Animal Welfare Assessment Grid (AWAG) User Guide

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Login

You can log onto the system using one of two methods:

1. Active Directory account

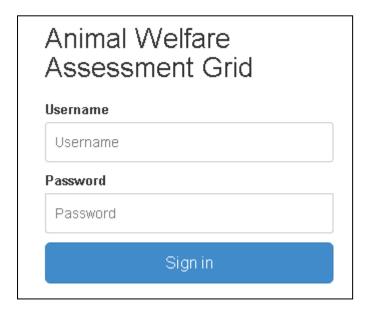
If the system is set up to use your organisation's Active Directory as the authentication system then the user account details will be supplied by your IT department.

2. Basic login

The username and passwords are held in a database and the defaults set to the following:

Username: admin

Password: adminadmin



Navigation

Once you have logged in, you can navigate around the system using the menu on the left hand side.

Animal Welfare Assessment Grid

New Animal Assessment

Existing Animal Assessment

Graphs

Export Animal Assessments

Manage Animals

Manage Studies/Study Groups

Manage Species

Manage Reasons

Manage Housing

Manage Sources

Manage Scales

Manage Factors

Manage Parameters

Manage Templates

Activity Logs

Manage Users

Recommended Parameters and Factors

In order to carry out assessments for an animal, you must first create parameters and factors and apply them to a template.

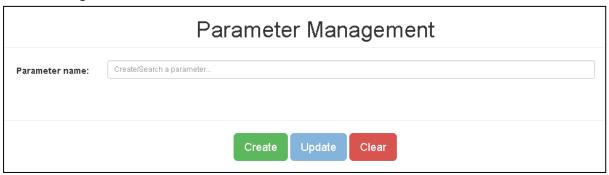
Appendix 1 lists the recommended parameters and factors to use as described in the publication: Wolfensohn SE, Sharpe S, Hall I, Lawrence S, Kitchen S, Dennis M. (2015) 'Refinement of welfare through development of a quantitative system for assessment of lifetime experience'. Animal Welfare, 24, pp. 139-149.

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Parameter management

To create parameters:

1. Select 'Manage Parameters' from the menu.



- 2. Enter a parameter name into the input box.
- 3. To store this parameter in the database, press enter or select it and then press create.

Parameters can also be edited by looking them up and then renaming them.

4. Press the 'Edit' button the right of the select box.



- 5. Start typing an existing parameter name into the select box and select it.
- 6. Enter the new parameter name in the 'Update parameter name' input box and select it or press 'Enter'. You can cancel the update by pressing the cross button next to the input or pressing 'Clear'.

Factor management

Factors are the granular scoring mechanism used to measure an animal's welfare. In the AWAG system, many factors are assigned to a parameter but first you must create them. They are created and edited in the same way as parameters are. You can access the factor management screen by selecting 'Manage Factors' from the main navigation menu.



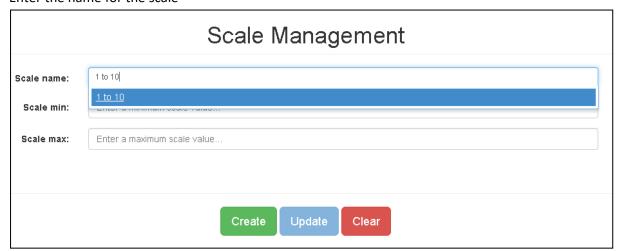
Scale management

A scale will be used as a measurement for all factors in a template; an example being a value ranging from 1 to 10.

1. Select 'Manage Scales' from the navigation menu.



2. Enter the name for the scale



3. Enter the minimum and maximum values used to score a factor and then press 'Create'.



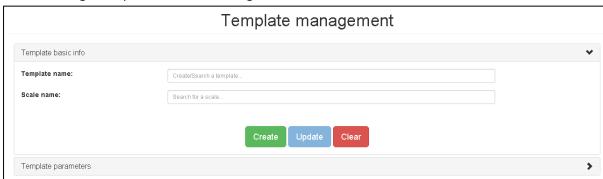
4. You can edit a scale by selecting the scale name using the input box, editing the values and then pressing 'Update'.



Template management

Once you have entered all of your parameters and factors in the system, you can start to create a template. The role of a template is to link parameters with factors. This will be applied against an animal so that assessments for the animal can be carried out.

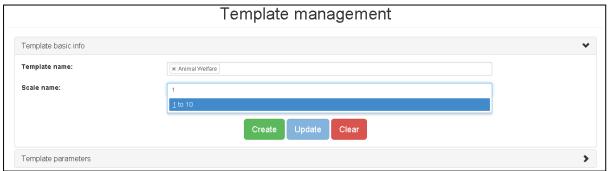
1. Select 'Manage Templates' from the navigation menu.



2. Add a template name into the 'Template name' input box and select it.



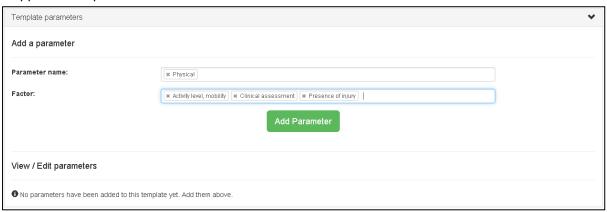
3. Enter the scale name to use for the template and then click create.



The second panel in the template management screen is used to create relationships between parameters and factors.

4. Enter the parameter name that you have previously stored in the system and select it.

5. Enter one or more factors that you have previously stored in the system; these will be mapped to the parameter.



6. Press 'Add Parameter' to create the relationship.

Species and source management

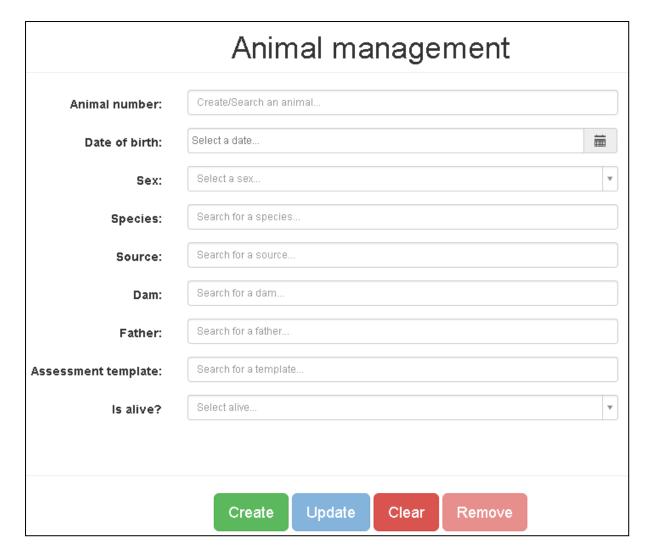
Before an animal can be stored in the system you must create a species and source to apply against it. These two screens operate the same as the parameter and factor management screens. Enter 'Species' and 'Source' names and press 'Create'.



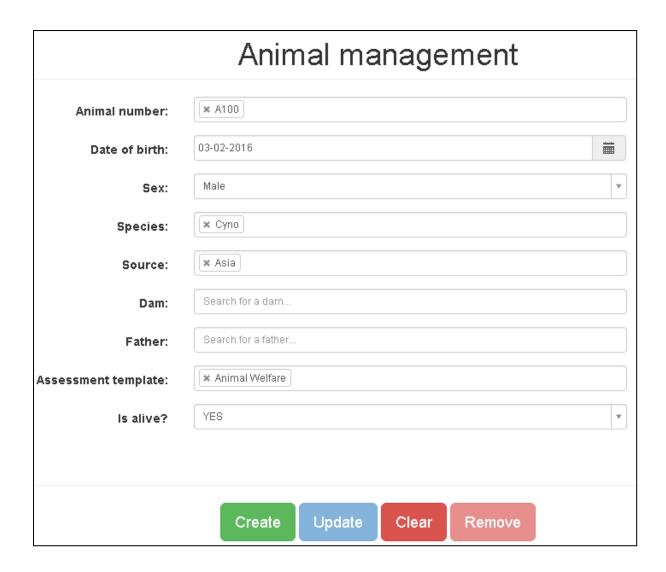


Animal management

To create and/or edit animals select 'Manage animals' from the navigation panel.



- 1. Add the name of the animal in the 'Animal number' input box.
- 2. Select the date of birth of the animal using the date selection input box.
- 3. Add the sex of the animal using the drop down menu.
- 4. Add the species of the animal created in the previous section.
- 5. Add the source of the animal created in the previous section.
- 6. Add the dam and father of the animal; these can be left blank if not known.
 - a. Dam and father entries are created in the same way as for any other animal in the system. You can create a child, then its parents and after that go back and edit the child's details to include the parents.
- 7. Apply a template to an animal using the 'Assessment template' input box.
- 8. Select whether the animal is alive or not from the 'Is alive' drop down box.
- 9. Press 'Create' to add the animal into the system.



Study and study group management

Animals can be sorted into studies and study groups. Animals are added to study groups, which are in turn added to a study. A study can contain zero or more study groups. An animal does not have to be part of a study to be assessed in the system.

The system allows for animals to be part of more than one study but not at the same time.

- 1. Select 'Manage Studies/Study Groups' from the navigation menu.
- 2. Enter a study group name into the 'Study group name' input box.



3. Enter one or more animals already stored in the system by searching/selecting animals using the 'Study group animals' input box, then press submit.



4. Create a study by adding a study name and selecting the study groups you would like to add to it.



Reason and housing management

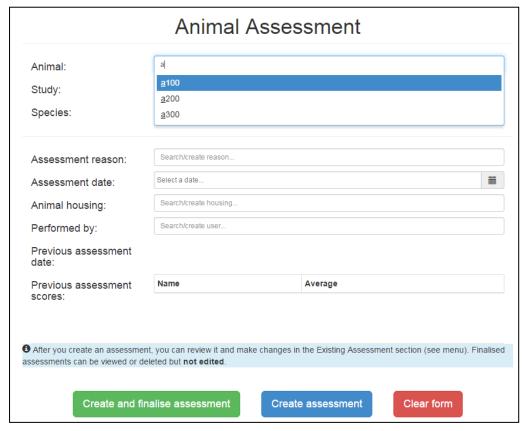
Reason and housing can be created and edited using the same method described in the parameter and factor management screens. They can also be created at the same time as the assessment is being carried out for an animal.



Housing Management		
Housing name:	Main housing Main housing	
	Create Update Clear	

Assessing an animal

- 1. Select 'New Animal Assessment' from the main navigation panel.
- 2. Select the animal to create an assessment for.



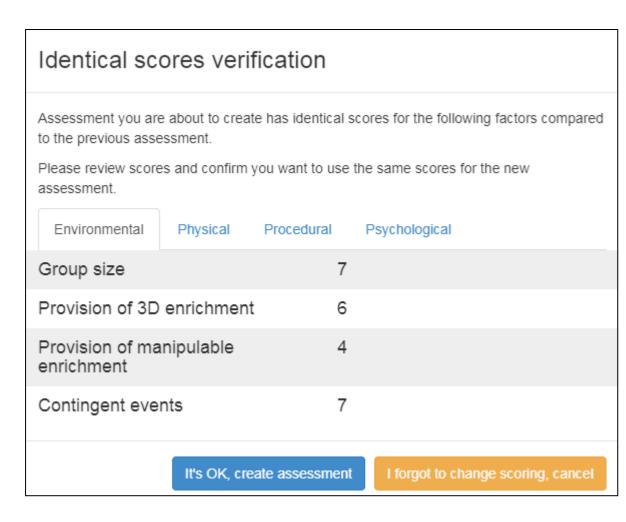
a. If the selected animal has been assessed before, the assessment form will be updated automatically using data from the previous assessment.

The system will ask you to confirm any scores that you haven't changed compared to the previous assessment to help to avoid input errors.

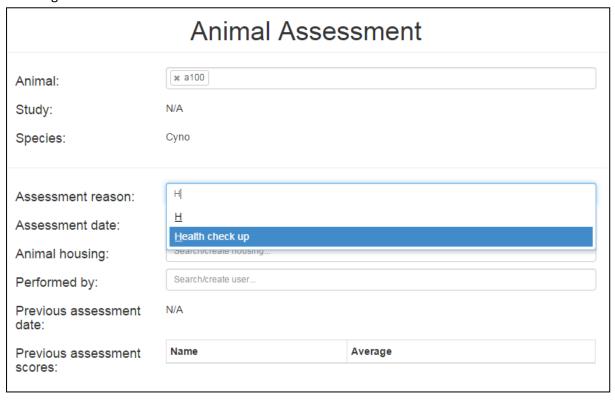
Only parameters and factors with scores that have not changed will be displayed.

Other fields, such as assessment reason or date are automatically updated but <u>are</u> <u>not checked</u> so please double check they are correct.

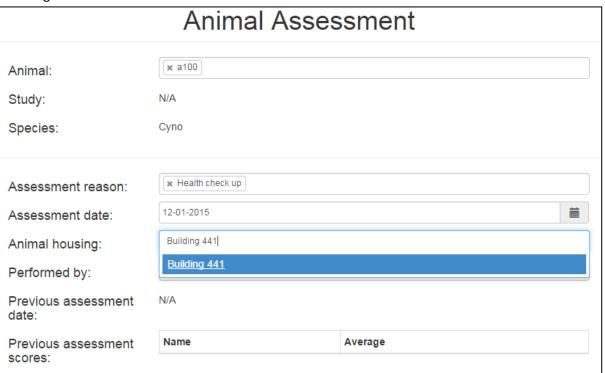
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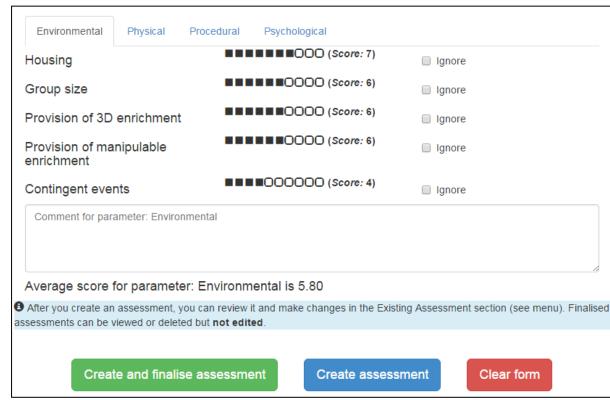
Select an existing assessment reason using the 'Assessment reason' input box.
 Note: you can also create a new reason by typing in a non-existent reason name and choosing it.



- 4. Select the date from the 'Assessment date' date selection box.
- Select an existing housing using the 'Animal housing' input box
 Note: you can also create a new housing by typing in a non-existent housing name and choosing it.



- 6. Select scores for all of the factors for each parameter.
 - a. Factors may be ignored. If they are, their value will not be included in any calculations.



7. You can enter any comments you have for each assessment parameter into the comments input box below the assessment form.

Creating and finalising assessments

The system allows partially filled in assessment form to be created. These assessments can be completed at a later date.

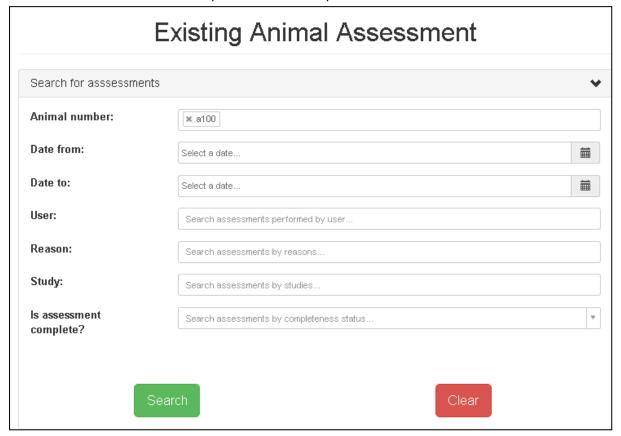
However, once an assessment data has been finalised, it cannot be edited unless unlocked by a system administrator who need to run a database query.

- 1. Press 'Create assessment' to create an assessment. You will be able to edit it later.
- 2. Press 'Create and finalise assessment' to create an assessment. The system will prompt you to enter any missing information and once the creation is successful, the assessment will be finalised and not further edits will be possible.

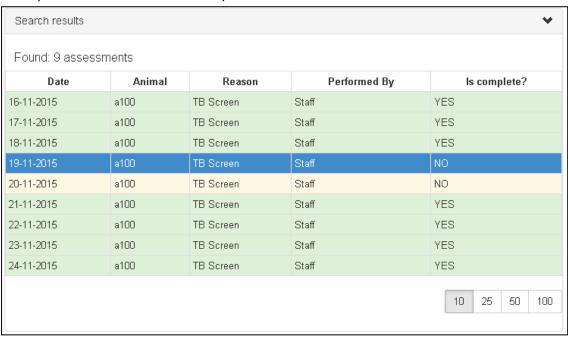
Looking up incomplete assessments

Sometimes assessments cannot be completed and are saved in the system in an incomplete state. In order to complete an assessment you will need to first look up it up.

- 1. Select 'Existing Animal Assessment' from the navigation panel.
- 2. Select the search criteria to look up assessments and press search.



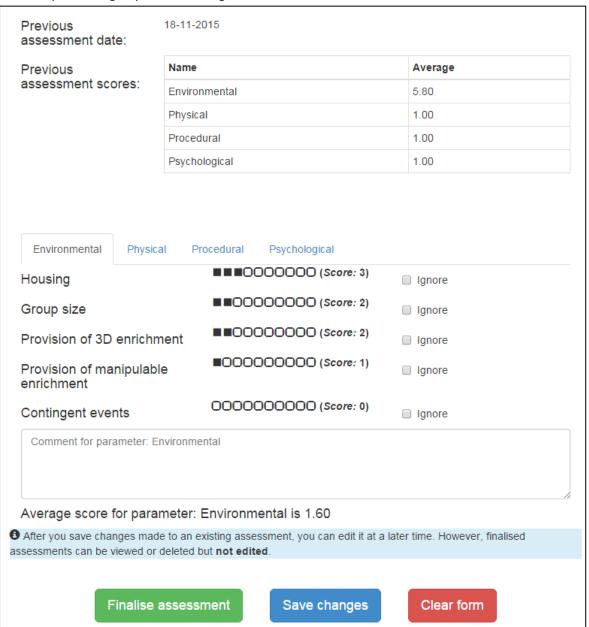
3. Once located, select the incomplete assessment in the table of assessments by clicking on it. Incomplete assessments are marked yellow.



4. Fill out any missing information and press either 'Finalise assessment' or 'Save'. If you press 'Save', you will save the current state and you will still be able to edit the assessment.

If you press 'Finalise assessment', you will save the current state and the assessment will be

finalised preventing any further changes.



Viewing existing assessments

Follow initial steps from Looking up incomplete assessments section.

Exporting assessments

To export assessment data from the system you can use the 'Export Animal Assessments' section of the system.

Select 'Export Animal Assessments' from the navigation panel.

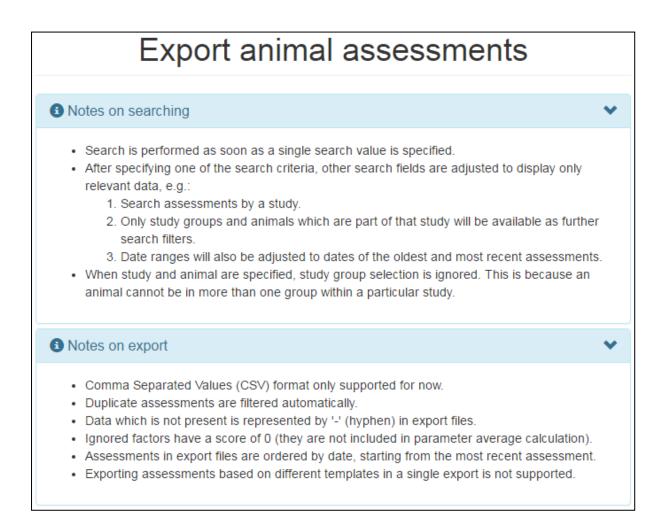
To export assessments you need to follow 3 main steps:

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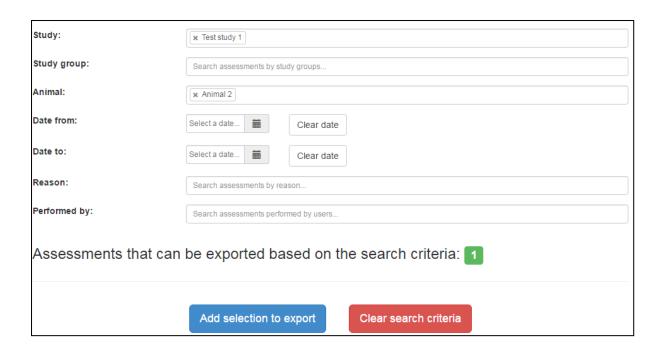
- 1. Select assessments to be exported.
- 2. Add selection from #1 to list of exports.
- 3. Export all the selections.

Before using the export feature, please read the notes on searching and exporting which are located above the search form.

Please note that only complete assessments can be exported.

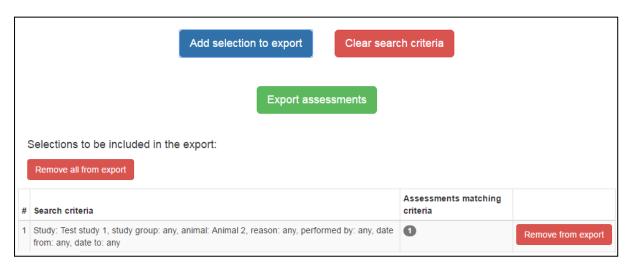


Specify selection criteria to select assessments. The number of assessments that can be exported is updated automatically.



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When you are happy with the selection, click the 'Add selection to export' button. This will add the selection to list of exports.



You can add as many selections as you like to the list.

Use the 'Remove from export' or 'Remove all from export' to remove selections.



After selecting all the data you want to export, click the 'Export assessments' button. A progress bar will appear.

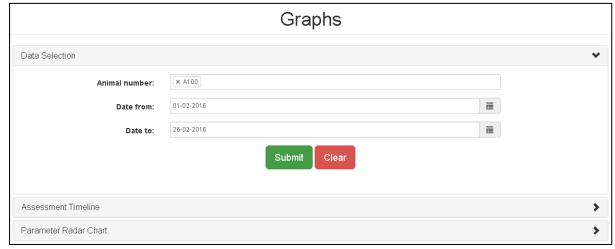


Once the export is ready, a dialog window should be displayed to allow you save the export file.

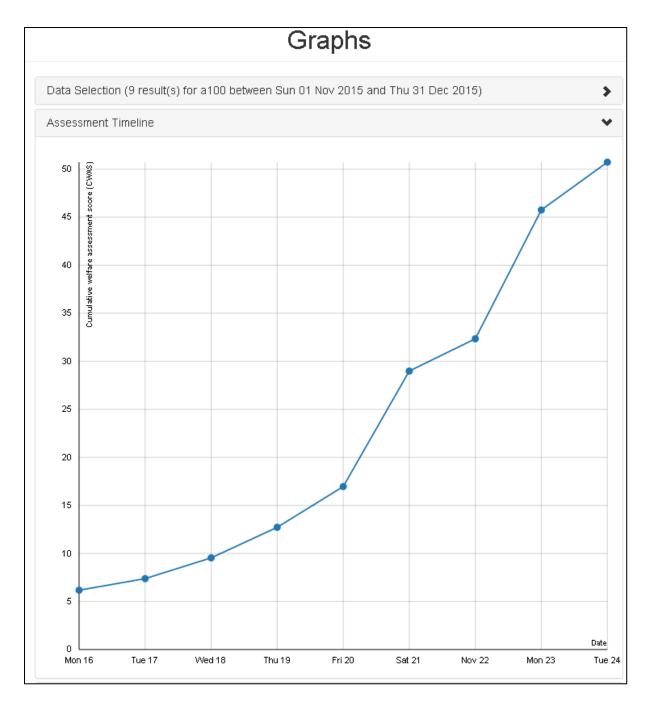
Graphs

To view the assessment data in the system you can use the 'Graphs' section of the system.

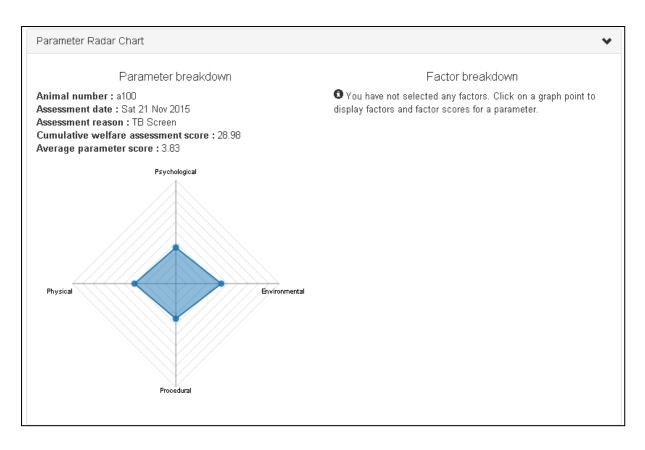
- 1. Select 'Graphs' from the navigation panel.
- 2. Select an animal and a date range and press 'Submit' to view assessment data.



- 3. A graph will appear showing the cumulative welfare assessment score for each assessment stored for the animal between the two dates.
 - You can drill down to view the assessment data by clicking on any point on the graph and scrolling down.



4. To drill down to view the factor scores for each parameter in an assessment; select one or more of the points on the radar chart.





User management

User management is available only when database authentication is being used. If you are not using database authentication you will need to speak to your IT administrator who will be able to add users for you. You will see the following message when that is the case.



Users can only be added by an admin user. If you are not an admin user you will see the following message.



If you are an admin user you can add/update and remove users by filling out the form and pressing the relevant buttons.

Note: Passwords must be at least 8 characters long.

Note: The admin user cannot be deleted or their role changed to an assessment user.



User activity tracking

The system will log actions that change the state of data (create, update and delete). The format of a log entry is as follows:

Date and time	Action	Username
2016-02-17T14:58:15.128Z	UPDATE ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE:SUCCESS	John Smith

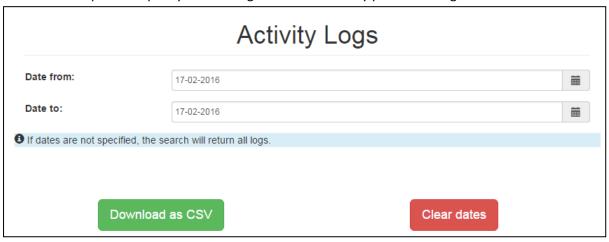
Username is the name used to log into the system.

Actions that were unsuccessful are also tracked. These may result for example because of incorrect data being entered.

Logs can be downloaded in Comma Separated Values (CSV) format.

To download activity logs:

- 1. Select 'Activity logs' from the main navigation panel.
- 2. You have the option to specify a date range to download only part of the logs.



- 3. Click 'Download logs'.
- 4. Wait until a window appears asking you to save the logs on your computer.



5. Save the logs. You can analyse them later using text or spreadsheet editor.

Appendix 1

The table below lists the recommended parameters and factors for the Assessment Template as described in the publication: Wolfensohn SE, Sharpe S, Hall I, Lawrence S, Kitchen S, Dennis M. (2015) 'Refinement of welfare through development of a quantitative system for assessment of lifetime experience'. Animal Welfare, 24, pp. 139-149.

Parameters	Factors
Physical	General condition (weight-loss, condition score)
	Clinical assessment
	Activity level, mobility
	Presence of injury
	Not eating/ drinking
Behavioural/psychological	Stereotypy, self-harming, unusual grooming
	Response to catching event
	Hierarchy upset/ dispute, aggression/ bullying
	Alopecia score
	Use of enrichment
	Aversion to 'normal' events
Environmental	Housing
	Group size
	Provision of 3D enrichment
	Provision of manipulable enrichment
	Contingent events
Experimental/clinical event	Restraint
	Sedation
	Planned Licensed procedure
	Veterinary/ Husbandry procedure
	Change in daily routine