

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Badger culling pilots: independent expert panel

Membership

The members were appointed for their expertise in animal welfare, veterinary pathology, badger ecology, wildlife population biology, statistics, marksmanship and the management of wild animal populations. Their biographies can be found below.

Professor Ranald Munro (chair)

Ranald Munro is the former Head of Pathology at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency, and former president of the World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA). He is currently Honorary Professor of Forensic Veterinary Pathology at the Royal Veterinary College, and an Honorary Fellow at the Royal School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh, where he specialises in forensic pathology in free-living species, companion animals and farmed livestock.

Professor Neville Gregory

Neville Gregory is the former Professor of Animal Welfare Physiology at the Royal Veterinary College. His research interests include the suffering associated with clinical diseases and disorders, and with routine methods used in managing livestock and wildlife. In addition, he has practical experience and knowledge of shooting in the field.

Professor Piran White

Piran White holds a Personal Chair and is Deputy Head of Environment Department at York University. He is an ecologist whose research interests focus on wildlife ecology, management and disease; and biodiversity, ecosystem functions and ecosystem services.

Professor Timothy Roper

Timothy Roper is Emeritus Professor at the University of Sussex and an expert in badger behaviour. Professor Roper currently sits on the Epidemiology & Wildlife Risks Programme Advisory Group, which is a subgroup of Defra's bovine TB Science Advisory Body.

Peter Watson

Peter Watson is Executive Director of the Deer Initiative and a non-executive Director of Deer Management Qualifications. He was formerly a military engineer and is now a trained ecologist with extensive practical experience in wildlife management and related training.

Professor Tim Coulson

Tim Coulson is a Professor of Zoology at the University of Oxford. He is a quantitative biologist with research interests in statistics and the development and testing of ecological theory. Much of his recent work has focused on the demography of wild animal populations.