

To:	1. Dr Christianne Glossop, CVO Wales 2. John Griffiths, Minister for Environment and Sustainable Futures	cc	PS First Minister Des Clifford (via PS First Minister) PS Minister for Finance and Leader of the House PS Counsel General PS Special Advisers PS Permanent Secretary Jo Kiernan Jeff Godfrey Peter Greening Andrew Jeffreys Marion Stapleton FP Mailbox CGU Mailbox Freedom of Information Officer Mailbox Policy Integration Team mailbox FM Delivery Unit mailbox	Anna McMorris Clive Bates Chris Hale Arjen Brouwer David Morley DESH Business Unit
From:	Janet Perry OCVO Ext 5503			
Date:	13 /1/2012			

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR TO THE WALES ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE STRATEGY STEERING GROUP

Issue

1. To initiate the process to appoint a Chair to the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group.

Timing

2. Routine

Recommendation

3. You are recommended to:
 - i. Agree the Statement of Information at doc 1, and its immediate publication as a Decision Report.
 - ii. Agree to the job advert and candidates pack which includes information for candidates, background to the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group and Person Specification (doc 2) and Role Description (doc 3), both these documents will be advertised on the Welsh Government's public appointments page.

Background

4. The Statement of Information at doc 1 contains the facts and analyses relating to the submission that may be published in accordance with the Welsh Government's Code of

Practice. This statement should be read in conjunction with the following information, which is considered exempt from publication under the “Code of Practice on Access to Information”.

5. Dr Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer has been standing in as the temporary Chair of the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group since Steve Alderman, the previous Chair tendered his resignation. It is therefore appropriate for a new independent Chair to be appointed.

Advice

6. The Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group was established in November 2004 to oversee the implementation of the AHWS in Wales. The Group has 17 members who represent the industry and industry views in Wales. The Group advise and assist the Welsh Government on a range of key issues that impact on the AHWS in Wales. One of the main roles of the new Chair will be to help develop a new Wales Animal Health & Welfare Strategy post 2014.
7. The Chair's post is unpaid apart from travel and subsistence expenses. Therefore, we are not required to apply the terms of the Commissioner's Code of Practice or the Welsh Governments Code of Practice on Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies. However, we intend to conduct this appointment process using a light touch process which takes account of the Nolan Principles.
8. Given the status of this appointment, the sift and interview process will be low key and the panel to take forward the informal interview will be composed of Dr. Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer and a current member of the Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group. We shall be writing to all of the organisations who are represented on the Steering Group advising them of the advertisement for the Chairs post.
9. You will be consulted on the shortlist proposed by the selection panel once this has been compiled and again after the interviews have taken place.

Financial Requirements and Governance Implications

10. There are no financial implications for the Welsh Government arising directly from this submission as T & S expenditure associated with this post will be met from within existing programme budgets.

Press and Publicity Arrangements

11. As this is an unpaid, appointment we are not required to advertise the post in the press, however it will be advertised bilingually on the Welsh Government public appointments website for three weeks.

Public Appointments Code

12. Public Appointments Unit has had sight of this submission and agreed that, as the appointment is not statutory and is unpaid it is not necessary to make the appointment in line the Commissioner for Public Appointments' Code of Practice for Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies. However the proposed appointment plan provides for a sound appointment process.

STATEMENT OF INFORMATION**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR TO WALES ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE STRATEGY STEERING GROUP**

The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Futures has been asked to approve the process to appoint a Chair to the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group. Dr Christianne Glossop, Chief Veterinary Officer has been standing in as the temporary Chair of the Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group since Steve Alderman, the previous Chair tendered his resignation from the unpaid post.

The Wales Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (AHWS) Steering Group is a non-statutory advisory body and the Chair's post is unpaid apart from travelling and subsistence expenses. The appointment is being made on merit using a process that takes account of the Nolan Principles. The Welsh Government is committed to making appointments to public bodies, whether paid or unpaid, by fair and open competition. This appointment will be for an initial period of three years, renewable, subject to review, to a maximum of five years.

The Chair and members of the Steering Group will be expected to be available to attend four meetings a year which are usually held in Cardiff. A day should be set aside for each meeting and up to half a day for preparation prior to each meeting. The total commitment in days per year will be approximately 6 days.

The Great Britain (GB) AHWS was launched in June 2004. The 10-year Strategy acknowledges the need to take a more strategic approach to the management of a wide range of activities undertaken by Government and others and highlights the importance of a partnership approach. The Strategy aims to improve the health and welfare of kept animals and protect the public from animal diseases, whilst protecting the economic and social well being of people and the environment. The vision and guiding principles of the Strategy are available on the internet:

www.wales.gov.uk/ahwstrategy