

Summary Report of Farm Animal Welfare Committee plenary meeting Edinburgh, 20 June 2013

Introduction

The Committee was welcomed to Edinburgh by officials from the Scottish Government's Animal Welfare Team.

Items for discussion

- Consideration of a draft letter on housing and farm animal welfare
- Update on FAWC's suggestions about CAP funding for an animal health and welfare stewardship scheme
- Conclusion of consideration of the Opinion on the welfare of farmed and park deer, due to be published shortly
- Detailed consideration of a draft Report on the evidence base for farm animal welfare
- Approval of advice on space and headroom allowances for transport of farm animals
- Review of the FAWC Work Plan for 2013-2016
- Discussion of a review of the 2005 FAWC Report on the welfare implications of farm assurance schemes and recommendations for future improvements
- Detailed consideration of a draft Opinion on the welfare of farmed fish
- Consideration of a framework for a draft Opinion on the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing
- Discussion of a draft letter reiterating FAWC's concerns about high levels of keel bone fractures in laying hens
- Updates on the ongoing work of FAWC's Standing Committees and Working Groups
- Updates on the activities of the Scottish Government and Defra Animal Welfare Teams and wider animal welfare activities in Europe

Chairman's report

The Chairman had met the Defra Minister of State for Agriculture and Food, David Heath, and a date had been set in October to meet Alun Davies, Welsh Government Minister for Natural Resources and Food. He had attended the Welsh Farming Conference and had taken part in a workshop on contingency planning for events other than notifiable disease. This followed on from his letter to all CVOs following this year's bad weather setting out the need for contingency plans for extreme weather events. The Chairman had attended EuroFAWC in April.

Next meetings

Thursday 24 October 2013, in Cardiff

Further information

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