

## **UK Chief Veterinary Officer to Speak at 2016 OV Conference**

19 July 2016

**UK - Nigel Gibbens, the UK's Chief Veterinary Officer; Peter Jinman OBE, Chair of the RCVS Certification Subcommittee and Ian Wright, Head of ESCCAP UK & Guideline Director for ESCCAP Europe, have been announced as speakers at the 2016 Official Veterinarian Conference, 'Safeguarding Animal Welfare – the role of the OV' on 29-30 September.**

The full programme includes dedicated lecture streams aimed at large animal, small animal and equine practitioners, together with round table Q&A sessions covering export issues relating to farm animals, companion animals and equines.

With concerns about Bluetongue once again in the news, the threat it poses to the UK will be under discussion in the large animal sessions, together with diseases such as Bovine TB and Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea. Small animal sessions include certification, the Pet Travel Scheme and exotic diseases, while equine practitioners will discuss topics including importation, fly grazing and notifiable diseases. The role of OVs in enhancing animal welfare runs throughout as central theme.

The conference is a collaboration between Improve International, which handles OV registration and training in England, Scotland and Wales; 5m Publishing and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). It provides 12 hours of certified training to help OVs meet revalidation and RCVS requirements.

According to Improve, registrations are up on last year and iM3, a company which specialises in the design and manufacture of advanced dental equipment and instruments for the veterinary sector, has just signed up as lead sponsor.

An exhibition of the latest products and services of interest to OVs will run alongside the conference which will take place at the Alexandra House Hotel and Conference Centre, near Swindon.

David Babington MRCVS, Managing Director of Improve, said: "We are delighted to welcome Nigel Gibbens, together with the many other expert speakers who are helping us to create a unique forum in which OVs can update themselves with cutting edge CPD and share experiences and ideas. As spaces are limited, we urge OVs keen to attend to book soon."

Craig Evans, iM3 General Manager (Europe), added: "iM3 is delighted to sponsor the 2016 Official Veterinarian Conference as a new event on the veterinary calendar. We are also pleased to further develop our relationship with Improve International."

For more information on the Official Veterinarian Conference and Exhibition or to register visit: [www.officialvet.com](http://www.officialvet.com)