**Summary Report of Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) plenary meeting**

**London, 11 February 2020**

**Items discussed**

* Defra, Welsh, Northern Ireland and Scottish Governments gave summaries of animal welfare activity.
* AWC Chair’s report on meetings held including: AHWBE/TBAEG/FAnGR co-ordination meetings.
* Four new members were introduced to the committee; Dr Romain Pizzi, Dr Pen Rashbass, Prof Sarah Wolfensohn and Dr James Yeates.
* Due to the expansion of AWC to cover companion and wild animals kept by people, AWC has made the decision to appoint a deputy AWC Chair and a new Chair for the Welfare at Killing (WAK) Committee from within the current membership, David Grumett and Jane Downes respectively.
* The Rt Hon the Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park joined the meeting and invited members to identify their 2-3 top animal welfare issues to inform policy planning.
* Updates were given on current AWC projects – Opinion on the welfare of goats at the time of killing, WAK review of legislative amendments and Cattle production systems are all due to be finished next.
* There was a discussion around animal welfare evidence priorities for the next financial year
* A proposed Future Farming Animal Welfare small grant scheme was discussed.

Further information

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