**National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee Strategic Plan 2024-2028**

# Vision:

Providing world-class leadership that underpins the ethical use of animals for research, testing, and teaching in New Zealand.

# Overall aim:

Provide robust information, advice, and recommendations for advancing the ethical use and welfare outcomes of animals used in research, testing, and teaching.

# Strategic priorities:

## One. Advance public confidence in research, testing, and teaching.

## Two. Decision makers have evidence to inform change.

## Three. Ensure a responsible research, testing, and teaching system.

## Four. Animal Ethics Committees are supported in making robust decisions.

# Strategic Objectives:

## **One. Effectively engage to improve public awareness and understanding:**

* Enhance awareness of NAEAC’s role in research, testing, and teaching.
* Remove barriers and improve understanding of the research, testing, and teaching system.
* Promote and support transparency initiatives for use in research, testing, and teaching.
* Ensure NAEAC communications are fit for purpose, responsive, and maintained.
* Promote a proactive approach to understanding different public views.

## **Two. Evidence-based advice provided to the Minister and Director-General of MPI:**

* Make recommendations to ensure Part 6 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 is fit for purpose.
* Recommend specific improvements to the research, testing, and teaching system.
* Identify and review critical and significant issues, proactively and when directed by the Minister.
* Remain informed of emerging national and international developments and issues.

## **Three. Ensure a responsible research, testing, and teaching system:**

* Identify and prioritise system improvements within NAEAC’s functions.
* Ensure effective monitoring of Codes of Ethical Conduct and research, testing, and teaching activities.
* Provide best practice guidance in relation to research, testing, and teaching.
* Improved understanding of the application of Te Ao Māori principles in the research, testing, and teaching space.

## **Four. Animal ethics committees are supported in making robust decisions:**

* Support efficient Code of Ethical Conduct review process and provide advice to animal ethics committees.
* Enhance relationships with animal ethics committees.
* Promote sharing of best practice between animal ethics committees including advancing the implementation of the 4 Rs.

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