

# Improving animal welfare using the Animal Welfare Assessment Grid (AWAG)

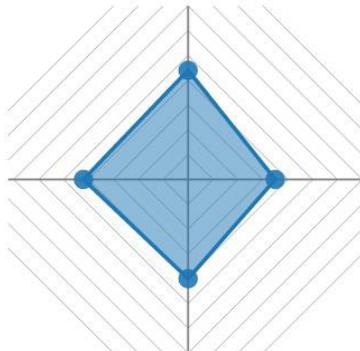
# CRACK IT Solutions

Public Health England (PHE) is seeking partners to help develop for wider applications their Animal Welfare Assessment Grid (AWAG). The AWAG captures and visualises animal welfare assessment data, indicating where improvements can be made to the lifetime experience of research animals.

## What could the Solution be used for?

The AWAG is a unique software system for assessing the lifetime experience of individual or groups of animals. It allows welfare to be quantified and presented in a graphical way that is consistent and easily understood, highlighting key events that affect well-being and where improvements to animal welfare can be made.

On-going in-life assessment of welfare will allow researchers, technicians and veterinarians to track and make improvements to their studies in terms of experimental design and application of earlier evidence-based decisions on humane end-points.



## Need for collaboration

PHE is seeking partners to trial the AWAG software in diverse operational environments and provide advice and feedback to support refinement of the system. No specific skills are required to use the software but local ICT support may be required for installation, though PHE can provide assistance here if required.

PHE is also seeking software and app development expertise to evolve the system and improve usability.

## 3Rs impact assessment

By combining retrospective and prospective analysis of welfare, AWAG can assist in making difficult quality of life decisions about an animal or group of animals. It provides indicators on how the well-being of animals can be improved and demonstrates to regulators, ethical review bodies, funders and the public that a proactive approach is being taken and that effective action is resulting in the delivery of improved husbandry and care.

For more information or to contact the Solution provider: <https://crackit.org.uk/improving-animal-welfare-using-animal-welfare-assessment-grid-awag>

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