

Summary of Council meeting on 17 February 2011

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This is the summary report of the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) plenary meeting on 17 February 2011, chaired by Professor Christopher Wathes in Cardiff. Present to welcome the FAWC members were Dr Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales, and members of the Welsh Assembly Government. The Council meets three times a year. Working groups that convene more frequently undertake much of the preparatory work.

Discussion centred on:

- Report from the Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales, including current animal welfare priorities in Wales;
- Draft Opinion on Mutilations and Environmental Enrichment in Piglets and Growing Pigs;
- Draft Opinion on Lameness in Sheep;
- Update from Defra's Animal Welfare Team on the reconstitution of FAWC as an expert committee;
- Draft report of the Economics Working Group on Economics and Farm Animal Welfare;
- Presentation on "The communication of higher welfare standards" ;
- Draft report of the Education, Communication and Knowledge Application Group;
- Draft Opinion on Contingency Planning for farm animal welfare in disasters and emergencies;
- Updates on the work of the Standing Committees and Working Groups; and
- An update on the activity of Defra's Animal Welfare Team.

Chairman's Report

- The Chairman reported on meetings aimed at building relationships with FAWC's stakeholders in GB and Europe, including the Soil Association, CIWF, RSPCA and the British Poultry Council.
- The Chairman had met the Minister of State for Agriculture and Food and Defra's Animal Welfare Team, FAWC's sponsor within Defra, to discuss the new Farm Animal Welfare Committee.

Next meeting

This was the final meeting of the Farm Animal Welfare Council.

Further information

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