



IAT GUIDANCE TO MEMBERS APPLYING FOR NACWO STATUS VIA ASPEL

Following a meeting with the Head of the Animals in Science Regulation Unit (ASRU) we would like to share the following advice when applying to become a NACWO.

Application for NACWO status is via an evidence-based assessment. Therefore applicants applying to become NACWOs must be able to evidence that they have the requisite knowledge of the species in their care, coupled with the skills, experience and personal attributes to fulfil the role. You may wish to collaborate with the Establishment Licence Holder (ELH) and the Named Training and Competency Officer (NTCO) in submitting your supporting documentation.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662364/Guidance_on_the_Operation_of_ASPA.pdf (Pages 75-76)

Key to this would be supplying a statement which covers the following information, including the species the NACWO will be working with:

Named Animal Care and Welfare Officers are responsible for overseeing the day-to-day husbandry, care and welfare of the protected animals held at their establishment.

- Familiar with ASPA, accommodation COP, ASPA Schedule 1
- Evidence that you have completed the mandatory training modules e.g. IAT NACWO course (inc. E2) and have other approved prior learning required (e.g. IAT Level 2 and 3 or equivalent)
- Be able to offer independent advice on welfare and care of the specific species to minimise suffering and optimise the welfare of animals that are bred, kept for use or used at the establishment
- Appropriate personal authority to promote high standards
- Good communication and diplomacy skills to champion a culture of care amongst both scientific and husbandry staff
- Appropriate managerial authority to enable them to ensure that high standards of husbandry and care are practised
- All of this is current or within the last 5 years

A suitable person might, for example, be a senior animal technician with an animal technology qualification, or an experienced stockperson with a qualification in agricultural science.

The IAT maintains a Register of Animal Technologists who may be appropriate to fill a NACWO post. Further details are available at <https://www.iat.org.uk/nacwo>