

ASRU Stakeholder Newsletter – 9 April 2021

Dear ASRU Stakeholder,

Re: Animals in Science Regulation Unit (ASRU) Change Programme

I am writing to you today about ASRU's future plans.

The last year has been one of profound change. In this changed environment we have continued to deliver our standards of the regulation. In doing so we have continued to deliver our purpose of assuring protections to animals in science by maintaining compliance with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act.

Moments of change are when we learn most and therefore present an opportunity to reflect on how we work. In the context of EU Exit, Covid-19 and feedback I am pleased to announce that ASRU has initiated a Change Programme. The aim is to better align ASRU's activities to deliver its purpose. Our strategic focus will be on governance – of Ourselves, Establishments, Projects and Individuals.

The benefits of the programme will be to increase efficiency and be more effective in delivering outcomes and service. Accordingly, the Change Programme will alter how we operate. At its heart is our drive to improve the ability of the community to be compliant with the Act. In delivering the programme we will look to deliver greater openness and transparency of ASRU in how we meet our regulatory obligations. We will also seek to provide consistency and clarity of regulation to enable the regulated community to comply in an effective way.

Whilst change is necessary, it should not be to the detriment of the good practice that many establishments have in place. Indeed, good practice through good governance will be our guiding light.

We will be keeping you well informed of developments over the coming weeks and months. I look forward to sharing more with you shortly.

Regards,

Will Reynolds

Head of the Animals in Science Regulation Unit