The Annual Report 2016
of the
Veterinary Products Committee
The Veterinary Products Committee

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Introduction by the Chairman
There were no substantial changes to the way the committee worked in 2016 and it continued to provide independent advice to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate when required as described in this report.

I am most grateful to all the members of the VPC for their continued commitment and for the support they have given to me. I would also like to express my thanks to officials at the VMD for their advice and, in particular, to the members of the Committee and Office Support Team for their support and assistance.

Our website material can be found on GOV.UK site (www.gov.uk/) and is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterinary-products-committee. The information is also available on the national archives website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/.

Professor Bill Reilly, Chair, Veterinary Products Committee

Overview of the Veterinary Products Committee (VPC)
Who we are
The VPC is an independent scientific advisory committee, established in 1970 by an Order made under section 4 of the Medicines Act 1968. Although the Order was revoked by the Veterinary Medicines Regulations (VMR) 2005, the regulations specified that there should continue to be a VPC.

The VMR are revoked and replaced regularly. The current regulations are the VMR SI 2013 No 2033 which are available on the GOV.UK website.

In 2010 there was a Government's Arms' Length Body review and again in 2013 Defra conducted the first triennial review of the Committee; both reviews concluded that there was a continuing need for the Committee.

What we do
The Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) consults us when it requires advice on specific scientific issues relating to marketing authorisations (MAs), exceptional MAs, or animal test certificates (ATCs). In the light of this advice, the VMD decides whether to grant or refuse an MA or an ATC, grant one that is different from that which was applied for, vary it other than on the application of the holder, suspend or revoke it, or refuse to grant a variation applied for by the holder. Further information on the work of the VMD and the authorisation process is available on the GOV.UK website.

We consider reports of suspected adverse events relating to veterinary medicines and provide advice to the VMD.

We also consider appeals when the VMD intends to suspend an MA on the grounds of safety, quality or efficacy, or to refuse to grant an MA or ATC, grant one that is different from that which was applied for, vary it other than on the application of the holder, refuse to grant a variation applied for by the holder, or revoke it.
Our terms of reference are available at Annex 1

**Membership**
A full list of our members, including biographical details is available at Annex 2.

Members of the VPC are usually appointed for a period of four years under procedures laid down by the office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Their guidance allows members who have served one term to be re-appointed subject to, among other things, satisfactory performance and ministerial agreement.

Exercises to appoint members are held every two years and the specialisms to be recruited are advertised on the Cabinet Office, Public Appointments website. The latest round of appointments was completed at the end of 2015 and the new members commenced their Terms of Office on 1 January 2016. The next round of appointments will take place in 2017.

**Access to information**
The Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires all Non-Departmental Government Bodies to have an approved publication scheme in place. Ours is available, free of charge on the GOV.UK website.

We received five Freedom of Information request in 2016, concerning:
- if the Veterinary Products Committee (VPC) paid for media licenses in 2013-2014
- the second request for information about the VPC relating to any breaches of the Data Protection Act
- If the VPC owned any art
- A breakdown of payments made by the VPC to the Confederation of British Industry and its subsidiaries
- information about the VPC current contracts with third party suppliers

The VMD’s reply being:
The VPC did not pay for licences. The VPC has not had any breaches of the Data Protection Act. The VPC does not own any art. The VPC does not make any payment to the Confederation of British Industry and its subsidiaries. The VPC does not have any contracts with third party suppliers.

All VPC reports and summary minutes held since 2009, and all papers not considered commercially sensitive are available on the national archives website at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/) and free of charge from the VMD. Copies of summary minutes of earlier VPC meetings are available from the VMD.

**Meetings**
We held regular meetings in February, May and September and summary minutes of all our meetings are available on GOV.UK. The VPC Open meeting was cancelled in 2016.
Summary of topics considered

Applications considered

In February the Committee considered and gave advice to the VMD for an application to vary an authorised product to change the legal category. In May we considered and advised on a vaccine intended for use in dogs. The vaccine is applied transdermally to dogs, using a recommended transdermal, needle-free, medical device. In September, we were asked for further advice on the variation considered in February. We also considered a written appeal relating to the VMD’s intention to refuse an application for a homeopathic product. We gave our advice to the VMD following a consideration of the data presented.

Further information on the applications we have considered is available in the summary minutes of our meetings, available on GOV.UK.

Evaluation of the VMD's assessments of applications for Marketing Authorisations

Each year, as part of the VMD’s published standards, we carry out an evaluation of the VMD’s assessment of new applications for marketing authorisations made under the national and European procedures. We consider the initial assessment reports which reflect the VMD’s assessment rather than the final assessment reports and, if necessary, we are able to examine particular studies in the supporting data.

Our evaluation role is to provide a measure of the quality of the science based decisions reached by the VMD’s assessors. Our assessment does not provide information on either the readability or presentation of assessment reports which are assessed internally.

In January we discussed five products we had previously selected at our meeting in October 2015. We concluded that the VMD assessments for each product should, overall, be rated as performance level 1, i.e. that the assessors had identified all potentially serious risks to human and animal health or for the environment and put together a comprehensive list of relevant questions for the applicant which were clearly expressed and justified/explained.

Our evaluation was included in the overall performance assessment of the VMD, published in the VMD’s Annual Report and Accounts 2015/2016.

At our September 2016 meeting we again selected five products and agreed to provide the VMD with our individual assessments before the end of the year and to discuss them at our first meeting in 2017. Our evaluation will be included in the overall performance assessment of the VMD to be published in its Annual Report and Accounts 2016/2017.
Pharmacovigilance
We continued to monitor veterinary pharmacovigilance activities through the reports compiled by the VMD's Pharmacovigilance Unit of:

- adverse events reports in animals involving veterinary medicines submitted to the VMD (including all reports provisionally classified as serious and those non-serious reports submitted directly to the VMD)

- adverse events reports in humans (defined as a reaction which is noxious and unintended and which occurs in a human being following exposure to a veterinary medicine), and

- environmental incidents associated with the use or administration of authorised veterinary medicines.

Ahead of each VPC meeting, the VMD’s multidisciplinary Alert Group discusses the Pharmacovigilance Unit’s findings from the period under review. All scientific assessment teams are represented in the group to ensure that all relevant aspects of the products being discussed and how they are used are taken into account.

During 2016 the VMD presented the Alert Group’s conclusions following signal detection analysis of the 5,682 animal reports received from 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016. Details were also presented of the 170 human reports and 4 environmental incidents received during this period. Adverse events reports received from August to November 2016 will be considered at our meeting in January 2017.

Further information on the reports considered is available in the minutes of our meetings, available on GOV.UK.

Further information on pharmacovigilance is available on GOV.UK.

Each year, the VMD publishes, in the Vet Record, a report of the suspected adverse events it has received. The most recent report, for 2014, has now been published on GOV.UK and will be publicised in the Vet Record and various animal owner publications.

To access the review search GOV.UK for “vmd review 2014”.

**Triennial review of the VPC**
The next triennial review will take place in 2017.

**The UK Veterinary Antibiotic Resistance and Sales Surveillance Report**
We considered and commented upon the VMD’s UK Veterinary Antibiotic Resistance and Sales Surveillance (UK-VARSS) Report.

The draft report was submitted to Ministers for approval, the Committee were given the opportunity to forward additional comments before the final report, which is now available on GOV.UK, and was approved for publication.
Costs
As an independent scientific non-departmental public body we do not have our own resources, but are funded jointly by Defra and fees paid by the pharmaceutical industry to the VMD.

For each meeting we attend, we are entitled to claim a preparation fee of £76 and an attendance fee of £148 (the Chairman’s fees are £94 and £185 respectively). Travel and subsistence is also payable within the Defra guidelines.

The cost of the VPC in 2016 was £30,594.

A summary of the 2015 and 2016 costs is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regular Meetings held</th>
<th>Travel &amp; subsistence</th>
<th>Preparation &amp; attendance</th>
<th>Other costs</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>17,084</td>
<td>14,048</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15,794</td>
<td>17,084</td>
<td>14,048</td>
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Transparency
To avoid any public concern that commercial interests might affect our advice, the arrangements which govern relationships between members and the pharmaceutical industry and information on significant and relevant interests are on public record at the request of ministers. The circumstances in which we should declare an interest in the pharmaceutical industry are provided in the Code of Practice for Members of the VPC and its Sub-Committees. The Code, and a summary of our interests for 2016, is available at Annex 3.

Contacts
Administrative support
The VMD provides administrative support to the VPC.
Contact details are:

Committee and Office Support Team, VMD, Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3LS
tel: 01932 336911
email: vpc@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk

or

Lea Stott (VPC Secretary)
Direct line: 01932 338490
email: l.stott@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk
Reporting a suspected adverse event involving a veterinary medicinal product
If you would like to report a suspected adverse event involving a veterinary medicinal product, an interactive adverse event reporting form for completion and submission online is available on GOV.UK. Adverse event and environmental report forms can be downloaded from the same website. If you want further information please contact:

Pharmacovigilance Unit, VMD, Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3LS
- tel: 01932 336911
- email: postmaster@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk
- fax: 01932 336618

or

Roy Savory
- Direct line: 01932 338427
- email: r.savory@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk
Terms of Reference

Our terms of reference are to:

(i) provide the Secretary of State with scientific\(^2\) advice on any aspect of veterinary medicinal products and specified feed additives;

(ii) hear representations on decisions relating to the granting, refusal, variation, suspension or revocation of a marketing authorisation for a veterinary medicinal product or an animal test certificate;

(iii) promote the collection of information relating to suspected adverse reactions for the purpose of enabling the advice at i) above to be given.

Each year the Veterinary Products Committee will publish a report of its activities and those of its sub-committees.

\(^2\)Scientific advice means all aspects, including risk/benefit analysis, of the safety, quality and efficacy of a veterinary medicinal product apart from regulatory issues.
ANNEX 2

Membership and biographical details

Professor Bill Reilly BSc (Hons), BVMS, DVSM, Hon FRCVS
Chairman
Bill Reilly qualified from Glasgow Veterinary School in 1970. He spent five years in farm animal veterinary practice before joining the State Veterinary Service. He was appointed as Consultant in Veterinary Public Health at the Scottish Centre for Infection and Environmental Health in 1989. He was subsequently appointed Assistant Director and then Deputy Director. He has been a visiting Professor at the University of Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine since 1998. Professor Reilly was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2002 and received the Chiron Award of The British Veterinary Association in 2006. He was recognised as an RCVS Specialist in Veterinary Public Health in 1992 and a Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Public Health in 2001. He was elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine in 2001. He joined the Board of the Food Standards Agency in 2006 having previously been Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food. Professor Reilly has been a member of many veterinary committees and he served as President of the British Veterinary Association in 2009-2010. He is currently on the Board of the British Veterinary Association and on the Preliminary Investigation Committee of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Professor Reilly has declared no political activity.

Mrs Nicola Ackerman BSc (Hons), RVN, Cert SAN A1, MBVNA
Specialism: Veterinary Nursing
Mrs Ackerman works at The Veterinary Hospital Group Ltd as the Senior Medical Nurse, and as one of the emergency night nurses since 2005, and has worked in the veterinary industry since 1994. Mrs Ackerman graduated from Hartpury College in 1999 with an Honours degree in Equine Science, specialising in animal nutrition, qualified as a VN in 2002 and has subsequently gained a post-graduation certificate in small and exotic animal nutrition. Her interests are in medical nursing, nutrition and emergency care; and she runs the nurse’s clinic team. She is also the head clinical coach in practice and has gained her V1 award. Mrs Ackerman is part of the Pet Obesity Taskforce, and has written a book on animal nutrition for veterinary nurses and technicians, and consulting veterinary nurses. Mrs Ackerman holds the C-SQP qualification. Mrs Ackerman has declared no political interests.

Mr Rory Bell MVB, DSAM, DECVIM-CA, MRCVS, FHEA
Specialism: Veterinary surgeon (small animals)
Mr Rory Bell is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Glasgow School of veterinary Medicine and was appointed Head of the small animal internal medicine service at the University of Glasgow Small Animal Hospital in 2009. He is also Chairperson of the Education Committee of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Mr Bell has declared no political activities.
Professor Malcolm Bennett BVSc, PhD, MRCVS, FRCPath, FHEA
Specialism: Virology
Professor Bennett qualified as a veterinary surgeon from the University of Liverpool in 1983. He was appointed Professor of Veterinary Pathology at the University of Liverpool in 2001. His research interests and expertise include infectious diseases, especially zoonoses and infections of companion animals and wildlife. Professor Bennett has declared no political activities.

Dr Tanya Bleiker BMedSci (Hons), BM BS (Hons), FRCP
Specialism: Dermatology
Dr Tanya Bleiker graduated with honours from Nottingham University Medical School in 1992. Having completed her dermatology training in Leicester she was appointed as a consultant Dermatologist in Derby in February 2001. In 2004 she became a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. She is a full time general Dermatologist with special interests in paediatric dermatology and cutaneous allergy, and is actively involved in under-graduate and post-graduate teaching, training and supervision. From 2010-13 she has been the Editor-in-chief of one of the top dermatology journals, the British Journal of Dermatology. In 2012 she became one of five editors of the international ‘Rook’s Textbook of Dermatology’. She has been an officer and an executive of the British Association of Dermatologists since 2010. Dr Bleiker has declared no political interests.

Professor Clare Bryant BSc (Hons), PhD, BVetM, CertVA, DiplECVPT
Specialism: Pharmacology
Professor Bryant was appointed as a lecturer to the Department of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Cambridge, in 2004. Professor Bryant teaches Clinical Pharmacology to veterinary students and basic pharmacology to veterinary, medical and basic science undergraduates at the University of Cambridge. Her research interests are primarily focussed on elucidating the fundamental mechanisms of, and identifying novel therapeutic agents for, inflammatory and infectious diseases of animals and people. Professor Bryant has declared no political activities.

Professor Francis Burke MBBS, FRCS
Specialism: Hand Surgery
Professor Burke qualified in Newcastle in 1967. He was appointed a Consultant in hand surgery in Derby in July 1978 and visiting professor of hand surgery to the University of Derby in July 1996. His research interests have included high-pressure injection injuries arising in industry and from animal inoculation. Professor Burke has also been responsible for the care of infections of the hand arising from penetrating injuries and when causation has been occupational. In addition he is involved in medico-legal practice, assessing disability arising from injuries at work and causes where medical negligence is considered to have occurred in matters related to traumatic and elective hand surgery. Professor Burke has declared no political interests.

Dr Karin Burnett
Specialism: Toxicology
Karin Burnett graduated from the University of Surrey with a BSc in Biochemistry (Toxicology) in 1986. She worked for six years in the human pharmaceutical industry as a genetic toxicologist, and attained her Diploma from the Institute of Biology in
Toxicology (DIBT) in 1992. She then went on to study for a PhD at the University of Birmingham, investigating mechanisms of non-genotoxic carcinogenesis in the liver, which she completed in 1996. Since then she has gained varied and extensive experience in broad based toxicology and chemical risk assessment in the human pharmaceutical industry as a project toxicologist and as a consultant to companies developing and producing veterinary medicines. She has written successful submissions to veterinary and pharmaceutical regulatory agencies including user and consumer safety assessments. She currently works in the (Public Health England) PHE Toxicology Unit at Imperial College, London. The role involves compiling reports for the UK Department of Health Committees on Carcinogenicity and Mutagenicity on a wide variety of subjects including the evaluation of new methodologies and technologies in toxicological risk assessment, guidance development and the review of epidemiological evidence with the aim of improving human chemical risk assessments.

**Professor David Cavanagh, BSc, PhD, DSc**
Specialism: Molecular Biology/Genetics
Since graduating with a degree in microbiology in 1972, Professor Cavanagh has specialised in virology, having done research on foot-and-mouth disease virus, influenza virus, infectious bronchitis virus, astroviruses, avian encephalomyelitis virus, and avian metapneumovirus. Since 1979 he was at the Pirbright Institute (formerly the Institute for Animal Health), firstly at the Houghton Poultry Research Station\Houghton Laboratory, then at Compton Laboratory, specialising in poultry viruses. He retired from the Institute at the end of 2014. Professor Cavanagh’s areas of research were novel vaccine development, based on genetic modification of the genomes of viruses, and epidemiology, based on gene sequencing and molecular detection techniques. He was Editor-in-Chief of the journal Avian Pathology from 1997 to 2009 and is now Assistant Editor-in-Chief, and is a Visiting Professor at the University of Liverpool. He acts as an independent expert on research grant assessment committees for the EC, and is a Trustee of the Houghton Trust. Professor Cavanagh has no declared political activities.

**Mrs Margaret Chambers BSc, MSc, PGCE**
Specialism: Lay Member
Mrs Chambers joined the Physiology Department at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh after graduating from Exeter University in 1966 (BSc Hons Zoology), and was awarded a Master of Science degree in 1969 for her work on cutaneous mechanoreceptors in the cat. After raising a family in rural Somerset, Mrs Chambers entered the teaching profession in 1985 and taught science in secondary schools from 1985 to 2008 having trained at Bristol University. As a Community Scientist she works with the Women's Institute, church groups and non-affiliated village groups and has designed and delivered programmes as diverse as ‘Science for Mums’ 1991-1993, Somerton Science Festival 1995-2001 and ‘Energy Education for All’ 2000-2004. Mrs Chambers has served as a school governor for twenty three years and is a member of the Annual Fund Disbursement Panel at Exeter University.

**Professor Chris Collins BSc, PhD**
Specialism: Food Safety/Risk Assessment
Professor Collins is a Reader in Soil Science at the University of Reading. He has over 15 years experience of the fate and transport of pollutants in the soil-plant
system and he has published over 40 refereed papers in this research area. Recent research has focused on investigating the interaction of organic pollutants with soils, e.g. the behaviour of sheep dips to recommend the best approach for their disposal undertaken for the Environment Agency. Professor Collins and colleagues also produced a framework for the risk assessment of chemicals so that the large number of models available could be used in a structured way across government for the Intergovernmental Group on the Risk to Health from Chemicals. He is a member of the BioAccessibility Research Group Europe, a network addressing directly the measurement of pollutant bioaccessibility and leads the NERC sponsored Soil Health Environment Network. Professor Collins has declared no political activities.

**Ms Sally Harmer**  
Specialism: Large Animal SQP  
First appointed: Jan 2014  
Current term ends: Dec 2017  
Ms Harmer works as the Animal Health Manager for Clynderwen and Cardiganshire Farmers (CCF Ltd) based in Pembrokeshire, Wales. Coming from a beef and sheep farming background Ms Harmer has worked in the manufacturing side of the Animal Health industry for nearly 20 years before switching to the retail side in 2010. As well as managing the Animal Health business side for the Co Op she spends a lot of time working with all types of farmer customers both on farm and in store. Training staff at all levels also is a key part of her role. In addition to her day to day role Ms Harmer sits on the Animal Health Group of United Farmers and is also a Welsh regional advisor for the Moredun Institute. Ms Harmer has declared no political activities.

**Dr Elizabeth Kubiak BSc, MB BS, MRCPath, LLM**  
Specialism: Medical/clinical microbiology  
Dr Elizabeth Kubiak is Consultant Microbiologist and Infection Control Doctor (joint) in the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, South Wales.

After qualifying in Medicine from the University of London in 1984, Dr Kubiak trained in Medical Microbiology and Virology in Bristol, London and the West Midlands, before moving to Wales in 1994 to take up her current post. Dr Kubiak is an honorary Clinical Teacher to the Academic Department of Medical Microbiology in the University of Wales College of Medicine, and Educational Supervisor to the Specialist Microbiology Registrars on their rotation to Newport. She has examined for the Royal College of Pathologists, sat as a member of the Welsh Council of the College from 2005 to 2008, and is currently the Royal College regional reviewer of Consultant Medical Microbiologist Job Descriptions for Wales.

Among her special interests she includes diagnosis and treatment of infections in Intensive Care patients, paediatric infections, serious eye infections, mycobacterial infections, and antimicrobial resistance and control. From 2003, Dr Kubiak studied part-time at Cardiff University for a Masters degree in Legal and Ethical Aspects of Medical Practice, which was awarded in 2006.

Dr Kubiak currently serves on the Research Risk Review Committee and the Antimicrobial Working Group of the Aneurin Bevan Health Board. She is a member of the Microbiology Standing Specialist Advisory Group (MSSAG) to the Welsh
Government and is the MSSAG representative to the Disinfection, Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-associated Infection (DARHAI) committee.

Dr Kubiak has a small flock of rare-breed poultry (Pekin bantams) for domestic egg production and two dogs, who are family pets. Dr Kubiak has declared no political interests.

Mr Mark Jelley BSc (Hons), PG Cert (Distinction) Sustainable and Efficient Food Production
Specialism: Working farmer
Mark Jelley graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Agriculture from Harper Adams University College in 2002 and holds a postgraduate certificate with distinction in Sustainable and Efficient Food Production. Shortly after his studies he returned to work on the family farm in Long Buckby, Northamptonshire. The farm ran a 250 head sheep flock along with 75 suckler cows and a beef finishing enterprise, as well as 250 acres of arable cropping. Changes in structure on the farm have since resulted in an end to the sheep enterprise and an increase in the beef herd to its current 98 head of suckler cows. The finishing unit has also grown to accommodate the increase in calves being born on farm. Mark has worked extensively with Eblex (now AHDB Beef & Lamb) hosting meetings on farm and featuring in best practice publications and also joined the first Progressive Beef Group formed by Eblex in 2011. In 2014 Mark was invited to join the steering group of COWS (Control of Worms Sustainably) and currently sits as a farmer member. In 2015 Mark graduated from Aberystwyth University with a Post Graduate Certificate (Distinction) in Sustainable and Efficient Food Production before joining the Veterinary Products Committee as a Working Farmer in 2016.

Mr Stephen Lister BSc, BVetMed, CertPMP, DiplECPVS, MRCVS
Practising Veterinary Surgeon, Attleborough, Norfolk Specialism: Poultry medicine Specialism: Veterinary Surgeon (Poultry)
First appointed: Jan 2014
Current term ends: Dec 2017
Stephen Lister is a practising veterinary surgeon specialising in poultry medicine and production, involving a wide spectrum of avian species, including turkeys, chickens, ducks, geese and game birds. He is a Diplomat of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Science and Senior Vice President of the Poultry Veterinary Study Group of the EU. Mr Lister has declared no political activities.

Professor Jacqui Matthews BVMS, PhD, MRCVS
Specialism: Parasitology
Professor Matthews is Chair of Veterinary Immunobiology at the University of Edinburgh and Moredun Research Institute. Her area of research is veterinary parasitology, specifically the development of vaccines against ruminant nematodes and the development of tools to detect anthelmintic resistance in nematodes of horses, cattle and sheep. She is a member of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) Committee for improved recommendations on the detection of anthelmintic resistance in horses. Professor Matthews has declared no political activities.
Mr Robert Morris BSc, MRPharmS, MBA, Dip AgVet Pharm, Dip Marketing
Specialism: Pharmacy
Mr Morris is a locum pharmacist based in Warwickshire having sold his community pharmacy company in 2015. Prior to this he spent over twenty years in the veterinary pharmaceuticals industry in marketing and business roles for Hoechst UK and Intervet UK. Having worked for two multinational organisations he has wide experience of products used in ruminants, companion animals, poultry and pigs. Mr Morris is past chairman of Northants Local Pharmaceutical Committee. He retains a very keen interest in the veterinary industry with his work for AMTRA, as a student assessor, and with his role on the Veterinary Pharmacy Group of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Mr Morris has declared no political activities.

Mr Declan O’Rourke MVB DipM MBA FRCVS
Specialism: Risk Analysis
Mr O’Rourke is a veterinary surgeon and works as an independent consultant in pharmacovigilance and livestock medicine. Following a couple of years in practice, in England and Canada, he joined the Milk Marketing Board. Subsequently, he worked in the animal health industry where he held technical, marketing, product development, clinical development, production and pharmacovigilance roles. Mr O’Rourke was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (FRCVS) in 1990, he is a Council member of the British Cattle Veterinary Association and a Director of the British Veterinary Association. Mr O’Rourke has declared no political activities.

Professor Andrew Peters BVetMed, BA, DVetMed, PhD, DSc, FRCVS, FIBiol, Dip ECAR
Specialism: Veterinary Immunology
Professor Peters graduated from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) London in 1972 and completed a PhD in animal physiology at the University of Nottingham in 1978. He has spent periods in general practice, academic research and the Meat & Livestock Commission. Between 1993 and 1998 he was Professor of Animal Health and Production at the RVC. He has spent two periods in the animal health industry as Regulatory Manager in Hoechst UK between 1989 and 1993 and as Head of European Vaccine Development in Pfizer Animal Health between 1998 and 2005, including a three-year period in the USA. He has published approximately 160 papers in animal reproduction, production animal science and vaccine studies. He is co-author of the textbook Reproduction in Cattle and editor of the reference text Vaccines for Veterinary Applications. He is Director of the consulting company Arpexas Ltd, specialising in vaccine development and knowledge transfer services. He is currently Assistant Principal International at Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC), Edinburgh and has been a special professor at the University of Nottingham since 2001. He is a member of the Defra Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE). Professor Peters has declared no political activities.

Professor Colin Robertson BA (Hons), MBChB, MRCP (UK), FRCSEd, FRCPGlas
Specialism: Accident and Emergency Medicine and Surgery
Colin Robertson was appointed as consultant at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh in 1986, and as Professor of Accident and Emergency Medicine and Surgery at the University of Edinburgh in 2003. He has been Adjunct Professor at the National University of Malaysia from 2010-2015. His major clinical and research interests are
in cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, major trauma and pre-hospital care. He is a former Chair of the Resuscitation Council (UK), and ILCOR, and is the editor of The Cambridge Textbook of Accident and Emergency Medicine, the Oxford Handbook of Emergency Medicine and Macleod’s Clinical Examination. Professor Robertson has declared no political interests.

Mr Peter Scott MSc, BVSc, FRCVS
Specialism: Veterinary Surgeon (fish)
Mr Peter Scott is a practising veterinary surgeon working with a large proportion of the English and Welsh Aquaculture sector and is a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Recognised Specialist in Fish Health and Production. He obtained his MSc in Aquatic Veterinary Studies from Stirling University in 1978. He is currently President of the Fish Veterinary Society. His other major interest is in zoos, aquaria and exotic pets; he is a DEFRA Zoo Inspector and led the review of the Zoo Licensing Act and zoo standards in 2000.

Mr Scott has interests in animal welfare and has served on the Companion Animal Welfare Council since it was created, was a member of the England Implementation Group and established the Companion Animal Sector Council. He has worked with animals in film and television and was a founder of PAWSI to establish training for trainers and establish animal welfare standards in the industry. He was awarded his FRCVS in 1997. Mr Scott established his own company developing and supplying a range of products including nutritional supplements, probiotics and Small Animal Exemption Scheme products in 1988, and he works closely with parts of the pet industry. Mr Scott has declared no political activities.

Mr John Sherington MSc, BSc, CStat
Specialism: Statistics
Mr Sherington is a Chartered Statistician who received an MSc in Biometry from the University of Reading in 1974. After more than 10 years working as an applied statistician for the Agricultural Institute in Dublin, he spent many years working in livestock and agricultural research in developing countries, including the International Livestock Centre for Africa in Ethiopia. He joined Pfizer Veterinary Medicine R&D in 1997 where he led the EU Biometrics Unit, working on statistical aspects of clinical trials and other studies for veterinary pharmaceuticals and vaccines. More recently he has worked supporting discovery and pre-clinical safety pharmacology and toxicology research. He has been a statistical reviewer for the Journal of Small Animal Practice and been a member of the Toxicology Special Interest Group of PSI (Statisticians in the Pharmaceutical Industry). Mr Sherington has declared no political activities.

Mr Jonathan Statham
Specialism: Veterinary surgeon (large animal)
Jonathan M E Statham graduated from Cambridge University Veterinary School in 1996. He is a cattle vet & partner in Bishopton Veterinary Group, a 27 vet practice in Ripon, North Yorkshire (a member of XL Vets) and is director and Chief Executive of RAFT solutions Ltd (an innovative veterinary research, advanced breeding, consultancy and knowledge exchange company). He is Past-President of the British Cattle Veterinary Association (BCVA) and has sat on the GB ‘Cattle Health & Welfare Group’ (CHAWG), the Veterinary Policy Group (VPG) of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) served on the Veterinary Residues Committee of the
Veterinary Medicines Directorate and is a past director of Cattle Health Certification Standards (CHeCS). He is the external examiner for the University of Liverpool, member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Advanced Practitioner Panel, a member of the Nottingham Dairy Herd Health Group & the ‘Farmskills’ steering group. He currently sits on the steering group for the national AgriTech ‘Centre for Innovation & Excellence in Livestock’ (CIEL). Main veterinary interests include reproductive technologies, nutrition, mastitis control and progressive herd health & production management. He has published a wide range of papers, articles and book chapters and is a co-author of textbook ‘Dairy Herd Health’. He holds the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Diploma in Cattle Health & Production, is a RCVS recognised specialist in Cattle Health & Production and was Dairy Vet of the Year 2015.

Prof Jason Weeks BSc (Hons), PhD, FRSB, CBiol, EurProBiol, MIEnvSci, CEnv, CSci, CMIEEM MInstKT
Specialism: Environmental scientist
Jason Weeks gained a PhD in marine ecotoxicology in 1990. He spent 4 years in Denmark as a Royal Society Research Fellow and then associate professor at Odense University. Returning to the UK in 1994, he lead the newly created soil ecotoxicology team at the then Institute of Terrestrial Ecology (now CEH). After eight years he joined WRc plc as chief scientist. Jason was Professor of Environmental Risk Analysis at Cranfield University until recently when he joined IEH Consulting. Prior to 2013, he was Director of the Aquatic Veterinary Pharmaceutical Programme at Cefas. During his ten years at Cefas, he was responsible for the development of aquatic veterinary medicines as treatments for aquaculture production and fish vaccine development. Jason has over 25 years’ experience as an international development consultant with extensive experience in the environmental and aquaculture sectors and has been instrumental in the successful delivery of significant international aid funded project work, including periods in-country (Latin America, SE. Asia; Australasia, Canada, Central and Eastern Europe, Central and Middle Asia, the Caribbean, Korea and Africa). He has published in excess of 120 peer-reviewed scientific papers on a broad range of subject areas mostly pertaining to environmental health and risks. He recently chaired the European Medicine Agency’s Ad hoc Expert Group and has just become co-opted member of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use (CVMP).
ANNEX 3

Declarations of Interest: A Code of Practice for Members of the VPC

Conflicts of Interest
The Veterinary Products Committee’s advice concerns matters which are connected with the pharmaceuticals industry and it is therefore desirable that members should have a good understanding of the work of the industry. It is also desirable that some members should have practical experience of the scientific problems of product development. The pharmaceuticals industry relies heavily on the advice of doctors, veterinarians and pharmacists outside the industry in, for example, the universities. To avoid any public concern that commercial interests might affect the Committee’s advice, ministers have decided that the arrangements which govern relationships between members and the pharmaceuticals industry and information on significant and relevant interests should be on public record.

You will therefore comply with the following Code of Practice which describes the circumstances in which you should declare an interest in the pharmaceuticals industry.

In this Code of Practice ‘pharmaceuticals industry’ means:
- companies, partnerships or individuals who are involved with the manufacture, sale or supply of veterinary medicinal products (including veterinary homoeopathic products)
- trade associations representing companies involved with such products
- companies, partnerships or individuals who are directly concerned with research, development or marketing of a veterinary medicinal product (including a veterinary homoeopathic product) which is being considered by the Committee.

References to ‘the pharmaceuticals industry’ include cases involving a single company.

In this Code of Practice ‘the Secretariat’ means the Secretariat of the Veterinary Products Committee.

Different Types of Interest
The following is intended as a guide to the kinds of interests which should be declared. If you are uncertain whether an interest should be declared you should consult the Secretariat or, if it concerns a particular product which is to be considered at a meeting, the Chairman at that meeting. If you have an interest not specified in these notes but which you believe could be regarded as influencing your advice you should declare it. However, you do not need to search out links between one company and another, for example where a company with which you are connected has an interest in a pharmaceutical company of which you are not aware and could not reasonably be expected to be aware.
Personal Interests
A personal interest involves payment to you personally. The main examples are:

- any consultancy, directorship, position in or work for the pharmaceutical industry, which attracts regular or occasional payments in cash or kind

- any work commissioned by the pharmaceutical industry for which you are paid in cash or kind

- any shareholding in or other beneficial interest in shares of the pharmaceutical industry but excluding shareholdings through unit trusts or similar arrangements where you have no influence on financial management.

Non-personal Interests
A non-personal interest involves payment which benefits a department for which you are responsible, but you do not receive personally. The main examples are:

- the holding of a fellowship endowed by the pharmaceutical industry

- any payment, other support or sponsorship by the pharmaceutical industry which does not convey any pecuniary or material benefit to you personally but which does benefit your position or department e.g. a grant from a company for the running of a unit or department for which you are responsible

- a grant or fellowship or other payment to sponsor a post or a member of staff in the unit for which you are responsible but excluding financial assistance for students

- the commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which you are responsible.

You are under no obligation to seek out knowledge of work done for, or on behalf of, the pharmaceutical industry in departments for which you are responsible if you would not normally expect to be informed.
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<th>NATURE OF INTEREST</th>
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<th>INVOLVEMENT IN DISCUSSION</th>
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<td>Personal Specific</td>
<td>You have at any time worked on the product under consideration and have personally received payment for that work from the industry.</td>
<td>You should take no part in the proceedings as they relate to that product and would normally be asked to leave the room for the duration of the discussion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lapsed Personal Specific</td>
<td>As above but the interest is no longer current.</td>
<td>You can take part in proceedings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal non-specific</td>
<td>Current personal interest in the pharmaceutical company concerned which does not relate specifically to the product under discussion.</td>
<td>You should take no part in the proceedings as they relate to that product, except at the Chairman's discretion to answer questions from other members.</td>
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<td>Current Personal</td>
<td>Either in the pharmaceutical company concerned which does not relate specifically to the product under discussion or in a company marketing a rival product.</td>
<td>You should take no part in the proceedings as they relate to that product, except at the Chairman's discretion to answer questions from other members.</td>
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<td>You are aware that the department for which you are responsible has at any time worked on the product under discussion.</td>
<td>You may take part in the proceedings unless you have personal knowledge of the product through your own work or the supervision of others in which case, you should take no part in the proceedings as they relate to that product, except at the Chairman's discretion to answer questions from other members.</td>
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<td>Non-Personal, Non-Specific</td>
<td>You are aware that the department for which you are responsible is currently receiving payment from the company which does not relate to the product under discussion.</td>
<td>You may take part in the proceedings unless the Chairman rules otherwise.</td>
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# Declaration of interests in the pharmaceutical industry

## VETERINARY PRODUCTS COMMITTEE

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