



## National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

The National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) is an independent statutory committee, established under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to advise the Minister for Primary Industries on animal welfare matters. Its functions include recommending codes of welfare for issue, and making recommendations on legislative proposals including regulations relating to surgical procedures and traps and devices, and identifying research needs. It also promotes the development of guidelines for the use of traps and devices, and hunting and killing animals in a wild state.

Key items discussed at the 09 May meeting were:

- **Regulations** - The Animal Welfare Act has been amended to provide for regulations to set mandatory animal welfare standards and broadens the range of enforcement tools. NAWAC received an update on the implementation of the October 2018 regulations.
- **Rodeos** – NAWAC received an update from the subcommittee, who held a workshop with an expert panel to discuss the animal welfare impact of different rodeo events. NAWAC then discussed potential non-regulatory and regulatory options for rodeo events to reduce animal welfare risks, which has been presented to the Minister.
- **Codes review** – Final recommendations were accepted, including processes for regular review of minimum standards and regular interaction with the Sector Liaison team to help disseminate codes of welfare information.
- **Animal sentience** – Reports and material from the workshop are due to go online soon.
- **Tutorials** – NAWAC received a presentation by MPI Compliance on a new database and visualisation tool for animal welfare complaints.
- **Next meeting** – Next meetings are 15 August and 13 November.