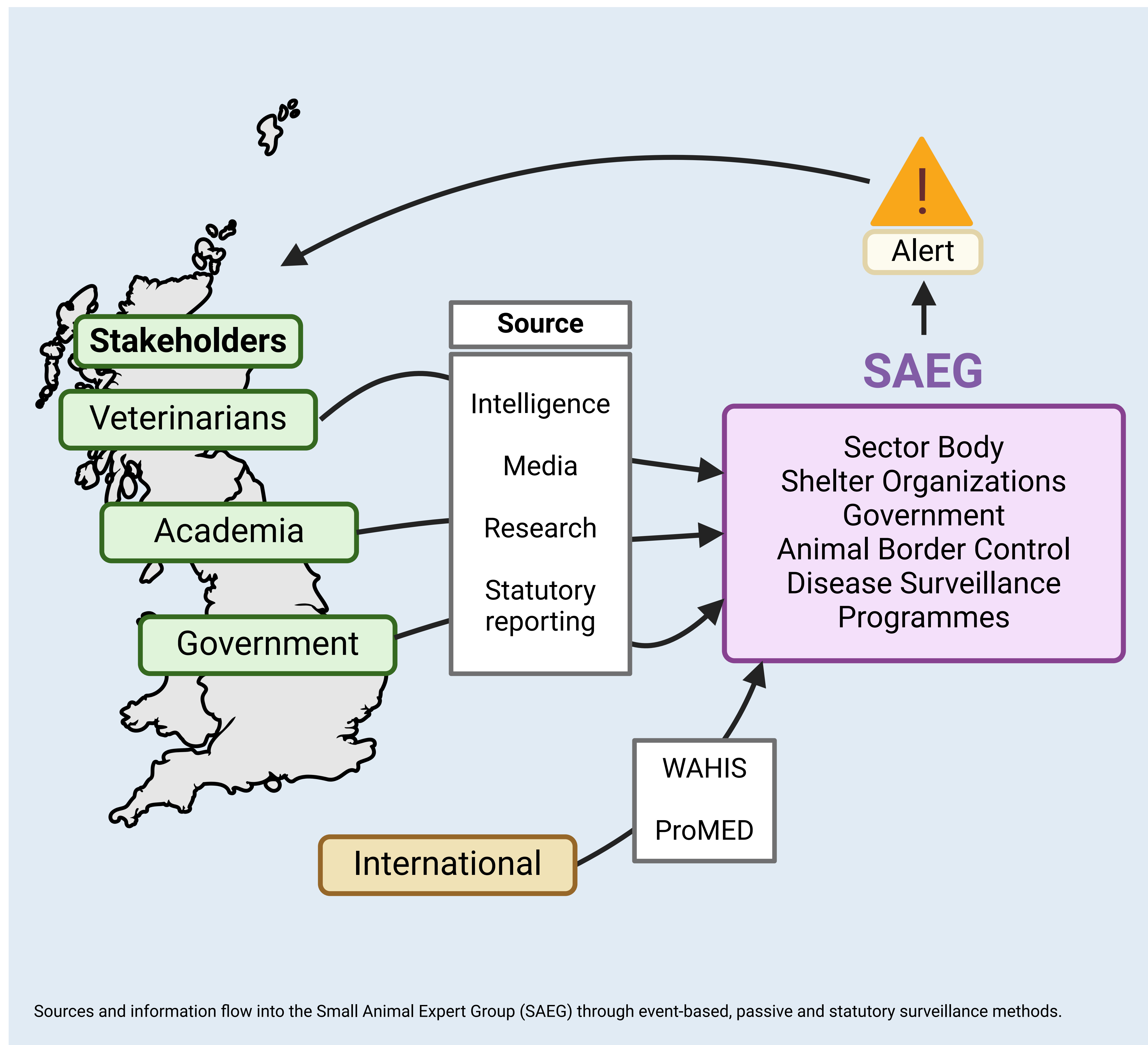


## INTRODUCTION

Animal disease surveillance is a critical component in protecting animal health and welfare, facilitating international trade, and enhancing public health through identification of zoonotic threats. The Animal and Plant Health Agency's **Small Animal Expert Group (SAEG)** provides a **formal coordination mechanism** for the **early detection of new and re-emerging threats in small animals**.

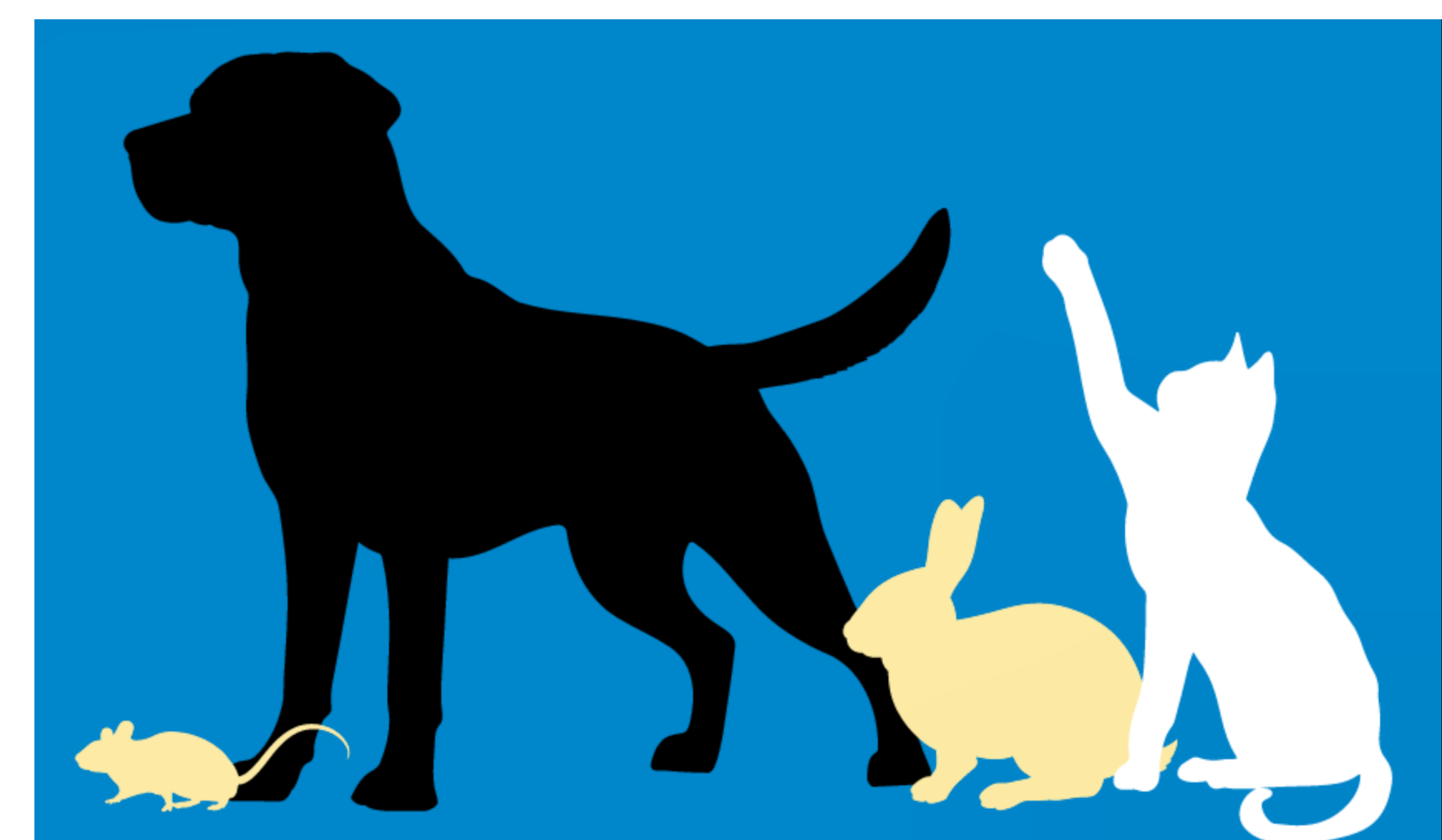
## OBJECTIVES

1. Detection, investigation and characterization of new and re-emerging small animal related threats in Great Britain
2. Provide species-based expertise within and outside of Government
3. Develop veterinary scanning (passive) surveillance and knowledge exchange networks



## METHODOLOGY

- Event-based and passive surveillance
- Expert opinion
- Rapid risk assessment
- Sector engagement



## COMMUNICATIONS

### SAEG Annual Summary

Annual summary on surveillance and emerging threats.



### Small Animal Risks and Threats (SmART)

Timely provision of evidence-based insights and intelligence.



## FUTURE PLANS

Continue to build an intelligence network in Great Britain and internationally.  
Empower small animal veterinary professionals and encourage population thinking.  
Draw upon existing electronic health record infrastructure and disease surveillance programmes.

## References

1. Balajee SA, Salyer SJ, Greene-Cramer B, Sadek M, Mounts AW. The practice of event-based surveillance: concept and methods. Global Security: Health, Science and Policy. 2021;6(1):1-9.
2. Bruno-McClung E. Surveillance in small animals. BSAVA Companion. 2023;2023(4):18-9.