

**Did you know the government tests over 35,000 samples annually to check that veterinary medicines used in agriculture are being used correctly?**

**Are you interested in hearing about the independent oversight of this process?**

If you are, you will be welcome to “**The Role of the Veterinary Residues Committee and Consumer Protection**”, the Open Meeting of the independent Veterinary Residues Committee.

This is being held at 10.30 am on **Wednesday 14 October** at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in **Cardiff**.

The Committee provides advice to the Chief Executives of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate and Food Standards Agency on planning its testing programmes and also on the significance of the results for consumer health. It also has a role in communicating its findings and recommendations to Government and stakeholders in a comprehensive, understandable and timely way.

At the meeting, you will hear speakers from the committee and industry explain:

- the need for veterinary medicines
- the system of surveillance for residues in foods
- what happens when a residue is found
- the significance of the testing results for consumers
- the latest research on consumer attitudes to residues of veterinary medicines

You will also have a chance to ask questions of the Committee and give your own views. The VRC wants to take every opportunity to hear your views on aspects of its work. The VRC decided in 2007 that it should hold its open meetings round the UK and this is its opportunity to hear particularly the views of consumers and interested groups from Wales and the west of England.

**Admission is free**, but you will need tickets, which are available from:

Isabel Sharma  
Veterinary Residues Committee Secretariat  
Woodham Lane  
New Haw  
Addlestone  
Surrey, KT15 3LS  
E-mail: [i.sharma@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:i.sharma@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01932 338330

Please include the names of all attendees. The closing date for ticket requests is **Friday 25 September**.

Details of the meeting, including an electronic application for tickets are on the VRC website: [www.vet-residues-committee.gov.uk](http://www.vet-residues-committee.gov.uk).