



The [REDACTED] Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday 27th January [REDACTED] /Microsoft Teams Hybrid option
Minutes

1. Attendance and apologies.

- Apologies: [REDACTED]

2. Minutes of last meeting:

- The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on 16th December 2024.

Matters arising/Action points

- None tabled.

3. Presentations to the committee:

- **PPL amendment: A01-25:** The committee heard a presentation on the proposed amendments.
 - Interventional procedures to improve the treatment of [REDACTED].
 - [REDACTED] remains an incurable disease with high mortality.
 - Develop and characterise immunosuppression protocols [REDACTED]
 - Develop surgical techniques for implanting [REDACTED]
 - Samples will be biobanked for future research e.g., RNA/DNA analysis.
 - [REDACTED]
- **PPL amendment: A04-25:** The committee heard a presentation on the proposed amendments.
 - An inducible [REDACTED] model of [REDACTED]
 - Amended from 3 years to 5 years.
 - Secured additional funding from [REDACTED].

4. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB

- None

Amendment applications under consideration by the AWERB:

- **A73-24: reference: comments and considerations:**
 - [REDACTED] amendment will be included in licence renewal.
 - Any work that will not be carried out before licence expires should be removed from amendment.
 - Biobanking should be submitted as an amendment.
 - Happy to approve amendment for biobanking.
- **A01-25: reference: comments and considerations:**
 - Clinical and neurological scoring to be carried out.
 - Consider breed selection - May need longer than a week for habituation if using [REDACTED]
 - Happy to approve.
- **A04-25: reference: comments and considerations:**
 - Happy to approve.
- **A05-25: reference:**
 - For information - removal of additional availability for [REDACTED]

5. Updates and Reports

- **BVS Director update:**
 - Home office: we are attending two ASRU meetings in February – we were planning on writing a letter to ASRU but have been advised it would be better writing to the animals in science committee as they have the authority to write to the minister - we will get clarity on this.
 - [REDACTED] Guidance on Writing Animal Research for Publications – would like AWERB committee to review and welcome comments.
 - External audit – first audit was completed in [REDACTED] in December 2024, next audit will be carried out in [REDACTED] with the addition of time flow analysis.
- **NVS update:**
 - Poultry: [REDACTED] due to come in tomorrow – an additional room is being set up in case there is any issues with aggression.
 - [REDACTED]: Increasing efforts for the [REDACTED] that is being seen in the genetically modified [REDACTED] – scanning is being carried out to step up efforts [REDACTED].
 - Due to weather on Friday, we had impacts at the [REDACTED].
 - Annual returns recorded for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] this year; we will add information to our website.
 - Congratulations to [REDACTED] was awarded the professional services colleague of the year at Easter Bush.
- **NTCO update:**
 - None tabled
- **PEL Holder update:**
 - None tabled
- **Edinburgh AWERB report:**
 - Annual returns – 142 submitted out of 185.
 - Home office – deadlines have been extended.

- **Reports from Facilities**

- **Farms/ [REDACTED]:**

- Staff – one person off on long-term sick.
 - Little bit of damage at [REDACTED] from weather but nothing major.
 - Upgrade works completed to [REDACTED]
 - Very busy start to the new year with studies
 - [REDACTED] study completed.
 - Delivery of a new batch of 6 pigs.
 - [REDACTED] pig for challenge cohort farrowed.

- **Poultry:**

- [REDACTED] arriving tomorrow.
 - Birds are being weight checked to preempt if they will become phenotypic.

- **Chick embryo room:** no report.

- **Aquaculture Facility:**

- Staffing levels good.
 - Training on going for BVS staff in Aquaria maintenance.
 - One study ongoing for genetically edited salmon.
 - Salmon/mussel study now concluded.
 - New chair of Aquaculture now in post.

- **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:**

- 3Rs and culture of care committee held a meeting, they will be planning the annual symposium – details will follow shortly.
 - Newsletter circulated with all the information that follow up on each of these meetings.

6. Project Licences *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting

PL41-24

Project Licence amendments *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
A85-24:

7. A.O.C.B: none

Date of next meeting: 24th February 2025 [REDACTED] option via MS teams 1.30pm