**Title: Red meat route to market**

**Ref: CF/2018/53**

**Aim:** To assess how different Brexit solutions, including trade with third countries, would affect the British beef and lamb supply chain.

**Background**

The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB), **Hybu Cig Cymru** – Meat Promotion Wales (HCC) and Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) are the statutory levy boards with responsibility for beef and sheep within England, Wales and Scotland respectively. While each board works to target specific challenges and opportunities in building a sustainable and profitable red meat sector in each country, they come together to address pre-competitive challenges facing the whole of GB.

**1 Introduction**

This document is a briefing for researchers interested in assessing the impacts of Brexit on the British beef and lamb supply chain.

International trade plays an important part in the sustainability and development of the British red meat sector.

Exports account for around one-third of British sheepmeat production and around 15% of beef production. Over 95% of this export trade is with the European Union. Any disruption to this trade would have significant knock on effects for the UK red meat supply chain as evidenced by trade restrictions introduced in response to BSE and FMD.

Equally, Britain is a significant importer of beef and sheepmeat. While much of this enters tariff free or under preferential tariff rates, some does not. Consequently, how the UK seeks to manage imports in the future will also affect the red meat supply chain.

Disruption to trade could take many forms ranging from tariffs through site licensing to product authentication and trade access points (collectively known as non-tariff barriers).

This piece of work is intended to provide insight into the possible impact of different Brexit scenarios on British red meat supply chains.

Submissions for the provision of this project should be based on the information contained within this document and sent to AHDB in the format outlined in section 4.

**2 Research Background Aims**

To assess how different Brexit solutions, including trade with third countries, would affect the British beef and lamb supply chain.

Specifically, the work will:

* Identify and better understand the costs of non-tariff barriers to trade with the EU and third countries, and the timeframe to achieve compliance and through that identify the preferred length of any transition period
* Better understand what frictionless trade with the EU looks like for red meat
* Explore the impact of trading with Europe and third countries on the basis of WTO rules
* Explore the impact of trading with Europe on the basis of third country access with tariff rate quotas
* Building on this investigation to then qualitatively assess the impact of these scenarios on the volume and value of product traded and implications for domestic demand, farm gate prices and carcase balance

**3 Service Requirement**

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| **Research Objectives** | To assess how different Brexit solutions, including trade with third countries, would affect the British beef and lamb supply chain. |
| **Requirements** | The proposal must clearly demonstrate that the research objectives listed above will be met.  The methodologies used to achieve the research objectives must clearly be identified **in the** **proposal** with **clear demonstration** of how the approach achieves the objectives.  Deliver a report that will:   * Review current literature on this topic   + Provide understanding of WTO rules * Provide understanding of the costs of non-tariff barriers to trade with the EU and third countries and the timeframes associated with achieving compliance * Identify preferred length of any transition period * Provide understanding of what frictionless trade with the EU looks like for red meat * Highlight the impact of trading with Europe and third countries on the basis of WTO rules * Highlight the impact of trading with Europe on the basis of third country access with tariff rate quotas * Provide quantitative assessment of the impact of different trade scenarios on:   + volume and value of product traded   + implications for domestic demand   + farm gate prices   + carcase balance   The full and comprehensive cost breakdown must be provided.  Any other costs i.e. Travel/ expenses/ subsistence that will be incurred by the projects must be included in the proposal and detailed in the breakdown.  The proposal must also include the following details for each of the projects :   * Name and full contact details of the project manager that would be leading each project. * Examples of similar projects undertaken or published work * CV of project managers assigned to each of the projects - . * Key targets and dates of achievement (timetable). * A total cost per sector * A breakdown of costs for all stages of the project excluding VAT * A breakdown of the number of days and day rates for each stage of the project * Details and experience of any 3rd party agencies that will be used to deliver the research project. Cleary indicating the stage in which they would be involved   Please note - A costing table with a final total cost must be provided for the research project so they can be judged independently.  Agencies must clearly mark their recommended route to achieve objectives and final lump cost in delivering this. Variations in sample options with linked costs can be provided but it is the cost of agencies recommended route that proposals will be evaluated in section 4.  **Timing Requirements:**  See section 5 |
| **Additional Information** | Research bodies are invited to present their views on best methodologies in order to achieve the objectives of the research. |
| **Budget** | Up to £30K |
| **Deliverables** | A written report of final results with detailed narrative and analysis is required by 18 Apr 2019.  If tenderers are unable to meet this deadline, an alternative timeline can be proposed, together with reasons outlining the alternative approach. |

**4 Structure of submissions and evaluation methodology**

Evaluation of the tender will be undertaken in accordance with the following criteria and weightings:

**70% of the evaluation weighting will be based on the quality of the proposal.** This will entail:

* Demonstrate a clear understanding of the brief and research objectives in the proposal. (5%)
* Outline a clear approach and highlight any proposed techniques to be used in the methodology and/or analysis used – clearly showing how they are relevant and link to achieving the research objectives. Demonstrating how a process for quality control will be followed (15%)
* Provision of detailed project plan including a timeline with identification of any risks/key dates. Where possible identifying ability to delivery project ahead of minimum time (10%)
* Relevant experience of allocated project team (40%) Please provide a CV for the project manager and other staff working on the project
* Meeting the 18 Apr 2019 timeline – mandatory

***Please note: a minimum score of 40 out of 60 is required in this section to be appointed by the levy boards on this project.***

**30% of the evaluation weighting will be based on the cost of the proposal.**

* To enable comparability of proposals, provide a full lump sum cost for each stage of the project with a breakdown of costs. Please provide detail of the number of days each member of staff will spend on the project with an associated day rate.

**Proposals should be submitted and received by 11 Feb 2019 by 12 noon.**  Please send your proposals to the following addresses:

[**amey.brassington@ahdb.org.uk**](mailto:amey.brassington@ahdb.org.uk)

**Title for email submission: Understanding the importance of international trade on the sustainability and development of the British red meat sector**

The GB levy boards will review quotations following the closing date, and may consult with interested parties as part of the selection process. The GB levy boards reserve the right to seek clarification of quotations and to decline all quotations should the requirements not be met. The GB levy boards reserve the right to shortlist to support due diligence for final award of contract.

**5 Timetable**

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Brief circulated | 1 Feb 2019 | | Deadline for receipt of responses (12 noon) | 18 Feb 2019 | | Communication of intended award and contract commencement | 25 Feb 2019 | | Initial briefing meeting at AHDB offices | TBC (W/C 11 Mar 2019) | | Final results and face to face results presented by | 18 Apr 2019 | |

Please note that these timescales are approximate and may change.