

ANNEX 3 – WORKSHOP DRIVER MAPPING DATA

Context

This document compiles the information gathered during the Animals in Science Committee (ASC) Futures Working Group (FWG) workshop on 29 July 2021. Workshop attendees were allocated to three subgroups, facilitated by an ASC Member. First, each subgroup was presented with a number of drivers under different themes relevant to the topic of animals in science and asked to map these onto axes of importance and uncertainty. Then, each subgroup was asked to select 1-3 priority drivers from the “high importance, high certainty” and “high importance, low certainty” quadrants of their mapping exercise. For each driver, the groups identified and discussed any additional risks or opportunities that had not been identified in the scan. The groups then discussed actions that could be taken to mitigate the risk or exploit the opportunity.

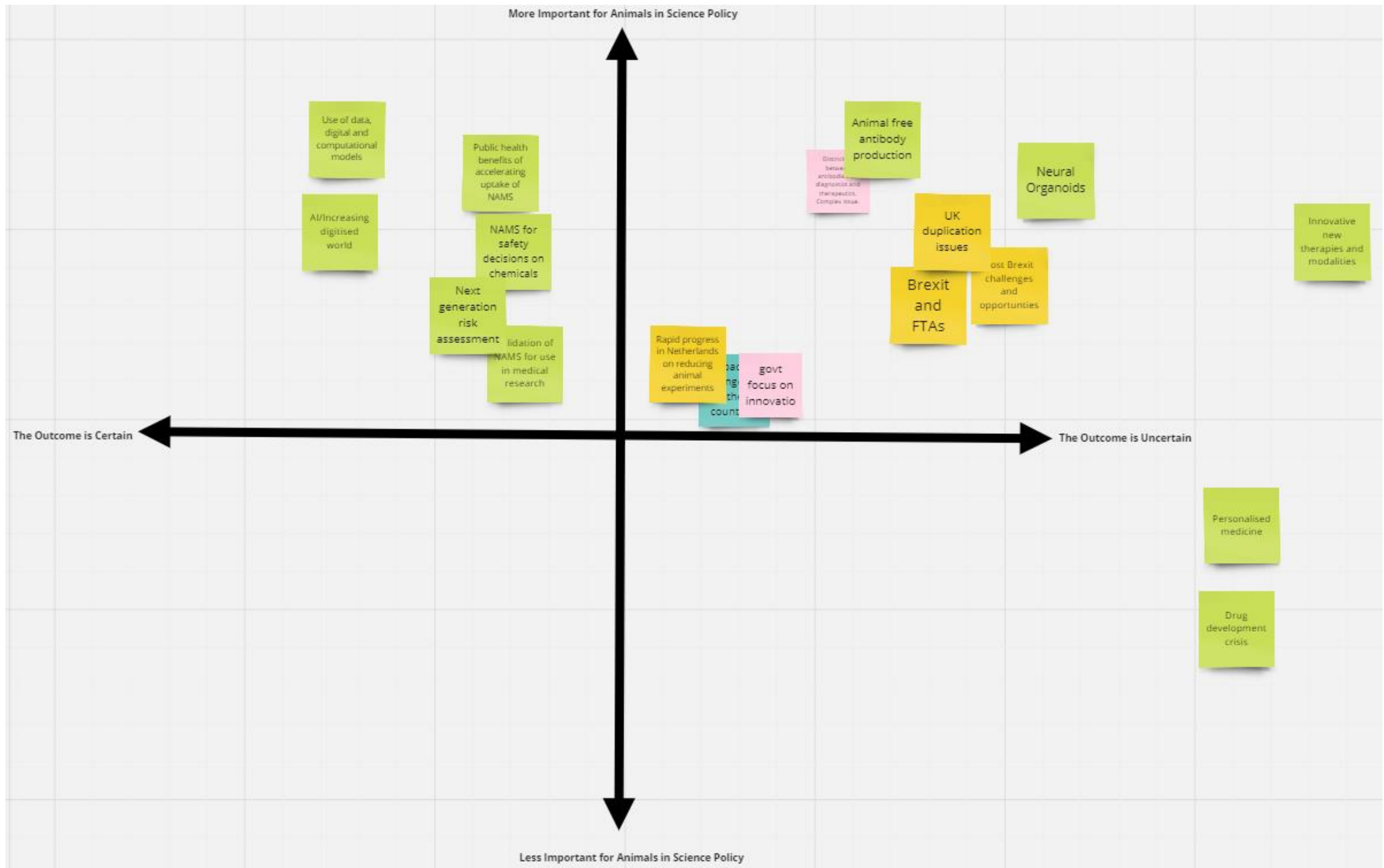
The following themes were allocated to the subgroups:

- Subgroup 1
 - New Approach Methodologies (NAMs)
 - UK policy in an international context
- Subgroup 2
 - Preclinical/toxicological regulatory issues
 - Societal concerns
- Subgroup 3
 - Sentience
 - Climate Change
 - Issues affecting establishments

Summary

<i>Issues which require action (top left quadrant)</i>	<i>Issues which require scenario planning (top right quadrant)</i>	<i>Issues which require tracking (bottom quadrants)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of data, digital and computational models • Public health benefits of accelerating uptake of NAMs • Artificial intelligence (AI) / increasingly digitised world • NAMs for safety decisions on chemicals • Next generation risk assessment • Validation of NAMs for use in medical research • Thematic review • Public and political interest in a phase-out programme • Increasing public concern about the use of animals in research • Second species testing • Section 24 and transparency • Review of membership profile of ASC • Increase in household product testing • Project licences for e-cigarettes • Ethical consumerism • Culture of care • Sentience • Decapods • Use of genetic modification (GM) technology • Global food sustainability • Complexities of genetically-altered (GA) or genetically-engineered (GE) animals and subsequent overbreeding • Animal research and sites other than licensed establishments • Transport and supply of animals • Can anaesthesia go green? • Sustainability • Increased automation in management: housing, care, and welfare of laboratory animals • Veterinary retention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal-free antibody production • Neural organoids • UK duplication issues • Post-Brexit challenges and opportunities • Brexit and free trade agreements (FTAs) • Government focus on innovation • Rapid progress in Netherlands on reducing animal experiments • Impact of changes in other countries • Distinction between antibodies for diagnostics and therapeutics • Mental health • Pre-clinical testing of novel medical devices using large animals • Heterogeneity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-extinction • Societal contributions • Pollution and health

Subgroup 1 (“New Approach Methodologies” and “UK policy in an international context”)



Priority Driver 1: Post-Brexit UK

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

More flexible and nimble regulatory system for registration of chemicals and drugs (defra and Mhra)

Availability of resources to validate new methods. Need to maintain connections to what is happening in EU.

Risk of UK becoming isolated and lose benefits of non-Uk collaboration. Eg IMI, Horizon 2020. Also potential for EU to lose out because of lack of UK expertise

or

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Ensure resources available to validate new methods

Maintain strong connections to what is going on in EU

bringing together cross-functional groups to apply multiple expertise to problems.

Priority Driver 2: NAMs

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

Other
organoids

Innovation and
commercialisation
environment for
NAMS and follow-
on costs for
research

Incentives
to use
Needs of
researchers

Incentives
to research
(funding)

N

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Centralised
repository of
knowledge for
researchers,
inspectors

ASRU -
training of
inspectors
re NAMS

Standardisation
- reproducible methods
- validation
Relevant to
international research
enviroment

More general
training in
NAMS
- researchers,
students etc

Priority Driver 3: Data access and use

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

Access
to data
- MTAs

Duplication
of research

Publishing and ethical
approvals
Pre-prints and
communication
Interpretation,
representation and
understanding/expertise

Commercialisation environment
including patents/data exclusivity
- Impact on access to innovation
- Impact on reduction of animals
- costs etc
- NC3Rs
Confidentiality and trade secrets

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

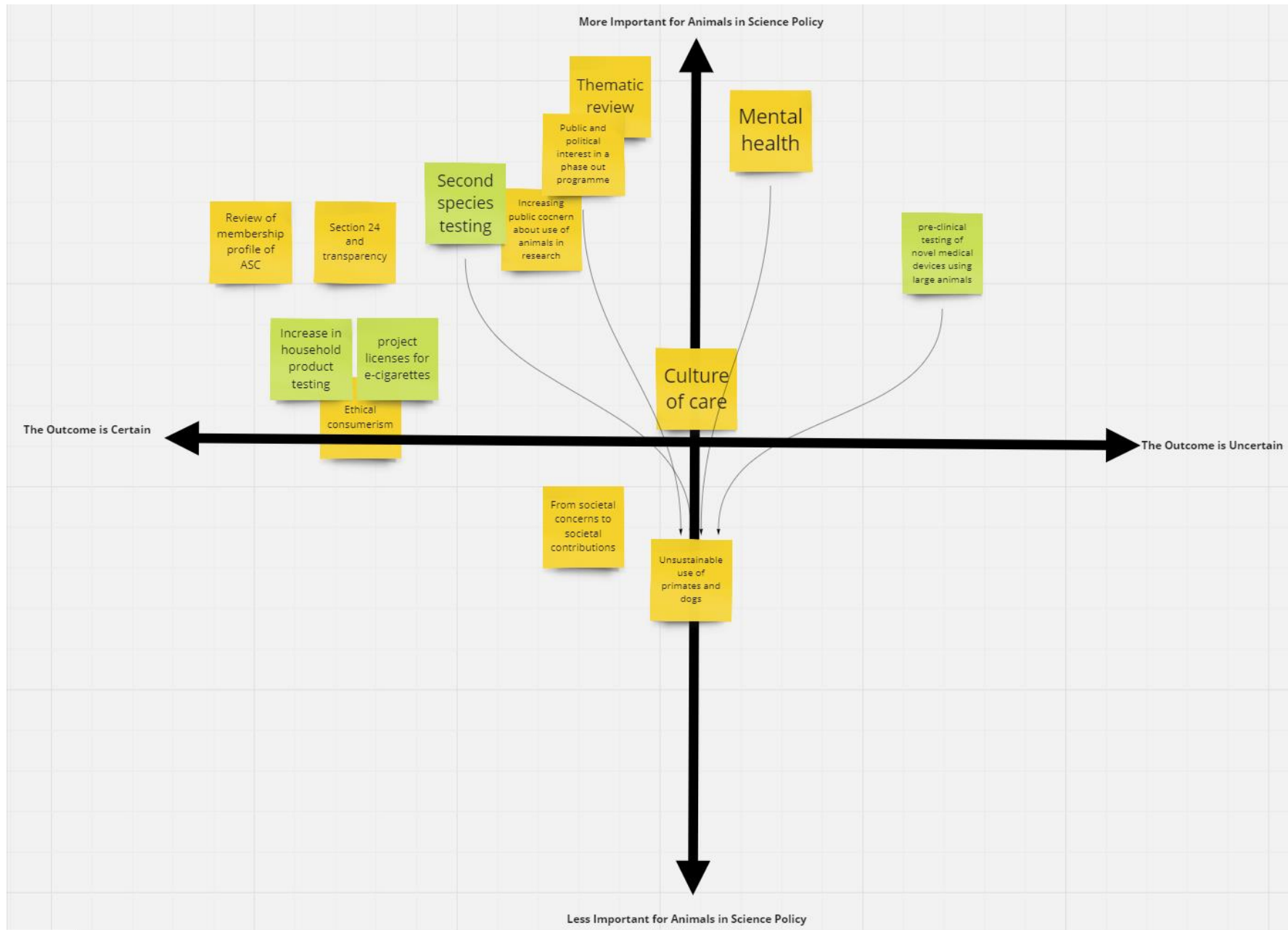
Central repository
of regulatory data,
mining and
predictability of
toxicity pathways

Publishing
- effective
application of
ethical approvals
and other
protocols

Patent and data
exclusivity
- eligibility of subject
matter; access to
data; exceptions and
limitations

Defining
duplication

Subgroup 2 (“Preclinical/toxicological regulatory issues” and “Societal concerns”)



Priority Driver 1: Thematic Review & Interest in a phase out programme

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

To
implement
ASPA 'when
practicable'

The overarching
goals of the
directive is to
replace the use
of animals

Opportunity
to update
UK policy

Roadmap -
Prioritising the
order and scope
of thematic
reviews

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Sustainable
ownership
of long term
policies

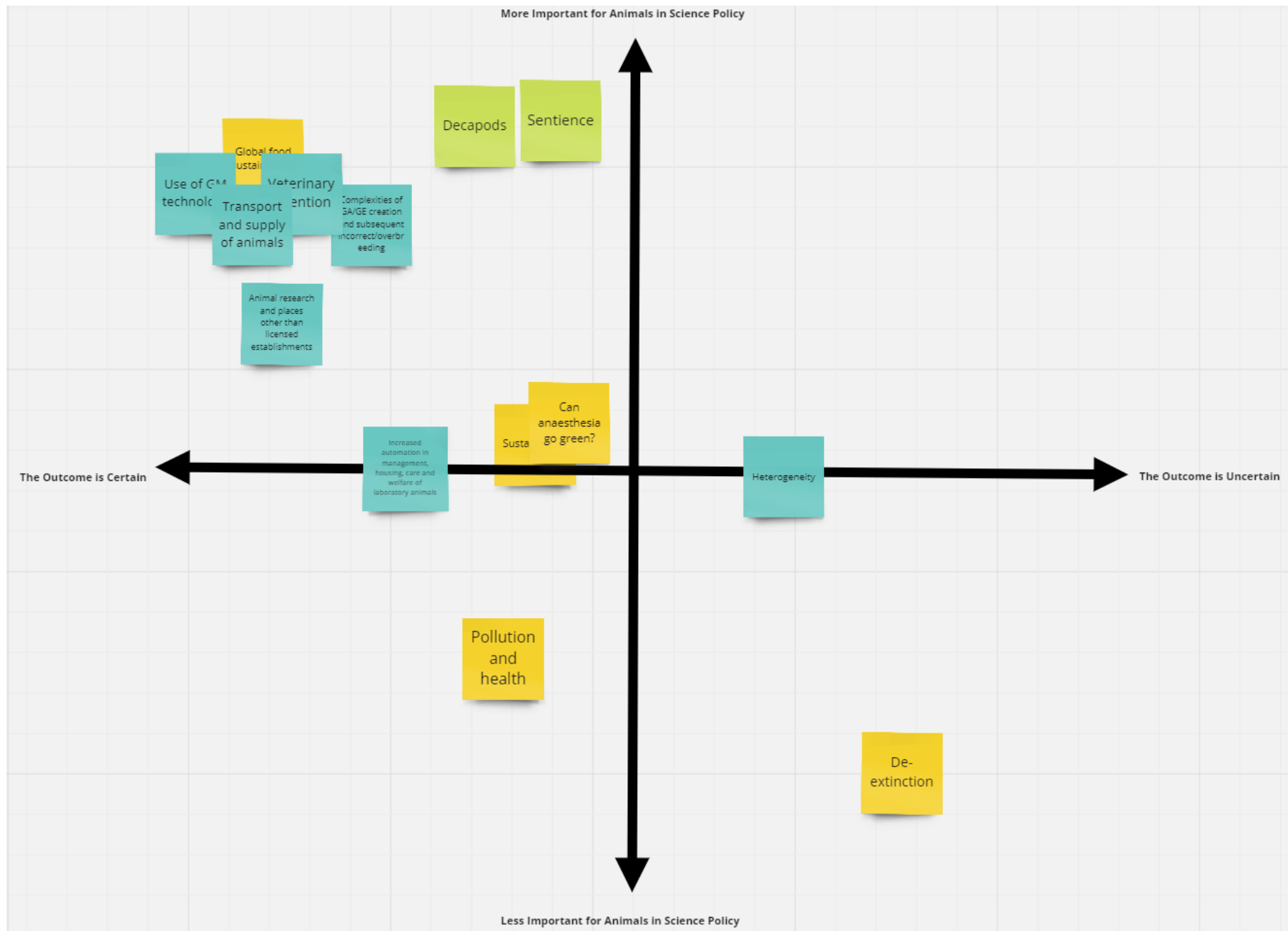
International
consensus on what
validation means (in
the context of the
relevant decision
making)

International
consensus on
the scope of key
animal/new tech
models

Public and patient
engagement
(importance of
speaking to not just
for people affected
by these issues)

focusing the 'UK science
powerhouse' towards
supporting and funding the
work on model
development, validation
and implementation

Subgroup 3 (“Sentience”, “Climate Change” and “Issues affecting establishments”)



Priority Driver 1: Sentience - scope and implementation of legislation, public concern
etc

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

ASRU change programme discusses protecting animals - must ensure that ASPA protects the right sentience?

Consider that if the pool of protected species grows to an extent that it is unsustainable (as a result of increased knowledge of sentience) what criteria could be used INSTEAD of sentience? Or would that scenario render any animal research untenable?

Measuring sentience and keeping up to date with current thinking

need to consider the broader picture with sentience and how we link up and don't just consider evidence for lab animals

are the criteria we use to define sentience sustainable? We have never declassified an animal from being sentient

Joined up thinking

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Joined up approach to legislation across sectors

Guidance, Codes of practice, inspection standards for new species

Training for ASRU, and for licensees/users

Give greater attention to defining sentience of different animals and the ethical implications - training and education

We need to get a better sense of what different publics understand and think about sentience. How do they define it and what do they think it means for the acceptability of animal research

We need to grapple with the ethics of our relationship with other sentient species in a public forum and keep this under review in light of changing social attitudes. A standing committee or something?

Priority Driver 2: GM technologies - increasing applications, plus management, training issues

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

Risk of GA technology being expanded without deep background expertise on species or genetics

Risk of lack of QC for GA strains (genotype) especially those imported into facilities

Lack of uptake for new and refined models because of historical experimental paradigms



Risk of waste of commercial and intellectual resources which could be better applied to supporting other technologies

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Sharing of good practice
e.g. colony management

Public interest

challenge scientific inertia in model development

Priority Driver 3: Ethical and practical issues relating to the supply and transport of animals for use in research and testing in the UK

Are there are additional risks or opportunities not identified in the scan?

Risk animal work may have to be outsourced from UK if animals are not available. Welfare Implications

Links with lack of potential NVS employment career pathways and OVI checks

This is a current problem and lack of EHCs and legislation issues could get worse

Disease spread / pandemic issues reducing opportunities for transport? Will this increase?

Ethical transport issues, welfare and germplasm

Public concern and protests

What needs to be done to mitigate the risk/exploit the opportunity? For example, what evidence gaps need to be filled?

Produce evidence on impact of pressure on supply of animals - new sources, welfare etc.

Do we need to take another look at the roles of biobanking and sharing of materials and data in this context?

Introduce methods to measure, and respond to, environmental/sustainability/global warming impact of animal science

