



# 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 24 February 2021 meeting was held in Wellington. Key items discussed at the meeting were:

- Pigs Code of Welfare review: the subcommittee gave a progress report on the development of new standards for farrowing and mating systems. An update was given on the progress of the working group that is reviewing the balance of the code, and there was further discussion on the next steps towards public consultation of this code. Regular updates on the farrowing systems standards are available on the MPI website: [NAWAC review of pig crates | MPI | NZ Government](#)
- Committee transparency goals – procedures for meeting conduct are being developed to facilitate public attendance at NAWAC meetings. There was discussion on development of a conflicts of interest register, and the independent webpage is currently being developed.
- Better provision of livestock shelter - a discussion paper and presentation from MPI were shared. This will need to be considered and incorporated into the code reviews for pastoral animals.
- NAWAC Strategic planning– the committee reviewed its Strategic Plan.
- NAWAC Codes of Welfare meeting
  - Wednesday and Thursday 20/21 April
- 2021 Meetings – Quarterly meeting dates for 2021 are proposed as follows:
  - Tuesday and Wednesday 18/19 May
  - Tuesday 17 August
  - Tuesday and Wednesday 16/17 November