**Introductory course for new named veterinary surgeons - learning outcomes**

**Session 1: People, animals and interactions**

**Learning outcomes:**

**At the end of the session participants will be able to:**

1.1 Outline the requirements of the ASPA and other animal welfare legislation and how it relates to the use of animals in scientific procedures

1.2 Outline the roles and responsibilities of named people and licence holders under ASPA

1.3 Relate the statutory role of the NVS and link this to the RCVS Code, ASPA and other relevant legislation, guidance, Home Office Advice notes and Home Office code of practice

1.4 Identify the boundary between ASPA and VSA and action to be taken in the event of a breach of either

1.5 Recognise the importance of avoiding and addressing significant conflicts of interests, and discuss how these can be managed e.g. If the NVS holds a PPL or if an NVS uses their personal licence to carry out procedures on animals under someone else’s PPL.

1.6 Identify the role of the NVS when a PILh is not available or when a PPL expires; in re-use, rehoming and release to the wild.

**Session 2: Knowledge and skills needed to perform the NVS job.**

**Learning outcomes**

**At the end of the session participants will be able to:**

2.1 Outline knowledge and skills needed to carry out the NVS role effectively

2.2 Identify some of the main categories of research and organisation types

2.3 Identify skills that can be transferred from previous roles

2.4 Considering the boundary between VSA and ASPA, outline criteria for determining whether treatment is appropriate in a given situation

2.5 Outline the purposes of routine visits and identify the main areas where NVS input is appropriate during a routine visit to a research facility

2.6 Identify sources of further training and in-the-moment assistance

**Session 3: experimental design and scientific integrity**

**Learning outcomes**

**At the end of the session participants will be able to:**

* 1. Relate fundamental principles of experimental design
  2. Relate why good experimental design is important
  3. Identify common errors in experimental design
  4. Discuss the relationship between animal welfare and scientific output
  5. Outline the role of the NVS in promoting good practise in experimental design
  6. List sources of further information on experimental design

**Session 4: AWERB**

**Learning outcomes**

**At the end of the session participants will be able to:**

4.1 Identify the role task of the AWERB and where to find what these are

4.2 Discuss the influence of size of an establishment on AWERB: how and why?

4.3 Discuss the role of the NVS in AWERB

4.4 Discuss what culture of care is, the importance of building a culture of care at an establishment and the role of the NVS in this

4.5 Outline the role of the NVS in the review of new project applications and amendments

4.6 Outline the role of the NVS in Retrospective Review, Retrospective Assessments, determining actual severity, and overview of project Standard condition 18 reports at the establishment and the dissemination of the 3Rs learning from research undertaken at the establishment.

4.7 Identify what contributes to harms and benefits and be able to make a judgment about whether work is justified as part of AWERB review.

**Session 5: Resilience and support**

**Learning outcomes**

**At the end of the session participants will be able to:**

5.1 Identify sources of advice and support

5.2 Identify when to seek advice

5.3 Outline range of views in society about animal research

5.4 Recognise potential for conflicts of interests to arise and how to manage these

5.5 Recognise the importance of good communication skills in order to function effectively as an NVS

5.6 Outline strategies for managing conflict situations

**End of course outputs**

Evaluation of group notes and other outputs from plenary sessions

Candidates will be required to develop a personal learning plan to acquire the remaining knowledge relevant to their intended specific NVS role (e.g. special species, Institutional research area).

Candidates will be required to complete post course assessment including a short reflective journal indicating what they have learned and how it will influence their practise.