



AGENDA

15th December 2017 11am-1pm

Location: The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, London

John Chitty (BSAVA), Linda Cattle (WoodGreen), Steve Goody (Blue Cross), Steve Crow (GCCF), Maggie Roberts (Cats Protection), David Bowles (RSPCA), Paula Boydon (Dogs Trust), Claire Calder, Dogs Trust), David Cavil (PETBC), Anne McBride (ABTC), Richard Hooker (PDSA), Mark Berry (NCAFG), Michael Bellingham (PfMA), Nigel Baker (PIF), Alex Baker (PIF), Claire Horton (AHWBE), Mike Webb (Battersea Dogs & Cats Home), Claire Bessant (ICAT), Ed Hayes (Kennel Club) Caroline Peacock (Guide Dogs), Mayank Seth (AHT)

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Apologies – Caroline Kisko (KC)

2. Minutes of previous meeting

4. Matters arising

a) CFSG Working Groups Update

Zoonotic Disease Working Group

APHA are reviewing the exotic disease contingency plan. Defra Rabies Core Group are reviewing the specific rabies contingency plan. WHO has released guidelines on human vaccination of rabies which Public Health England are looking at.

Cat Working Group:

The Kitten Checklist will be sent in January for member consultation and endorsement.

b) Professional Dog Walkers Guidance

CFSG members agreed to endorse the draft written with PIF, Dogs Trust and RSPCA.

5. CFSG Constitution

a) Membership Applications

Two new members applied. Members stated that single issue organisations would not contribute to many of the discussions but have expertise in their little area so CFSG should set up a mechanism to include those. Associate members will be invited to at least two meetings a year and get involved in relevant working groups. They will be able to access all minutes and agendas for meetings to put views forward and will contribute to consultations.

Members agreed the CFSG constitution should be amended to reflect the decision to allow wider membership at an associate level.

6. Defra Licensing Work Update

Risk Based System and Fees

Members went through the paper on the risk based system guidance which includes the general schedule covering the whole licensing activity and then the specific schedules relevant to the activity. The guidance document sets out the minimum standard which is what the inspector should be looking for to meet that requirement. The higher standard is used to promote welfare standards and create best practice. The risk based system will reward good business for reaching the higher standards. Currently a consumer cannot differentiate between a good business and a bad business so this will give that ability to drive consumer choice. The Guidance is about driving consistency because at the moment local authorities judge it all differently which is not good for the businesses either.

Low risk businesses will have few complaints, long history, UKAS accreditation, excellent SOP, strong records. High risk businesses would be a new business where there is no history, previous complaints, poor management with maintenance schedules, minor failings with little documentation and records. The businesses get scored on welfare standards and then how well the business is managed.

7. New Workstreams

a) Livestock Worrying

APGAW released a report on Livestock Worrying and Responsible Dog Ownership from which the key point was that the responsibility is with dog owners. Prof Tim Morris is setting up a working group looking at what can be done and it is recognised that dog owner's knowledge does not always translate into behaviour so it needs a lot of work on behaviour change. Human behaviour change experts on the working group would be useful. The work would come back to CFSG.

7. Any other business:

The Dogs Trust, RSPCA and PIF will be drafting a best practice on dog and cat grooming to bring to CFSG in due course.

END