

## **African Horse Sickness movement restrictions lifted**

**14 June 2016**

Movement controls within the surveillance zone to contain an outbreak of African Horse Sickness in the Boland have been lifted.

Alan Winde, Minister of Economic Opportunities, today announced that the containment zone had been dissolved.

"A case of African horse sickness (AHS) was detected through clinical surveillance by a private veterinarian in Paarl on 2 April 2016. Samples collected from the colt that became ill and died tested positive for AHS virus, subsequently shown to be serotype 1. A containment zone was established and enforced around this indicator case. It has now been 40 days since the last confirmed case of AHS and the containment zone around Wellington, Paarl and Stellenbosch has been dissolved and movement controls within the AHS Surveillance Zone reverted to normal as from yesterday."

Minister Winde said including the initial case, 21 horses on eight properties within the established containment zone tested positive for infection with AHS virus. There were four deaths in total.

Minister Winde commended the State Vets for their swift response to the outbreak.

"The vets immediately implemented a series of control measures, including a testing campaign and the movement restrictions. It is through their efforts and

the co-operation of the horse owners that we were able to contain this outbreak.”

Vaccination within the surveillance and free zones may now commence but is only allowed from **13 June until 31 October 2016** and also only with permission from a state veterinarian.

Details of the AHS Movement Control Policy and a map of the AHS control zones can be found at [www.elsenburg.com/vetepi](http://www.elsenburg.com/vetepi).

ENDS

For media queries, kindly contact:

**Bronwynne Jooste**

Spokesperson: Alan Winde, Minister of Economic Opportunities  
Responsible for Tourism, Economic Development and Agriculture  
Western Cape Government

142 Long Street, Cape Town

**Tel:** 021 483 3550

**Cell:** 060 970 4301

**Email:** [bronwynne.jooste@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:bronwynne.jooste@westerncape.gov.za)

**Website:** [www.westerncape.gov.za](http://www.westerncape.gov.za)

**Twitter:** bronwynnejooste