BVA Council meeting 20/04/2022

Update on recent BVA activities and consultations provided.

Nominations for awards open

Bovine TB – Defra badger cull – opinion piece in the VR – AGV noted inaccuracies in this commentary – this was noted by BVA

Parasitacides – advert in VR for parasiacides which provided a frequwnct rate which is contrary to the BVA position paper – the editorial of the VR is independent and BVA have little control over this, however it was noted snd BVA is in discussion with the editors and Willey publishing re relationships with advertisers – acknowledged that advertising brings in revenue.

Veterinary agreement for trade facilitation – Pig VS concerned over lack of border checks for ABP consignments. Reports of white vans bringing in wild boar carcases with risk of swine fever introduction. Appears govt more concerned about illegal immigrants than vet checks but will raise this with Defra. 14 recommendations focusing on workforce capacity, Improved compliance and simplification of processes. BSAVA raised the issue of difficulty sending diagnostic samples for testing to EU and yet no barriers to samples coming from EU to UK. Asked for potential for reciprocal agreement – other divisions agreed – not just Small animal issue – BVA said that EU not trying to make things easy but will raise this with CVO.

Non-traditional companion animals – long discussion largely between the Fish VS and the Zoo VS – missed opportunities relating to fish articles in VR and some misleading interpretations re use of Antibiotics in fish – many not used in UK compared to EU and for salmon advocating dose rates which were not provided in the correct context. Letters and opinion pieces should really have input or review by the specialist divisions before publication. Also disagreement between Fish VS and the Zoo VS no evidence to support a blanket ban on the import of all wild-caught animals for non-conservation reasons, including fish. Fish are sentient and therefore there is no justification for making an exception for wild caught fish. It was agreed that these were very specific issues and further reading and evidence needed to support the working group. Other discussion around how a PVS can identify hybrids (cats) guidance required.

Wildlife controls – snares – 100% divisions in favour of BVA position.

BVA JVP – panel for decision making process described. Anna Judson selected and agreed for her name to go forward.

Work force challenge, Governance issues, Membership report and AOB I missed as I had to leave.