

## BVA Working Group: scoping document

### Terms of reference/scope

Working Group	Gene Editing Working Group
Chair (member of PC)	Madeleine Campbell
Secretary (BVA policy team)	Hannah Killeen
BVA Officer	Anna Judson
Members (divisions, individuals, Branches, EWAP)	Fritha Langford (EWAP) Emily Craven (Policy Cttee) Polly Compston (Policy Cttee) Richard Piercy (RVC) Dominic Wells (RVC) Charlotte Commins (BVPA) Rose Jackson (BCVA) Madeleine Forsyth (VPHA)

Aims/objectives	Develop a policy position to support BVA response to secondary legislation building on the Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill.
Intended audience	BVA Members, Defra, Efra Select Cttee
Remit/scope and desired outputs (to be completed by PC)	<p>In developing the BVA position the working group should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts of gene editing on food production animals.</li> <li>• The role of vets in gene editing</li> <li>• The implications (positive and negative) on animal welfare</li> <li>• The role of gene editing on sustainable food production</li> <li>• Crossover with non-genetic selective breeding (i.e. differences; risks; predictability of outcomes).</li> <li>• Regulation based on process or outcome</li> </ul> <p>Outputs:</p> <p>A policy position on the genetic modification of production animals Response to any consultation on the genetic editing of production animals Note potential impacts beyond production animals for potential further work in future</p>

Once the remit section above is completed it should be circulated to the divisions (via the BVA liaison email loop) and Branches to advertise membership and request input/expressions of interest, and to the WG retained list.

Existing policies/positions (BVA and/or divisions)	<a href="#">Response to Defra Consultation on regulation of genetic technologies</a>
Relevant research from AWF	Debate at AWF Discussion Forum

	Completed by PC	Completed by EWAP
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Potential consultees/other sources of information/evidence	<p>Bruce Whitelaw (Roslin Institute)  Penny Hawkins (RSPCA)  Matt Leach (Newcastle University)  NFU  Industry  Breeding/Pedigree associations  RSB  Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council  Nuffield Council on Bioethics  Understanding Animal Research  Green Alliance</p> <p>Divisions to consult FSA, GVS, DVS, BSAVA? Need to decide scope, may not need all species divisions as members (many issues will be crosscutting, but will want specific input.)</p>	
Legislative/policy differences in devolved regions of UK?	Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill covers England only – but if deregulated there will be issues around movement of animals and meat products into Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	
Local/regional nuances to be considered?		
Sustainability considerations?	<p>Potential reduction in inputs esp. medicine use. Risk of supporting intensive methods as less risk of disease etc.  Impact on consumer of gene-edited meat?</p>	<p>Impact on rare/slower growing breeds as focus of technology will be on commercial breeds.  E.g. where gene editing is used to breed immunity, non-commercial breeds will remain susceptible and there will also likely be less research into e.g. vaccines.</p>
Diversity and inclusion considerations?	Religious communities (Halal/Kosher, but possibly others)	

EWAP initial comments on remit/scope/desired outputs/process	<p>Consider cross-cutting implications for equines/companion animals where appropriate  Consider public perception and potential conflation with GMOs</p>
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<p>Timeframe  - approx how often will WG meet?  - update to PC by X?</p>	<p>Meetings every 6-8 weeks?  If Bill rejected by the Lords, may be pressure to deliver a position while it is being revised</p>
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- draft policy position to PC by	(but intention of the WG is not to amend this Bill, but to look beyond it to implementation and future more detailed legislation.
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Final membership, scope and timeframe agreed: DATE