



The Animal Welfare Body - a catalyst for progress

A meeting convened by EFPIA and the RSPCA, with input from FELASA and EFAT

Friday, 18 June 2021: 13.00 - 17.00 CEST

Background

The European Commission [Review of Directive 2010/63](#), published in 2017, reported significant benefits of the Animal Welfare Body (AWB), with examples in many Member States of animal welfare improvements, including refinement of procedures, and better experimental design. However, some issues were identified, and the Review recommended that:

- Establishments and Member States (through inspection) should ensure that **all core tasks** of the AWB are being fulfilled.
- Member States should **clarify roles and responsibilities** of the AWB and project evaluation, in particular where there may be some integration or overlap with following the development of projects, including application of the Three Rs and project evaluation process.
- Senior management of the establishment should ensure that the AWB has **sufficient resources and empowerment** to carry out the required tasks.
- Establishments could consider the addition of a **Designated Veterinarian** as a full member of the AWB [*the Review also mentioned that **external (sometimes lay) input** is also regarded as beneficial*].

Besides the issues of adequate authority and resources for the AWB, respondents were concerned about **training for AWB members** relating to their specific tasks, including understanding of the species involved and the requirements of the scientific research; skills on experimental design were also considered very helpful. In addition, responses were mixed regarding the AWB's impact on the **quality of science**, e.g. through contributing into project proposals and monitoring outcomes.

Draft Agenda

This webinar aims to: help advance and harmonise current good practice among Animal Welfare Bodies (AWBs); identify ways of addressing the outstanding issues that are preventing some AWBs from effectively delivering their core and wider tasks; to enable participants to network and share experiences and good practice; and to achieve greater openness regarding how AWBs operate and the Directive is implemented.

The webinar is open to interested participants who are involved in the activities and functioning of the AWB, we specifically welcome active AWB members to participate and engage in the discussions.

13.00	Introduction and aims - <i>Penny Hawkins (RSPCA) and Kirsty Reid (EFPIA)</i>
AWB tasks and the Culture of Care (chaired by Samuel Vidal, FELASA)	
13.05	EFPIA's vision of the Culture of Care; leaflet launch - <i>Sally Robinson (EFPIA/AstraZeneca)</i>
13.15	Benefits of AWB networks - <i>Piet Dierckx (on behalf of the Belgian AWB network)</i>
13.25	Review of the core tasks - five minute 'lightning' talk on each of the five tasks* (1. Viola Galligioni, 2. Ngaire Dennison, 3. Thomas Bertelsen, 4. Alan White, 5. Monique Janssens)
13.50	Plenary discussion - how are AWBs delivering on the five tasks*? <i>Chair: FELASA</i>
14.15	Break
Challenges and solutions to achieving an effective AWB (chaired by Penny Hawkins, RSPCA)	
14.25	Presentation on the outcome of a survey into challenges faced by the AWB - <i>Linda Horan/Glyn Fisher, EFAT</i>
14.35	Discussion in four to five breakout groups - how to address these issues? <i>Facilitators/rapporteurs: Sally Robinson, Thierry Decelle, Piet Dierckx, Thomas Bertelsen</i>
15.05	Feedback - <i>Chair: Penny Hawkins (RSPCA)</i>
15.35	Break
Induction and training for AWB members (chaired by Kirsty Reid, EFPIA)	
15.45	Presentation on the LASA/RSPCA guidance on induction for AWERB members - <i>Penny Hawkins (RSPCA)</i>
16.00	Panel discussion - what would a core syllabus for training AWB members look like? What kinds of training materials and practices are available?
16.45	Wrap up and take-home messages - <i>Penny Hawkins (RSPCA) and Kirsty Reid (EFPIA)</i>
17.00	Close

***The five key AWB tasks:**

1. Advise the staff dealing with animals on matters related to the welfare of animals, in relation to their acquisition, accommodation, care and use;
2. Advise the staff on the application of the requirement of the 3Rs, and keep them informed of technical and scientific developments concerning the application of those requirements;
3. Establish and review internal operational processes as regards monitoring, reporting and follow-up in relation to the welfare of animals housed or used in the Establishment;
4. Follow the development and outcome of projects, taking into account the effect on the animals used, and identify and advise as regards elements that further contribute to the 3Rs; and
5. Advise on rehoming schemes, including the appropriate socialisation of the animals to be rehomed.

Information on how to register

If you are interested in participating please send an email to Tatiana.kirpitchenok@efpia.eu and include:

Subject matter of email: RSPCA/EFPIA AWB webinar

Your Name:

Contact email:

Establishment:

Job Title:

Please indicate if you sit on an animal welfare body

In collaboration with:

