



# National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

The National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) is an independent statutory committee, established under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to advise the Minister for Primary Industries on animal welfare matters. Its functions include recommending codes of welfare for issue and making recommendations on legislative proposals, including regulations relating to surgical procedures and traps and devices, and identifying research needs. It also promotes the development of guidelines for the use of traps and devices, and hunting and killing animals in a wild state.

The 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 meeting was held in Wellington. Key items discussed at the meeting were:

- Surgical and painful procedures regulations – NAWAC has agreed to minor amendments to codes of welfare as a result of the incorporation of the new surgical and painful procedures regulations, which will come into effect in May 2021.
- Reviewing Codes of Welfare – Work has started on reviewing three codes (Dairy Cattle, Sheep and Beef Cattle, and Pigs).
- Animals in exhibition, entertainment and encounter – The 3Es subcommittee provided an update on and next steps were discussed. Feedback from the stakeholder consideration of the discussion paper about the assessment tool will be available on NAWAC’s webpage soon.
- Animals in the wild – Work continues on good practice guidelines.
- Fish and aquaculture welfare – FisheriesNZ shared a presentation with the committee, as part of the initial exploratory and scoping phases for development of a code of welfare for aquaculture.
- Live animal exports - NAWAC discussed changes with the implementation of the Heron Report recommendations.
- 2021 Meetings – Quarterly meeting dates for 2021 are proposed as follows:
  - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February
  - Tuesday and Wednesday 18/19<sup>th</sup> May
  - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August
  - Tuesday and Wednesday 16/17<sup>th</sup> November