

Post Details		Last Updated: 05/11/2019	
Faculty/Administrative/Service Department	School of Veterinary Medicine		
Job Title	Farm Animal Pathology and Surveillance Officer (Maternity Cover)		
Job Family	Professional Services	Job Level	5
Responsible to	Head of Veterinary Pathology		
Responsible for (Staff)	NA		
Job Purpose Statement			
To provide an exceptional diagnostic veterinary pathology (<i>post mortem</i> examination) service to farm animal practices in the south-east of England. To liaise directly with APHA (Defra) colleagues and support the educational and research programmes in the School of Veterinary Medicine.			
Key Responsibilities			
<div><div>1.</div><div>Provide high quality veterinary pathology services in support of farm animal veterinary laboratory diagnosis and animal health surveillance in the School of Veterinary Medicine and the Faculty.</div></div> <div><div>2.</div><div>To facilitate an environment of diagnostic pathology and teaching excellence.</div></div> <div><div>3.</div><div>Work closely with species expert groups (SEG), colleagues and other specialists in the field of farm animal pathology and disease diagnostics to maintain the highest level of skill and knowledge.</div></div> <div><div>4.</div><div>Contribute to the advancement of the diagnostic service, for example by organising and/or participating in local CPD events, create newsletters, publish unusual findings, with a view to recognition of the University's Pathology Service at a national and international level.</div></div> <div><div>5.</div><div>Directly contribute to undergraduate teaching programmes (including lectures, tutorials, practical classes, project supervision etc.) in the area of veterinary pathology, livestock diseases, laboratory diagnosis, veterinary public health and/or farm animal studies.</div></div>			
N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.			

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities Policy.
- Work to achieve the aims of our Environmental Policy and promote awareness to colleagues and students.
- Follow University/departmental policies and working practices in ensuring that no breaches of information security result from their actions.
- Ensure they are aware of and abide by all relevant University Regulations and Policies relevant to the role.
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.
- Work supportively with colleagues, operating in a collegiate manner at all times.

Help maintain a safe working environment by:

- Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand.
- Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy.

Elements of the Role

Planning and Organising

The post holder is expected to complement our existing strengths in the area of veterinary sciences and have a particular interest in farm animal pathology and animal health surveillance. The post holder will work with staff from veterinary practices, government (Defra/APHA), industry and other educational/research institutions to provide and develop veterinary laboratory diagnostic services (farm animal post-mortem examination and related testing). The post holder may also be involved in teaching (undergraduate, postgraduate, CPD) and research activities. They are expected to take a lead in the development and promotion of farm animal *post-mortem* services. Some out of hours work and national travel may be required periodically.

Problem Solving and Decision Making

The post holder is expected to complement our existing strengths in the area of veterinary sciences and have a particular interest in farm animal pathology and animal health surveillance. The post will involve significant amounts of problem solving and detailed disease investigation.

The post holder will work with staff from veterinary practices, government (Defra/APHA), industry and other educational/research institutions to provide and develop veterinary laboratory diagnostic services (farm animal post-mortem examination and related testing).

Continuous Improvement

Continually to update knowledge and develop skills. To extend, transform and apply knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities.

Accountability

The post holder may also be involved in teaching (undergraduate, postgraduate, CPD) and research activities. They are expected to take a leadership role in the development and promotion of farm animal post-mortem services. Some out of hours work and national travel may be required periodically.

Dimensions of the role

Supplementary Information

Funding, including managing and developing staff within their projects; risk assessment of project activities; organisation of project meetings and documentation; management of resources, preparation of annual reports, and management or monitoring of research budgets. To oversee and implement procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.

To undertake liaison with external organisations including equipment manufacturers, steering committees, associated academic facilities and commercial users.

Person Specification

Qualifications and Professional Memberships

A Veterinary degree and be registered or be eligible for registration with RCVS	E
A post-graduate qualification in a relevant field (e.g. microbiology, epidemiology, or pathology)	D
A higher research degree (PhD)	D

Technical Competencies (Experience and Knowledge)

This section contains the level of competency required to carry out the role (please refer to the Competency Framework for clarification where needed and the Job Matching Guidance).

Essential/
Desirable
Level
1-3

Significant experience in <i>post-mortem</i> examination of a range of livestock species (ruminants, pigs, poultry/gamebirds and camelids).	E	3
Farm animal clinical experience in the UK, Europe or countries with similar livestock production systems	E	3
Excellent communication skills (written and oral) for a diverse range of professional and non-professional audiences including veterinary professionals, livestock owners and policy-makers.	E	3
An understanding of animal health surveillance and veterinary epidemiology	E	2
Good knowledge of the UK livestock industry and of endemic disease	E	3
Excellent team-working, inter-personal and networking skills	E	2
National and International research performance (incl. a good and continuing publication record, and evidence of actual/potential ability in external income generation)	D	N/A

Core Competencies

Level
1-3

Communication	3
Adaptability / Flexibility	3
Customer/Client service and support	3
Planning and Organising	3
Continuous Improvement	3
Problem Solving and Decision Making Skills	3
Managing and Developing Performance	2
Creative and Analytical Thinking	2
Influencing, Persuasion and Negotiation Skills	2
Strategic Thinking & Leadership	2

This Job Purpose reflects the core activities of the post. As the Department/Faculty and the post holder develop, there will inevitably be some changes to the duties for which the post is responsible, and possibly to the emphasis of the post itself. The University expects that the post holder will recognise this and will adopt a flexible approach to work. This could include undertaking relevant training where necessary.

Should significant changes to the Job Purpose become necessary, the post holder will be consulted and the changes reflected in a revised Job Purpose.

Organisational/Departmental Information & Key Relationships

Background Information

Our £11 million state of the art Veterinary Pathology Centre provides for gross post-mortem examination of livestock, equines, exotics and companion animals at ACDP1-3 and SAPO3 containment levels. Our team of highly skilled board-certified pathologists, and technicians has expertise across a wide range of species. They share a passion for inspiring the next generation of veterinary pathologists, collaborating with the Pirbright Institute (PI), Public Health England (PHE) and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).

In addition to teaching and research, the Centre offers services to the wider veterinary and scientific community, which ensures that case-load, is varied and interesting. Our building has a large containment level 2 (CL2) post-mortem examination room with high ceilings, post-mortem tables, biological safety cabinets and integrated cold rooms all served by a powerful winch system. This means that post-mortem examinations can be performed on a wide variety of species. A viewing gallery overlooks the suite and, where appropriate, digital technology is used to record and stream post-mortem examinations for training purposes.

There is also a smaller, containment level 3 (CL3) post-mortem examination room, which enables us to work safely with cases where there are significant potential or known Category 3 infectious disease risks. These facilities enable us to offer a broad post-mortem examination service to practitioners and accept most species for post-mortem examination including small animal, exotic, and equine, farm animal and zoological specimens.

The School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Surrey has a unique distributed curriculum. A range of teaching and research activities are undertaken at clinical and non-clinical partner sites across the five year programme. Intramural rotations (IMR) run throughout the final year and are mainly hosted at partner practices and other veterinary organisations. The program is fully accredited by the RCVS.

The Centre also houses histology laboratories as well as a multi-headed microscope, virtual microscopy and X-ray facilities.

Relationships