



ANIMAL WELFARE

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2016

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
C/- Ministry for Primary Industries
P O Box 2526
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

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NAWAC

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Chair's comment

During 2016, the committee's work focused on reviewing codes of welfare and the development of regulations following the implementation of amendments in May 2015 to the Animal Welfare Act 1999. This legislation acknowledged the sentience of animals, and the committee has developed its work programme to understand the implications of this change. Future code reviews will need to consider the implications for affective state and positive emotions.

The Committee published its first opinion paper in February 2017, which considers the animal welfare consequences of selective breeding practices of both companion and production animals that may have significant impact on the welfare of future generations of these animals.

I would like to acknowledge the leadership and work of Dr. John Hellström who completed a seven-year term as Chair of the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) at the end of 2016. He led the Committee through the period of change as the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill (No 2) was developed and brought through the legislative process. His work has laid the foundation for the regulatory development that continues to be a major part of the committee's work. Thank you John, for your great commitment to improving animal welfare in New Zealand.

Thanks and acknowledgement are also given to Susan Brown who completed her six-year term on NAWAC. During 2016 two new members were appointed to the Committee, Frances Russell and myself. The Committee has continued to work effectively through these changes, with all members actively participating in the work programme. I thank them for their great support.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the continuing strong support of the Minister for the work of the committee.

Dr Gwyneth Verkerk
Chair



Membership

Members	Expiry of Appointment
Dr John S Hellström BVSc, PhD, Director Biosecurity Ltd (independent chairman)	31.10.16
Dr Gwyneth A Verkerk BVSc, PhD (independent chairperson; replaced Dr John S Hellström)	31.10.19
Ms Susan (Sue) E Brown CA, BBS, Chartered Accountant (nominated by the Ministry of Women's Affairs)	31.10.16
Mrs Ingrid Collins MNZM, Chief Executive/Part Owner Three Rivers Medical Ltd (nominated by Te Puni Kokiri)	31.10.18
Professor Graeme Doole BAppSc, MAppEc, PhD, Professor of Environmental Economics, University of Waikato (independent appointment)	31.10.18
Dr Penelope (Penny) M Fisher BSc, MAppSc, PhD, Wildlife Toxicologist & Research Leader, Landcare Research NZ Ltd (nominated by Landcare Research NZ Ltd)	31.10.17
Ms Katrina (Katie) S Milne Farmer, National Board Member Federated Farmers (nominated by Federated Farmers of New Zealand)	31.10.19
Ms Frances H Russell QSM JP (nominated by Ministry for Women; replaced Ms Susan E Brown)	31.10.19
Dr Karin E Schütz MSc, PhD, Scientist (nominated by New Zealand Society of Animal Production)	31.10.18
Mr Grant H Shackell Dip Ag, Dip Field Technology, MSc, Retired scientist (NAEAC Chairperson)	31.10.18
Mr Alan J Sharr CA (PP), DTM, MInstD, Consultant, Nexia Christchurch Limited (independent appointment)	31.10.18
Mr Iain E Torrance MInstD, Independent Business Consultant (nominated by New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)	31.10.17
Dr Julie Wagner BVSc, Product Manager Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-operative Ltd (nominated by Ministry for Women)	31.10.17

Fees

Government policy requires disclosure of fees paid to members of statutory boards and committees. The daily fee paid to committee members during 2014 was \$400 for members and \$550 for the chairperson.

Members are paid the fee for attending meetings, with an allowance for preparation time. Members are also reimbursed for travelling expenses. In addition, the chairperson and, on occasion, other members may be paid additional fees for representing the committee at other meetings or for carrying out significant extra work on the committee's behalf.

Member	Fees paid during 2016 (gross)
J Hellström ¹	\$11 478.50
G Verkerk	\$1 000.00
S Brown	\$2 299.60
I Collins	\$1 800.00
G Doole ³	–
P Fisher ²	\$3 000.00
K Milne	\$4 400.00
F Russell	–
K Schütz ²	–
G Shackell	\$3 600.00
A Sharr	\$3 980.00
I Torrance	\$4 112.00
J Wagner	\$3 200.00

¹ The Chair undertook extensive liaison with animal welfare, industry and other groups, and with MPI, regarding the writing and content of draft codes of welfare and regarding other NAWAC business, in addition to preparing for and conducting formal NAWAC meetings and special meetings.

² Dr Fisher's and Dr Schütz's fees were paid directly to their employer as recompense for time lost from their primary employment.

³ G Doole chose not to claim NAWAC fees.

Main issues for 2016

- **Regulations** – Submitting to MPI, and advising the Minister, on regulations for care and conduct of animals, and surgical and painful procedures.
- **Temporary housing of companion animals** – Recommendation to issue a code of welfare for animals in temporary housing (e.g. pet shops, day boarding for dogs, SPCA shelters, local authority shelters/pounds, catteries, kennels).
- **Housing of dairy cattle** – To recommend an amendment to the dairy cattle code of welfare to the Minister.
- **Selective breeding** – Publication of an opinion on the animal welfare impacts and positive effects of selective breeding for a range of animals including farmed livestock, racing animals and pets/companions ([NAWAC opinion on animal welfare issues associated with selective breeding](#)).
- **Animals in exhibition, entertainment and encounter** – Report issued on greyhound racing in response to a government review ([NAWAC report on greyhound racing](#)).
- **Farrowing crates** – The committee reviewed the requirements for farrowing sows ([Review of the use of farrowing crates for pigs in New Zealand](#)); and recommended that the current standards remain.
- **Animals in the wild** – Working with stakeholders on the definition of “generally accepted practice” for hunting and killing in New Zealand, monitoring glueboard trap ministerial approvals, and a recommendation for regulations to restrict (prohibit) snares.
- **NAWAC Guidelines** – New guideline issued describing how the committee determines the appropriate regulatory or non-regulatory intervention in light of NAWAC’s ability to recommend regulations ([Determining level of intervention](#)).

NAWAC’s work programme, reports, meeting summaries and guidelines are available here: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/animal-welfare/overview/national-animal-welfare-advisory-committee/>