

## Testing Breakout Group

### Key messages

- Not just about testing
  - Need guidance on how to use the results
- Expectations too high
  - Management tool, not a solution
  - Results not black or white
  - Progress will be slow
- Importance of Farmer – Vet – Advisor relationship
- Misunderstanding of purpose of different testing options
  - 30 cow screen
    - Herd level test
    - Only useful as a status screen or if no evidence of infection
    - Not to be used for management
  - Strategic testing
    - Whole herd, not targeted or 30 cow screen
    - Results used for management
  - Better info on testing options
    - Where to start (establishing status)
    - What is the purpose of the different options
    - Indicative costs
- Need for better understanding of antibody timeline and how that fits with the traffic light system
- Make sure vet also gets all results
- Cost – Benefit of control

### Further suggestions

- Publication of statistics and results
  - Engagement
  - Use of strategies
  - Success stories
- Comms to farmers and vets
  - Short (~5 min) videos eg on antibody timeline
  - Make better use of AHDB as a means to get messages out
  - Farmer online CPD?
  - Farming press
    - Short articles
    - Case studies