person, you must ensure that he/she is made aware of the existence and contents of this notice. Failure to do so will be an offence under the regulations.

3.3.7 You will still be subject to Animal Movement Licence System (AMLS) or Scottish Animal Movements System (SAMS) requirements.
4 Action options

4.1.1 There are two options available for sheep flocks:

- Genotyping and selective culling – testing all sheep which have not already been tested under the NSP and culling or slaughtering those with susceptible genotypes
- Whole flock cull – culling all sheep. However, the option of genotyping and selective culling is expected to meet the eradication and control requirements of the legislation in all but exceptional circumstances. The final decision on this will be made by the NSPAC Veterinary Advisor (VA).

4.1.2 Subject to a veterinary investigation, the only option for goats is to cull the whole herd.
5 Actions required for sheep – the genotyping and selective culling option

5.1.1 As part of this option, all sheep in the flock or on the holding will be blood sampled and genotype tested.

5.2 Blood sampling visit

5.2.1 On the agreed date, our blood sampling team will visit your farm. You must gather together all your sheep and have appropriate handling facilities and help available. You or your representative must be present during the sampling visit as you will be required to sign the Job Sheet to confirm that:
- You are content that the procedure has been carried out satisfactorily and
- The sheep have been correctly identified and recorded accurately.

5.2.2 At the initial visit we will blood sample:
- all adult sheep that have not already been NSP genotype tested and have a functioning NSP EID device*
- lambs (unless it is agreed otherwise with the VA or VO – see paragraph 5.2.3).

5.2.3 Our VA may suggest not sampling the lamb crop if, for example, they are not destined to be retained or sold for breeding. In this case and with your agreement, all or part of the lamb crop will be culled and the appropriate compensation rate will be paid (see paragraph 11.1.2 for details).

5.2.4 The sampling team will administer the EID boluses and take blood samples from the sheep, noting any identity (ID) you wish to include with the results for management purposes (e.g. an ear tag number, tattoo, or name). It is important to ensure that every sheep has some sort of visual individual ID so that you can easily identify them once you receive their genotype results.

5.2.5 We will ensure that all our blood samplers are properly trained and competent to carry out this work. If an animal is injured or dies as a result of any part of the blood sampling or EID device application process, we

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* Sheep tested under the NSP Ram Genotyping Schemes, NSP Rare Breeds Genotype Survey, Voluntary Scrapie Flocks Scheme and the Welsh Ewe Genotyping Scheme II (WEGS II) will not need to be resampled provided the sampler can read their EID device. However, any ewes previously NSP tested under the 2002/2003 Ewe Genotyping Service (EGS) will have to be resampled as no EID bolus was administered.
will pay reasonable compensation to the owner for this loss, provided an impartial veterinary practitioner has provided satisfactory evidence to prove that the injury or death was the direct result of this procedure. Compensation will not exceed the independently assessed market value of the animal. The carcass must be provided for post mortem examination.

5.2.6 Depending on the size of your flock, the visit may take place over a number of days.

5.2.7 If a sheep already has an EID bolus and it is compatible with our equipment then we will record its number and take a blood sample to test so that its genotype can be confirmed.

5.2.8 Any sheep that have been previously genotype tested but not by the NSP (i.e. privately tested) will be resampled and a bolus administered if appropriate.

5.2.9 Once the sampling is complete, you will be asked to sign the sampler’s Job Sheet to say that you are content that the correct sampling procedures were followed (a copy of the procedures will be available) and that the IDs you provided were recorded correctly.

5.2.10 The NSP only accepts the EID number as proof of a sheep’s identity and genotype. You should contact your local AHDO promptly should you find or suspect that the NSP EID device has stopped working or has been ejected, so that they can arrange for a further blood sample to be taken and another EID bolus administered if appropriate.

5.2.11 You must not tamper with, remove or attempt to re-administer an NSP EID device.
5.2.12 No farm visit will be made to premises on which restrictions (such as movement) have been placed for the purposes of disease control. Similarly, a visit cannot take place if samplers are obliged to travel through an infected area or controlled zone to reach a farm.

5.3 **Results**

5.3.1 Once the genotype results are returned to NSPAC from our laboratories, NSPAC’s VA will review them. You will then be contacted to discuss the results and what will happen next. This will normally be within 15 working days (i.e. three full weeks) of the sampling visit taking place.

5.3.2 Following this discussion, two copies of a Genotype Results Summary (NSP 11) will be sent to you: one for your records and one for your private vet should you wish to discuss the results with them. The Genotype Results Summary lists the EID numbers matched to a genotype result along with the ID (e.g. ear-tag number) you provided for each sheep.

**Genotype Results Summary**

5.3.3 If you have reasonable grounds to dispute an NSP genotype result, you may appeal to NSPAC. We will arrange for the original sample to be checked or, if appropriate, arrange for a resample visit to be made to confirm the result. The results of check tests will normally be made available to you within seven days; resample results within 15 working days of the actual resample of the sheep.
5.3.4 Only sheep with certain genotypes may be retained for breeding within the flock. Of the unsuitable sheep, some genotypes must be sold for slaughter, others may be kept for breeding, but not sold and others must be culled. Table 2 below illustrates the cull, slaughter, breeding and sale restrictions that will apply to CSFS sheep flocks.

Table 2: Genotype Consequences for CSFS Sheep Flocks*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSP Type</th>
<th>Genotype</th>
<th>Rams</th>
<th>Ewes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ARR/ARR</td>
<td>No action required</td>
<td>No action required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unrestricted Genotype Certificate issued</td>
<td>Unrestricted Genotype Certificate issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ARR/AHQ</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock (derogation may be available)</td>
<td>Can be brought on to the holding for breeding*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARR/ARH</td>
<td>Must be slaughtered, but can enter the food chain</td>
<td>Can only leave the holding if sold for breeding to another CSFS flock or to be slaughtered, in which case it can enter the food chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARR/ARQ</td>
<td>Slaughter Form issued</td>
<td>Restricted Genotype Certificate issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No compensation paid</td>
<td>No compensation paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lambs can be moved to one other holding solely for the purposes of fattening prior to slaughter</td>
<td>Lambs can be moved to one other holding solely for the purposes of fattening prior to slaughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AHQ/AHQ</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AHQ/ARH</td>
<td>Must be collected, culled and disposed of under CSFS arrangements</td>
<td>Must be collected, culled and disposed of under CSFS arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AHQ/ARQ</td>
<td>Compensation paid</td>
<td>Compensation paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARH/ARH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARH/ARQ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARQ/ARQ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>ARR/VRQ</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Must be slaughtered, but can enter the food chain</td>
<td>Must be slaughtered, but can enter the food chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Slaughter Form issued</td>
<td>Slaughter Form issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No compensation paid</td>
<td>No compensation paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AHQ/VRQ</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
<td>Not to be bought, sold, borrowed or used for breeding in this flock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARH/VRQ</td>
<td>Must be collected, culled and disposed of under CSFS arrangements</td>
<td>Must be collected, culled and disposed of under CSFS arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARQ/VRQ</td>
<td>Compensation paid</td>
<td>Compensation paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VRQ/VRQ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In a small number of cases it may not be possible to produce an outcome consistent with one of the 15 known genotypes. In these cases, the animal will be collected and culled and compensation paid at the applicable rate

† Flocks which contain Type 2 ewes will be subject to additional restrictions (see paragraph 14.2.1 for further details)

N.B. Only semen from rams of ARR/ARR genotypes and embryos carrying at least 1 ARR allele and no VRQ allele may be used on holdings where action has been taken.
5.4 NSP Genotype Certificates and the Ram Register

5.4.1 Unrestricted NSP Genotype Certificates (NSP4) will be issued for Type 1 sheep. Restricted Genotype Certificates will be issued for Type 2 ewes. You must complete and return the relevant sections of the Certificate to NSPAC if you sell a certified sheep or if it dies or is slaughtered.

5.4.2 Rams that have an NSP Genotype Certificate will appear in the NSP’s Ram Register, which aids the buying and selling of genotype tested rams. You can access the Register on-line at www.defra.gov.uk/nsp

NSP Genotype Certificate
6 Actions required for sheep – the whole flock cull option

6.1.1 For this option, all sheep or lambs on the holding will be collected for disposal (see section 8.2).

6.1.2 In some flocks, animals may first be blood sampled and genotype tested (as in section 5) before a decision is taken to apply this option.

6.1.3 In some circumstances you may apply for a derogation. For more details, see section 10.
7 Action required for goats

7.1.1 Subject to a veterinary investigation, a whole herd cull will apply. All goats and kids will be collected for disposal (see section 8.2). There are no derogations available for goat herds.
8 Slaughter and culling arrangements

8.1 Slaughter

8.1.1 Following genotyping, any sheep that must be slaughtered to enter the human food chain will be issued with a CSFS Slaughter Form (NSP 41). You will be sent the Slaughter Forms by post. These sheep cannot be used for breeding and must be slaughtered within 90 days of the issue of the form. You must sign and return the Slaughter Form to NSPAC to confirm that the animal has been sent for slaughter within 10 days of the ‘Slaughter by’ date. No compensation is payable for these sheep and any cost incurred in arranging the slaughter of such animals is the responsibility of the owner. If you fail to return your completed NSP 41 forms, future testing visits and any compensation/assistance payments due to you may be stopped and/or costs recovered (see sections 11 and 13). In certain cases, the NSPAC VA may agree that Type 2 rams can be retained on farms as teasers following vasectomy. A Veterinary Certificate of Vasectomy would need to be provided.

8.2 Culling

8.2.1 Animals to be culled will usually be collected live (see paragraph 8.2.9) by our contracted hauliers for transport to our specialist abattoir, where they can be disposed of without the potential risk of spreading disease. Some or all of the culled animals aged over 12 months will also be tested for TSEs.

8.2.2 If control measures are to be applied where the ewes in the flock are in lamb, the welfare of the animals will determine whether control action is taken prior to or post lambing. Where control action is delayed to allow lambing and subsequent weaning, you are responsible for ensuring that adequate provision is made for the welfare of the adult sheep and lambs until NSPAC can arrange for the collection of animals to be destroyed. Lambs will not normally be collected before the lamb crop is at least 10 weeks old.

8.2.3 NSPAC will arrange and notify you of the collection date. Your local AHDO will contact you nearer the time to confirm the arrangements for collection. If your holding requires a Multiple Pickup Licence this will be arranged by your local AHDO.

8.2.4 Where the genotyping and selective culling option has been applied, you will be sent a list of sheep that must be culled (Collection Notice NSP 42a).
You should segregate the sheep that must be culled from the rest of the flock prior to the collection date so that they can be checked onto the haulier’s vehicles. EID scanners are available for loan to make this job easier, or we may be able to help you on the collection day provided appropriate facilities are available. Where whole flock/herd cull applies all animals will need to be gathered together.

8.2.5 On the collection day, an Animal Health Officer (AHO) will arrive on farm to check the EID bolus numbers of any segregated sheep that are to be culled and also to count the sheep or goats that are to be culled without genotyping. For large collections/difficult terrain the AHO may arrive the day before to check bolus numbers. Once the AHO is satisfied that all the sheep are accounted for, they will oversee the loading of the animals onto the haulier’s vehicles.

8.2.6 After loading, the AHO will sign the Collection Notice (NSP 42). You must also sign to agree that the correct number of animals have been loaded. You will also have to sign the declaration that you are claiming compensation for these animals and that they have not been introduced to your holding and/or your ownership/care in contravention of the conditions on the NSP 47a, c or d. This form will be sent to NSPAC for processing and used to calculate your compensation payment, so please check it carefully before signing. The AHO will give you a copy to keep for your records.

8.2.7 You will have to account for any animals that are listed on the Collection Notice but are not available to be loaded onto the haulier’s vehicles on the collection day.

8.2.8 If you would rather have the animals culled on farm and removed for disposal, it may be possible to arrange this in exceptional circumstances, for example if numbers are small. You must make this clear at the time you are contacted to arrange the collection date.

8.2.9 It will be expected that you will present all sheep and goats that are to be culled in a good state of health, equivalent to that required for transport to an abattoir or you may not be paid compensation on these animals.

8.2.10 However, any sheep and goats that are not fit to travel due to circumstances outside the flock owner’s control will be put down on farm and compensation will be paid. Animals that die before they are collected for disposal will not be eligible for compensation.
9 Destruction of embryos and ova

9.1.1 Any sheep or goat embryos and ova from the animal in which scrapie was confirmed must be destroyed whether they are stored on the holding or at an Artificial Insemination centre. Compensation is payable.
10 Derogation for sheep

10.1.1 Derogations may be available for both the:
- genotyping and selective culling option; and
- whole flock cull option.

10.1.2 The following types of derogation may be applied:
- A delay in culling and slaughter for up to five years (for individual sheep)
- Genotypes other than those permitted in Table 2 on page 16 may be introduced to the holding, provided they do not carry VRQ, for a maximum of five years.

10.1.3 Derogations are only available in certain circumstances and for certain breeds. The NSPAC VA will discuss with you whether your flock might be eligible and the genotypes that could be introduced.

10.1.4 The options and assistance available to find replacement sheep of the requisite genotype are set out at section 13. This should allow you to find sufficient replacement sheep of the required genotype to restock. If you have been experiencing significant difficulties in restocking, you may apply in writing, providing evidence of the difficulties, for a derogation to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype as a last resort. If this is granted, NSPAC will genotype these animals and pay compensation for the Type 3 & 5 animals that must be destroyed. Type 4 sheep must be sold for slaughter for the human food chain and not used for breeding. You will be responsible for selling any Type 4 sheep for slaughter. This derogation is only available until 1 January 2007.

10.1.5 You will need to apply for a derogation in writing, using the Derogation Application Form (NSP 55) with full justification for your request. You will be advised of the result of your application. There is provision for appeal where an application for a derogation set out at 10.1.2 above is not accepted or only accepted in part. Please note that if your application is accepted it will result in a delay in the starting of your restriction period (see section 14).
11 Compensation

11.1.1 On receipt of the Collection Notice at NSPAC, your compensation payment will be processed. Your payment will be made direct into your bank account if you have completed the Direct Credit Business Account Details Form (BACS 1). Alternatively we will send you a payable order (cheque). We will advise you in writing when your claim has been passed for payment; you should expect to receive it within 28 days of that notification.

*Note that the payable order will be made payable to the owner or authorised agent of the holding that was registered into CSFS by the Veterinary Officer at the initial assessment visit.*

11.1.2 Compensation will be paid at the following rates for animals killed and destroyed and products destroyed:

- Male sheep or goat: £90 each
- Female sheep or goat: £65 each
- Lambs or kids up to 12 months old: £40 each (this rate will be reduced to £25 each for the subsequent lamb crop if a derogation has been agreed to allow Type 2 rams to be used in the flock for breeding)
- Cull ewes: £30 each (this rate will be paid where a derogation applies to adult females you wish to dispose of after year 1 of the scheme – see paragraph 10.1.2)
- Embryos: £150 each
- Ova: £5 each

11.1.3 Where you consider an animal is of higher value than the standard compensation rate (e.g. a pedigree breeding animal), it may be possible to receive compensation based on an independent valuation. You will need to arrange a valuation at your own expense by a valuer appointed by the President of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in England and Wales or the Institute of Auctioneers and Appraisers in Scotland (IAAS). The valuation carried out will be binding on you and Defra, the Department of Environment, Planning and Countryside for...
the National Assembly of Wales or the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department as appropriate. Should you wish to take up the option of valuation at your own expense, please contact the NSPAC Helpline for further information. Please note that valuations are not available for animals that have been issued with a Slaughter Form.

11.1.4 NSPAC may arrange for an SVS representative to be present at the valuation as an observer on behalf of Defra, SEERAD and WAG DEPC.

11.1.5 The option of independent valuation by a RICS appointed valuer (IAAS in Scotland) is also available to Defra, SEERAD and WAG DEPC where the standard rates of compensation may be higher than the value of the animals in the affected flock/herd. Defra, SEERAD and WAG DEPC will pay the nomination fee and cost of any valuation they instigate. The independent valuation will be binding on both parties.

11.1.6 The Valuation Outcome Form (NSP 45) should be submitted to NSPAC, who will arrange a collection date. On receipt of the Collection Notice (NSP 42) payment of the higher valuation rate will be processed.

11.1.7 Once an independent valuation has been processed no further payment will be made in respect of the animal(s) concerned.
12 Restocking

12.1.1 Sheep:
- As soon as the action has been undertaken on your holding you may restock with sheep providing they are NSP Type 1 rams and NSP Types 1 and 2 ewes only. However if you acquire replacement animals before slaughter/cull animals have left the farm, the replacement animals should be kept separately from those awaiting slaughter/cull; or

- You may leave the holding free from sheep for three years after the last date that any sheep or goats were kept on the holding then restock without restriction.

12.1.2 Goats:
You may restock your holding with goats provided:
- Any sheep and goat housing has been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected (separate guidance is available on this) and any male sheep on the holding are NSP Type 1 and females are NSP Type 1 or 2; and
- Your holding is subject to TSE testing of the brains of all culled and fallen goats over 18 months of age.
13 Assistance with restocking sheep flocks

13.1 **Assistance payments for purchase of replacement breeding rams**

13.1.1 If you have to slaughter or cull any breeding rams (Type 2 or below) and then buy Type 1 rams to replace them, an assistance payment is available to help offset the relatively higher price of Type 1 rams. The number of breeding rams used in the flock and their NSP types will have been agreed with the VO during the veterinary assessment visit. An assistance payment will also be available in respect of any Type 2 rams that are taken out of the breeding programme by means of castration.

13.1.2 These payments are only available for breeding rams that are purchased before the next breeding season once the original ram has been culled or slaughtered. You will need to complete an Assistance Payment Claim Form (NSP 43) and present acceptable proof of purchase for rams bought at auction or by private sale in the form of:

- An original itemised bill of sale, signed (e.g. by vendor/auctioneer/market representative) and with individual sheep Electronic Identification number and farmer ID listed and priced (collective totals e.g. 5x rams @ total price of £500 are not acceptable)
- And the appropriate NSP Genotype Certificate obtained at the time of purchase.

13.1.3 You may also be asked to supply further evidence in the form of a valuer’s or insurance certificate.

13.1.4 An assistance payment is not available where you have received compensation for a ram on the basis of an independent valuation.

13.1.5 To claim assistance payments, you will need to send the completed Assistance Payment Claim Form (NSP 43) along with your proof of purchase, evidence of the slaughter and Genotype Certificate to NSPAC.

13.1.6 Assistance payments will be paid when replacing the following categories of rams with Type 1 rams:

- for slaughtered rams (Types 2 and 4): up to max. £500
- for culled rams (Types 3 and 5): up to max. £410*
- for Type 2 rams that have been derogated: up to max. £250 (see section 10)

* Note that compensation will already have been paid for Types 3 and 5 rams that have been culled.
13.1.7 You can continue to make assistance payment claims until either you have used up your allocation, i.e. the number of breeding rams that you are replacing, or the beginning of the next breeding season is reached. NSPAC will have a record of the NSP types of the rams that are to be replaced and will pay assistance payments against any slaughtered rams first (provided an appropriate Slaughter Form has been received) and then against any culled rams.

13.1.8 Where you present a proof of purchase showing a value less than the appropriate maximum amount above, you will receive an assistance payment equal to the proof of purchase value.

13.1.9 Your payment will be made direct into your bank account if you have completed the Direct Credit Business Account Details Form (BACS 1). Alternatively we will send you a payable order (cheque). Once your claim has been authorised for payment you will receive written confirmation from NSPAC of the amount due. You can then expect to receive payment within 28 days.

Note that the payable order will be made payable to the owner or authorised agent of the holding that was registered into CSFS by the Veterinary Officer at the initial assessment visit.

13.1.10 The example below illustrates how the compensation and assistance payments work.

Farmer A has a flock of 130 breeding ewes, broken down into the following age categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year old ewes</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 year old ewes</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 year old ewes</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 year old ewes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The flock is served by five adult breeding rams.

In addition to this, Farmer A has a lamb crop of 200 animals, broken down into the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ram lambs to be retained</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewe lambs to be retained</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castrated lambs and ewe lambs to sell off</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A CSFS visit to genotype test the flock takes place; all breeding rams and ewes in the flock are tested. Having discussed the options with his Veterinary Officer, Farmer A has the selected ram and ewe lambs tested, but not the rest of this year’s lamb crop since these were just for fattening.

Farmer A receives his genotype results (expressed as per their NSP Type):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSP Type</th>
<th>Adult breeding rams</th>
<th>Ram lambs</th>
<th>Adult breeding ewes</th>
<th>Ewe lambs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Having discussed these results with the NSPAC VA, Farmer A is able to take decisions on which animals he will keep in the flock.

As this year’s lamb crop was not genotyped, the 115 lambs will all be culled and disposed of under the CSFS arrangements. Compensation is payable for these lambs at a rate of £40 per head. In this example, compensation is calculated as follows:

\[(115 \text{ lambs} \times £40) = £4600.\]

Farmer A has agreed with the NSPAC VA that 5 breeding rams are needed in this flock for tupping. Only one of his current breeding rams meets the **Type 1** requirement; he does however have one **Type 1** ram lamb which will be fit for tupping in the next breeding season. He agrees with the VA that these two male animals will be used for breeding and that, as a result, he needs to purchase three more **Type 1** breeding rams for the flock. Farmer A decides to replace his **Types 2 and 4** rams (slaughter) and his **Type 3** ram (cull).

Farmer A needs to remove all other male animals from the flock. **Types 2 and 4** rams (2 adults; 8 lambs) are sent to slaughter for the food chain; no compensation is paid for these animals.

**Types 3 and 5** rams (2 adult rams; 6 lambs) are collected for cull and disposal under CSFS arrangements; compensation is paid at a rate of £90 per head for adults and £40 per head for lambs. In this example, compensation is calculated as follows:

\[(2 \text{ adult rams} \times £90 = £180) + (6 \text{ lambs} \times £40 = £240) = £420 \text{ total.}\]

Of the ewe population, Farmer A decides to keep all his **Types 1 and 2** adults and 50 of the **Type 3s** (the **Type 3s** are allowed under derogation). All **Types 1, 2 and 3** ewe lambs are also retained (**Type 3s** again under derogation). When Farmer A decides to get rid of these ewes, he will be able to sell **Type 1s** for breeding or slaughter and **Type 2s** for breeding to other CSFS flocks or slaughter; no compensation will be paid. **Type 3** ewes will have to be culled and disposed of under CSFS arrangements; compensation of £30 per head will be paid for culled ewes.

The remaining **Type 3** ewes (10 adults) and all **Type 5** ewes (16 adults; 6 lambs) are culled and disposed of under the CSFS arrangements. Compensation is paid at a rate of £65 per head for adult ewes and £40 per head for lambs. In this example, compensation is calculated as follows:

\[(26 \text{ adult ewes} \times £65 = £1690) + (6 \text{ lambs} \times £40 = £240) = £1930 \text{ total.}\]

**Type 4** ewes (30 adults; 16 lambs) are sent for slaughter for the food chain; no compensation is paid for these animals.

Having reduced the number of breeding rams in his flock to two, Farmer A is entitled to claim assistance payments to help with the cost of purchasing up to three replacement NSP **Type 1** rams. The assistance payment for replacement of **Types 2 and 4** breeding rams is paid at a rate of £500 maximum per head (or actual cost price if less than £500). For replacement of **Types 3 and 5** breeding rams, the assistance payment is paid at a rate of £410* maximum per head (or actual cost price if less than £410). Where the actual cost price is less than the maximum, the difference cannot be used in addition to the maximum for subsequent replacement animals.

*This payment takes into account that compensation will already have been paid for cull rams.

Farmer A then purchases two NSP **Type 1** breeding rams, which replace his two slaughtered rams; one costing £520 and one costing £480. He submits his Assistance Payment Claim Form, together with supporting invoices and NSP Certificates. A payment of \[(1 \times £500) + (1 \times £480) = £980\] is made.

A third NSP **Type 1** breeding ram is purchased at a cost of £425; this replaces one of Farmer A’s cull rams. A payment of £410 only is made, being the maximum amount payable.
13.2 Free genotyping of prospective replacement sheep

13.2.1 Once initial action, either Whole Flock Genotype and Cull or in exceptional circumstances Whole Flock Cull has taken place, restocking must be with sheep of the required genotype unless a derogation has been granted (see section 10). Where possible, you must try to find replacement sheep from NSP member flocks or flocks with NSP certified sheep.

The NSP Ram Register is a good way to find NSP tested rams. It can be found at www.defra.gov.uk/nsp. Alternatively, the NSP helpline may be able to search the register for you and give further advice.

13.2.2 Make sure you check the NSP Genotype Certificate of any sheep claimed to be NSP certified before you buy it. If possible check the EID number located in the sheep against that printed on the Certificate (EID readers are available on loan from NSPAC for this purpose). You can call the NSPAC Helpline to check if an EID number from a sheep is of an appropriate genotype to buy.

13.2.3 Where the NSP route is not practical (e.g. for certain breeds or for ewes), free genotyping of prospective breeding animals is available within certain limits. In the first instance, you will receive two free genotyping tests for every animal culled or slaughtered as part of the initial action to re-establish your flock to the level of breeding animals at the time of the official notification of suspicion of scrapie (NSP 47a) and initial veterinary investigation. If this does not produce sufficient replacements of the required genotype further free testing may be available to bring your flock up to that level. You may also receive free genotyping to replace natural wastage in the second and third year of the restriction period. (See paragraph 13.2.15 et seq.)

Sourcing sheep for free genotyping

13.2.4 There are three principal ways to take advantage of the free genotyping on offer.

- Use home bred animals
- Use another owner’s flock as a source flock
- Use an area of unrestricted land to bring on animals for genotyping.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment type</th>
<th>Adult rams</th>
<th>Ram lambs</th>
<th>Adult ewes</th>
<th>Ewe lambs</th>
<th>Lamb crop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compensation</td>
<td>£180</td>
<td>£240</td>
<td>£1690</td>
<td>£240</td>
<td>£4600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2 x £90)</td>
<td>(6 x £40)</td>
<td>(26 x £65)</td>
<td>(6 x £40)</td>
<td>(115 x £40)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance</td>
<td>£1390</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>payment made</td>
<td>(£500 + £480 + £410)</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>NIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PAID</td>
<td>£1570</td>
<td>£240</td>
<td>£1690</td>
<td>£240</td>
<td>£4600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of payments made in this example:
Replacements from home bred sheep

13.2.5 Any home bred sheep will be tested free of charge and compensation paid for home bred lambs that are Type 3 & 5 as they will be collected and destroyed. You will have to dispose of Type 2 ram lambs and Type 4 ram and ewe lambs to slaughter for human consumption. No compensation is payable for Type 2 and 4s.

Replacements from Source flocks

13.2.6 Following the disposal of your cull sheep, you will receive a Source Flock Nomination Form (NSP 44), with the number of free genotype tests permitted shown on it.

13.2.7 To take advantage of the free genotyping, you must first locate the flock (‘source flock’) and specific animals that you would like to purchase should their genotypes be suitable. You should also discuss and agree prices at this stage with the flock owner. Note that we are not able to genotype sheep at markets.

13.2.8 Once you have the agreement of the source flock owner to participate, you should complete the Source Flock Nomination Form and return it to NSPAC. We will then contact the source flock owner and ask them to sign an agreement to allow us to bolus and blood sample the specified sheep. On an agreed date we will visit the source flock to carry out the blood sampling.

13.2.9 When we have the results, we will forward a copy to both you and the source flock owner. You should then purchase the required number of sheep with appropriate genotypes. NSP Genotype Certificates will be issued to the source flock owner for NSP Types 1 and 2 sheep.

Replacements from animals brought on to unrestricted land

13.2.10 You may wish to use an area of unrestricted land that you own or rent to bring on sheep to be genotyped free of charge. The VO may have identified this area on your holding at the time of the initial veterinary inspection. Alternatively, it may be an entirely separate piece of land from the affected holding that is owned or rented by you or that you have rented specifically for the purpose of holding sheep until they can be blood sampled and their genotype established. You will need to discuss in detail what you intend to do with the NSPAC VA if you use this means of sourcing replacements.

13.2.11 Once the genotype of the prospective replacement animals has been established, you may then move those of the required genotype on to the restricted land. If you have any animals of the required genotype surplus to your needs, NSPAC VA will discuss with you the possibility of you selling them directly to another flock owner with a flock under compulsory restriction. You are responsible for the sale of the animals not of the required genotype.
13.2.12 If you do not find sufficient animals of the required genotype from your initial allocation of free genotyping, you may be allowed further free genotyping tests to bring your flock up to the agreed level. You should discuss this with the NSPAC VA.

**Derogation to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype**

*(This derogation is only available until 1 January 2007)*

13.2.13 Exceptionally, you may be granted a derogation to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype to the restricted land in order that they may be blood sampled and the genotype established. You will need to show that you have been unable to source sufficient replacement animals to bring the affected flock back up to the agreed number using the three routes above. (See paragraph 10.1.5 for details of how to apply)

13.2.14 NSPAC will arrange for the Type 3 & 5s to be collected and destroyed as they have been on restricted land. Compensation will be paid at the standard rates set out at paragraph 11.1.2 above. No valuation is available. You will be responsible for selling any Type 4 animals for slaughter.

**Free genotyping of replacements in years two and three of the restriction period**

13.2.15 As restrictions apply for three years, we may provide some free genotyping to help you source animals of the required genotype to replace natural losses (e.g. deaths, culls and sales of draft ewes etc.) from your flock(s) in years two and three of the restriction period.

13.2.16 If you wish to take up this option you should contact NSPAC to ascertain the number of tests available to you. This will be based on the data collected from your farm records at the time that scrapie was officially suspected. For example, if your original adult flock size was 500, the limit for free testing for replacing natural losses will be 500 tests. This is a one-off allocation to cover your whole CSFS membership period. This number has been calculated to provide enough testing to replace 25% of the flock in each of years 2 and 3 of the scheme (on the assumption that at least 50% of randomly-selected sheep will prove to be NSP Type 1 or Type 2). If you consider that this is an underestimate of the ‘true’ size of the CSFS flock(s) on your holding, you may make a request in writing that this figure is reviewed. Documentary evidence of the ‘true’ flock size will be needed in this case.

13.2.17 If the agreed number of tests does not produce sufficient animals of the required genotype, further free genotype testing may be available to allow you to reach the agreed number of animals of the required genotype.
13.2.18 Any testing to replace natural losses must be carried out under the source flock procedure or by testing purchased sheep on clean land. You are responsible for selling on any tested sheep not of the required genotype. They must not enter the land under restriction and they must not be used in the flock(s) under restriction. There is no derogation available in the second and third year of the three year restriction period to bring on to restricted land non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype in order to source replacements for natural losses.

13.2.19 The allocation of free genotype testing for natural losses is available immediately you have had initial culling action and replacement testing for initial culls carried out under compulsory control measures. You do not need to wait until sheep have died or been culled for flock management reasons to test prospective replacements. However, if you use up your allocation before your flock is released from CSFS controls, no further testing of prospective purchased replacement sheep will be provided. Your options for maintenance of flock size will then be limited to buying genotyped ewes/lambs or breeding your own replacements.
14 Three year restriction period

14.1 Starting the restriction period

14.1.1 Your holding will be under CSFS restrictions for a period of three years; you will be notified by NSPAC when this period starts and finishes. This three-year period applies from the date when:

For sheep
- All sheep on the holding are NSP Type 1; or
- All rams are NSP Type 1 and ewes are NSP Type 1 or 2, providing TSE testing is carried out on all fallen stock and an annual sample of culled ewes over 18 months of age for the restriction period (see paragraph 14.4.2–14.4.9); or

For goats
- TSE testing on culled and fallen goats over 18 months of age began following restocking; or

For sheep and goats
- Any sheep or goats were last kept on the holding.

14.1.2 Where whole flock cull action has been carried out, the three year restriction period starts from the date the last sheep is collected from the holding. It ends three years from that date provided no restocking with sheep or goats has taken place.

14.1.3 If restocking takes place within that three year period the restrictions outlined at 14.2 apply for three years from the date of restocking.

14.2 Restrictions

14.2.1 For the three year period:
- Only NSP Type 1 rams may be kept and brought on to the holding
- Only NSP Type 1 or 2 ewes may be kept or brought on to the holding
- Only NSP Type 1 sheep may be sold to other flocks for breeding (Type 2 ewes may be sold to other CSFS flocks and Type 2 lambs may be moved to one other holding solely for the purposes of fattening prior to slaughter)
- Only semen of rams of ARR/ARR genotype and embryos carrying at least 1 ARR and no VRQ allele may be used
Any sheep or goats over 18 months that die on farm and an annual sample of your culled ewes over 18 months must be tested for TSE disease. **If the sheep flock comprises only NSP Type 1 rams and ewes then this condition does not apply.**

Any goats over 18 months of age that die on farm or are culled must be tested for TSE disease. This restriction only applies where goats are reintroduced after whole flock/ herd cull action or where goats are reintroduced when only NSP Type 1 sheep and Type 2 ewes are on the holding.

### 14.3 Annual audit and genotype testing

14.3.1 During the three year restriction period to which your flock/holding is subject as part of the compulsory control measures we will make annual audit visits to validate compliance with the compulsory control measures. During the audit visit we will also blood sample and genotype test all lambs that you wish to retain for breeding. NSP Genotype Certificates will be issued for Type 1 rams and ewes and a restricted Certificate for Type 2 ewes. This visit will be arranged to coincide with your breeding programme so that you may take decisions as to which sheep to retain in the flock.

14.3.2 Ram lambs that are not NSP Type 1 will be issued with a Slaughter Form and must be slaughtered within 90 days. They may however enter the food chain providing they carry at least one ARR allele, i.e. Types 1, 2 or 4. Spot checks may be carried out on your lamb crops to ensure they are of the correct genotype to enter the food chain.

### 14.4 TSE testing

14.4.1 TSE testing is conducted by collecting a brain sample from a dead animal. The test determines whether the animal is actually affected with a TSE disease such as scrapie. TSE testing will apply under the scheme where your flock comprises NSP Type 1 rams and NSP Type 2 ewes or you are restocking your holding with goats.

14.4.2 **Fallen stock**

During the three year restriction period, you will have an obligation to inform the **TSE helpline (0800 525 890)** if any sheep or goats over 18 months of age die on farm, or if any goats over 18 months of age are to be culled. The TSE helpline will arrange for the carcass to be collected under the arrangements for scrapie surveillance in fallen stock and taken for TSE testing.
14.4.3 **Annual cull**
You will also need to comply with the arrangements for the testing of an annual sample of your cull sheep over 18 months of age.

14.4.4 Under these arrangements, NSPAC will write to ask you for an estimate of the number of ewes you intend to cull in the coming year and the time or times of year (normally once or twice a year) when you will select and send them for slaughter. They will then inform you of your annual sample, i.e. the number of cull sheep over 18 months that you will have to provide for TSE testing in that year. This may be all your cull ewes if your flock is small or only a proportion if you have a larger flock.

14.4.5 NSPAC will also send you a pro-forma list of abattoirs designated to carry out TSE testing work under the scheme to which your annual sample will need to be sent. You will need to discuss and agree terms for sale of your annual sample animals with one of these designated abattoirs. These abattoirs are not obliged to buy your animals. Any arrangement is the normal commercial one between you and the abattoir to sell and buy a number of animals.

14.4.6 The abattoirs on the designated list have agreed in principle to offer to buy your culls over 18 months old that we are required by EU Regulation to TSE test. They have been chosen because there is already a trained team at these abattoirs to TSE test a sample of cull animals over 18 months old destined for the food chains as part of a separate EU surveillance requirement.

14.4.7 If you fail to reach an agreement with the abattoirs on the designated list to buy your cull animals, you must complete the pro-forma list of designated abattoirs (see 14.4.5 above) explaining briefly why this was the case for each of the abattoirs on the list. You should also indicate how you disposed of the animals that you wished to cull. **Please note, you must also ensure that all associated Genotype Certificates or Slaughter Forms are returned to NSPAC.**

14.4.8 Four weeks before you select the animals that you intend to send for slaughter you should contact NSPAC. They will then make arrangements for an AHO to visit your farm in order to identify and tag animals for TSE testing. They will also arrange for third party contractors to transport the animals selected for testing to your chosen designated abattoir.

14.4.9 If TSE testing produces positive results, i.e. it shows that your animals are actually affected with a TSE disease such as scrapie, your holding will be subject to action under the scheme once again.
15 Completing your CSFS obligations

15.1.1 Once you have successfully completed the three-year restriction period, you will be notified in writing that you are no longer subject to the CSFS measures. If appropriate, you will be offered membership of any NSP schemes for which you are eligible.

15.1.2 It is in your interest to include genotyping as an integral part of your ongoing sheep flock management to ensure the continued resistance of your flock to scrapie. Breeding advice will be sent to you with our written notification to help you to do this.

15.1.3 The diagram overleaf summarises the stages of the CSFS.
Stages of the CSFS

1. **Suspected scrapie case reported to ADO** (Para 3.1.1)
   - flock owner informed that no further action is required, official movement restriction lifted

2. **Veterinary Officer (VO) visits holding and completes initial assessment, official movement restriction put on holding** (Para 3.1.2)
   - VO returns to holding to complete in-depth assessment (Para 3.3)
   - NSPAC register held into CSFS (Para 3.2)

3. **Laboratory result returned to Defra Veterinary TSE Division** (Para 3.1.3)
   - NSPAC Veterinary Adviser (VA) decides on flock action (Genotype 6 Cull or Whole Flock Cull) (Para 3.3.4)
   - You have a 21 day period for appeal against the legal notice. Alternatively you may wish to waive your right of appeal

4. **Whole Flock/Herd Cull** (Section 6) (Section 7)
   - The Veterinary Officer will previously have discussed suitable visit dates with you.
   - An Animal Health Officer (AHO) will contact you to confirm sampling details

5. **Genotype and Cull** (Section 5)
   - The NSPAC VA will additionally inform you whether a further CSFS sampling visit is necessary in the next breeding season
   - You will be responsible for partitioning your cull animals (See Table 2) from the rest of your flock, in preparation for collection
   - NSPAC VA telephones to discuss results and implications, and on completion releases results and legal notice by post (Para 5.3)
   - AHO visit to oversee collection of cull sheep by contractor (Para 8.2)

6. **Start of three-year restriction period**
   - The three-year period of mandatory restrictions will begin from the time when your flock has reached a status of NSP Type 1 rams (and Type 1 or 2 ewes)

7. **You may apply to NSPAC for financial assistance with replacing breeding rams and free genotyping for sourcing replacement animals for your flock** (Section 13)

8. **NSPAC calculate and authorise compensation payment** (Section 11)

9. **Animal is removed for slaughter and laboratory analysis** normally 8 working days

- VO returns to holding to complete in-depth assessment (Para 3.3)

- **Negative Result**
  - ns

- **Positive Result**
  - ns
16 Terms and legal notices

16.1 Costs

16.1.1 We will meet the full costs associated with blood sampling, genotype testing; the supply and application of EID devices; collection, cull and disposal of cull animals, along with the certification of individual sheep where appropriate.

16.1.2 You will be responsible for any costs associated with the gathering and handling of animals, the slaughtering of any sheep that are of an undesirable genotype but can enter the human food chain; along with the partitioning of sheep in readiness for collection by authorised hauliers. You are also responsible for the cleaning and disinfecting of sheep and goat housing prior to restocking with goats.

16.1.3 We reserve the right to charge for the replacement of lost or damaged NSP Genotype Certificates.

16.2 Validation checks

16.2.1 We may undertake random periodic checking and resampling of flocks and herds within the CSFS throughout your membership period. This may involve visits by prior arrangement at short notice.

16.3 Data Protection Act 1998 – Fair Processing Notice

16.3.1 The joint data controllers in respect of personal data that you provide in National Scrapie Plan (NSP) forms are: the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), and the Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Environment, Planning and Countryside (WAG-DEPC).

16.3.2 Personal data obtained for the purposes of the NSP is processed by the National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre (NSPAC), which is part of the State Veterinary Service (SVS) (an executive agency of Defra). NSPAC administers the NSP for Defra and on behalf of SEERAD and WAG-DEPC. NSPAC will:
● keep the personal data and will store it on a database along with identification data collected by the SVS on your sheep and your sheep’s NSP genotype test results;
● make some of that data available to the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA) (an executive agency of Defra) and the Institute of Animal Health (a research institute) where it will be retained to enable them to maintain records of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) cases. Additionally the VLA will keep records of actions taken in flocks and to compile accurate TSE statistics to meet European Community legal requirements. Owners may be contacted by Government scientists carrying out surveys of disease incidence;
● make some of the data available to Defra’s contractors, eg. hauliers or valuers, for the purpose of administering this scheme;
● share information with local authorities, eg Official Veterinary Surgeon, the Meat Hygiene Service or Inspectors, during TSE testing or the cleaning and disinfection procedure (where this procedure is appropriate);
● contact the owner/agents identified on the Source Flock Nomination Form (NSP 44), where issued, with a view to the owner/agent agreeing the NSP procedures for blood sampling and genotyping sheep.

The data controllers will have access to the data provided to NSPAC, and vice versa.

16.3.3 A data controller may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request, under the provisions of legislation containing access to information provisions (e.g. the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, or the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, they will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will they act in contravention of their obligations under the (UK) Data Protection Act 1998.

16.3.4 In order to facilitate the provision of replacement sheep and in the interest of openness, we publish a Ram Register on the Internet which records details of NSP Type 1 rams, together with the name, telephone number and postcode of the owner (or their agent). We further undertake to update the Register at least monthly to ensure the information is as up-to-date as possible. You can access the Register on line at www.defra.gov/nsp.
16.3.5 If you wish to obtain a copy of your personal data held by NSPAC, please follow the procedure at www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/opengov/personaldata.htm. Defra’s public service guarantee on data handling, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data is also available on this website. If you don’t have access to the internet, please telephone the Defra helpline 08459 33 55 77 and ask to speak to the Data Protection Officer.

If you believe the information NSPAC holds concerning you is incorrect or out of date, please provide the accurate information in writing together with supporting evidence (if appropriate) to NSPAC. Please see the inside back cover for full contact details.

16.4 Penalties

16.4.1 If you do not comply with the requirement of the regulations (Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies No. 2 Regulations 2006, the TSE (Scotland) Regulations 2002 as amended and the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (Wales) Regulations 2006) and the scheme, you will be liable on conviction to a fine or imprisonment up to a term not exceeding two years or both.
## 17 Glossary and definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agent</td>
<td>A person or organisation appointed by a flock owner to manage the NSP administration on their behalf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHDO</td>
<td>Animal Health Divisional Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHO</td>
<td>Animal Health Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allele</td>
<td>One of the five alternative forms of the ‘scrapie’ gene e.g. ARR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACS</td>
<td>Bank Automated Clearing System which facilitates making payments directly into your bank account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolus</td>
<td>A type of EID in the form of a ceramic pill that permanently lodges in a sheep’s stomach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSFS</td>
<td>Compulsory Scrapie Flocks Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cull</td>
<td>Sheep killed and disposed of outside the human food chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cull ewe</td>
<td>For the purposes of the CSFS only, a cull ewe is a ewe under derogation that is culled after the first year’s visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defra</td>
<td>Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNA</td>
<td>Deoxyribonucleic acid. The DNA molecule in the form of a double helix is the main constituent of chromosomes that are responsible for the transmission of hereditary characteristics from parent to offspring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGS</td>
<td>Ewe Genotyping Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EID</td>
<td>Electronic Identity or Electronic Identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock</td>
<td>A group of sheep that breed and are managed together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GB</td>
<td>Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genotype</td>
<td>The result of a DNA analysis of a tissue sample, used to determine a sheep’s relative resistance to scrapie, e.g. ARR/ARR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Identity (farmer’s own identity for a sheep)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeper</td>
<td>The keeper of the flock (as registered with the local AHDO), who may also be the owner or the agent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NSP  National Scrapie Plan (for Great Britain)

NSP Type  Set of genotypes grouped together because of their relative resistance or susceptibility to scrapie: Type 1 = most resistant, Type 5 = most susceptible

NSPAC  National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre (Worcester)

Payable order  A Government cheque

PrP  Prion Protein, a naturally occurring protein found in the brain, which can be converted to an abnormal form upon exposure to the scrapie disease agent

PrP gene  Genetic sequences which produce the Prion Protein and influence the scrapie susceptibility of the sheep

Ram Register  An on-line database of NSP certified rams

Sampler  A technician or veterinary practitioner trained to take NSP blood samples

Scrapie  A fatal brain disease found in sheep and goats

SEERAD  Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department

Slaughter  Slaughter sheep for the human food chain

Source flock  A different flock from which new stock may be purchased

SRM  Specified Risk Material. Animals (or tissues) that have a higher potential for infectivity and as a precautionary measure cannot enter the food chain

SVS  State Veterinary Service

TSE  Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy

VA  Veterinary Advisor

VO  Veterinary Officer

VSFS  Voluntary Scrapie Flocks Scheme

WAG DEPC  Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Environment, Planning and Countryside

WEGS  Welsh Ewe Genotyping Scheme (either WEGS I or WEGS II)
## 18 CSFS Forms list

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form Name</th>
<th>Form No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSP Genotype Certificate</td>
<td>NSP 4</td>
<td>Issued for ‘desirable’ NSP genotypes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genotype Results Summary</td>
<td>NSP 11</td>
<td>Notification of genotype results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSFS Booklet</td>
<td>NSP 39</td>
<td>This booklet which describes the scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSFS Slaughter Form</td>
<td>NSP 41</td>
<td>Issued for sheep that must be slaughtered following genotype results, but that can enter the food chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Notice (part I)</td>
<td>NSP 42</td>
<td>Carbon copy form to confirm the numbers of sheep/goats that have been collected at a collection visit. Also enables payment of compensation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Notice (part II)</td>
<td>NSP 42a</td>
<td>A list of sheep/goats that must be culled following genotype results, where appropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance Payment Claim Form</td>
<td>NSP 43</td>
<td>Allows you to claim for assistance payments toward replacing culled rams with NSP Type 1 rams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Flock Nomination Form</td>
<td>NSP 44</td>
<td>A permit entitling you to free replacement genotype tests to enable restocking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation Outcome Form</td>
<td>NSP 45</td>
<td>Independent valuation of culled animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreement with Source Flock Owner</td>
<td>NSP 46</td>
<td>Agreement which sets out the terms and conditions for genotyping procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock/Herd Movement Restriction Notice</td>
<td>NSP 47a</td>
<td>Movement restrictions on animals when scrapie is suspected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock/Herd Movement Restriction Notice</td>
<td>NSP 47b</td>
<td>Withdrawal of movement restrictions on animals when scrapie suspect tests negative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flock/Herd Movement NSP 47c Movement restrictions on animals when scrapie has been confirmed on the holding/in the flock/herd. Only served if an NSP47a has not already been served

Flock/Herd Movement NSP 47d Amendment to the original movement restriction on suspicion or confirmation of scrapie on a holding/in a flock/herd

Legal Notice – Genotyping and Selective Culling Option NSP 48 Legal notice served if this option is appropriate for your flock

Legal Notice – Whole Flock Cull Option NSP 49 Legal notice served if this option is appropriate for your flock

Legal Notice – Goats NSP 50 Legal notice served if scrapie is confirmed in your goat herd

Legal Notice – Derogation: Acceptance NSP 51 Legal notice served if you have been successful in your derogation application

Legal Notice – Derogation: Acceptance – Non-Pregnant Ewes NSP 51a Notice of successful application to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype

Legal Notice – Derogation: Acceptance In Part NSP 52 Legal notice served if you have been partially successful in your derogation application

Legal Notice – Derogation: Acceptance In Part – Non-Pregnant Ewes NSP 52a Notice of partially successful application to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype

Legal Notice – Derogation: Rejection NSP 53 Legal notice served if you have been unsuccessful in your derogation application

Legal Notice – Derogation: Rejection – Non-Pregnant Ewes NSP 53a Notice if you have been unsuccessful in your application to bring on non-pregnant ewes of unknown genotype

Derogation Application Form NSP 55 Details of circumstances under which you can apply for a derogation and Application Form

Appeals: Notes for Guidance NSP 56 Explains procedures for appealing against option notices and derogation decisions

NSP Helpline 0845 601 4858
TSE Testing: Annual Submission and Sampling  NSP 61  Carbon copy form that gives details of animals over 18 months old that are submitted for annual TSE testing

Direct Credit Business Account Details Form  BACS 1 (RMD)  Speeds up compensation payments by allowing payment directly into recipient’s bank account
Useful addresses and contacts

**National Scrapie Plan Administration Centre (NSPAC)**

**Helpline**

Normally available between
08:30 and 17:00 hrs Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Local rate call charges apply. Callers to the Helpline may request the services of a Welsh language speaker.
0845 601 4858

**Address**

NSPAC
SVS
Whittington Road
Worcester WR5 2SU

**NSP web-site**

www.defra.gov.uk/nsp

**E-mail address**

nspac@svs.gsi.gov.uk

**Agriculture and Rural Affairs Departments for Great Britain**

If you have specific policy questions officials within the National Scrapie Plan branches of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Departments for Great Britain can be contacted as follows:

National Scrapie Plan Branch
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)
Area 705
1a Page Street
London SW1P 4PQ
Tel: 020 7904 6315

The National Scrapie Plan Branch
Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)
Pentland House
47 Robb’s Loan
Edinburgh EH14 1TY
Tel: 0131 244 6413
E-mail address: scrapie@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Environment, Planning and Countryside
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ
Tel: 029 2082 5996

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