



The [REDACTED] Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday December 11th 2023 [REDACTED] /Microsoft Teams Hybrid option

Minutes

- **1. Attendance and apologies.**

Apologies: [REDACTED].

- **2. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB**

PL38-23: approved subject to addressing minor comments detailed below.

Project licence review PL38-23 add comments

3. Amendment applications under consideration by the AWERB: none

- **Minutes of last meeting:**

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on October 23rd 2023

- **Matters arising/Action points**

- None tabled.

- **BVS Director update:** none tabled.

- **Named Persons Update:**

- **NVS update:**

- Analgesia meeting 13/12/23.
- New NVS is now in post and was officially welcomed.
- No major issues to report
- Standard condition 18: a report was submitted for a recent study involving [REDACTED], the study outcome was not impacted and tissues could be used.
- Challenge study: noted a recent refinement to conduct less bleeds which will provide enough blood and reduces stress on calves.
- A presentation will be given in February to the AWERB on a recent study with very important results.

- **NTCO update:** no issues to report. Has been a very busy year so far.
- **PEL Holder update:** none tabled
- **AWERB report:**
 - Licensing: still very busy. A few licensing issues with extending deadlines to 55 working days, some issues with inconsistency amongst inspectors.
 - AWERB away morning: this was a successful event which was well attended and included a workshop from the RSPCA.
- **Reports from Facilities**
 - still very busy, planning work for 2024 in progress. A number of studies in progress although studies will cease over Christmas with the exception of animals in-situ (not under experimental use)
 - a number of studies underway or planned for next year.
 - **Poultry :**
 - Relatively quiet but a large study due to commence in the new year.
 - New staff member now in post. Noted that a staff member will retire after 47 years, the committee recognized this long service which was excellent.
 - **Chick embryo room :** no report.
 - **Aquaculture Facility:**
 - Repairs now complete, water is flowing through the system. Hoping that a study will commence in the New Year.
 - CCTV: in discussions about this at the moment.
- **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** replacement meeting to be held in April 2024
- **Project Licences *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
PL32-23
- **Project Licence amendments *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
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OS14-23: Overseas research application: approved, no issues raised. Small volumes of blood to be taken from , no ethical issues raised with this.

17 A.O.C.B:

Non regulated ASPA work:

Summary: the committee discussed issues surrounding non-regulated work. Recognition of a “grey area” between non-regulated work and that defined by ASPA, mainly the animals which are not required to be reported under the act. The committee felt that we should be made aware of these proposals (currently have a form for) and discussed the level of ethical review required and how this is recorded and detailed ethically; for example when this will be detailed in a publication.

Action: It was suggested that a new form is developed, perhaps a modification of the VERC form could work for this purpose. Noted that annually we get around 10 to 11 proposals a year and a system for which proposals would need full review should be set up. In some cases this could be done via email to sub-committee with the AWERB being made aware of this.

- **Date of next meeting:** January 29th [REDACTED] Hybrid option via MS teams