

AWERB Agenda March 2025 meeting

The University of Edinburgh
Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body
Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986



Meeting of Edinburgh AWERB on Tuesday 25th March 10am [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (face to face no hybrid option)

1. Apologies for absence and Approval of minutes

2. Matters Arising

PL38-24: Request from applicant to reapply for 2-year PPL: approved bearing in mind the following:

Delegated authority will be required by someone based here

The application will need to be slimmed-down, focusing on the experiments that can be realistically completed in 2 years, to be presented at AWERB.

Action point: HOLC to compose a communication

PL28-24: Some improvements made on latest draft, but many points raised by the committee have still not been addressed. A new scientific reviewer has offered to take a look.

Action point: HOLC to compose communication to applicant.

3. (a) To consider and advise the Establishment licence holder (PEL) on new Project licence Applications

	COMMENTS	OUTCOME
PL09-25	Minor points: NVS: typos and overly technical language. Benefits to be made clearer Further justification of numbers Protocol: Humane endpoints not clear Consider restructuring the protocol as it is very long	Approved subject to final sub-committee approval
PL10-25	Minor points: B&M protocol should be number 1 and consider adding ability to transfer animals to another licence NTS: reduce technical language GAA animals: further information about what sort of GA would be helpful Query over less invasive route of delivery of substances	Approved subject to final sub-committee approval
PL11-25	Minor points: No mention of any specific disease, nor any specific GA model. [REDACTED] – unacceptable as is, would require much better justification Action point: HOLC to request interim review a year or so into PPL via presentation to committee	Approved subject to final sub-committee approval

AWERB Agenda March 2025 meeting

PL12-25	Minor points	Approved subject to final sub-committee approval
PL13-25	Minor points: Consider adding monitoring sheet into the licence	Approved subject to final sub-committee approval

(b) Amendments – for consideration by full committee:

PPL transfer: A16-25

For information: A07-25, A11-25

Applications submitted and considered by the amendment Sub-Committee

Approved:
A15-25

Updates to the AWERB:

4. **██████ Director report (AWERB training requirements)**
 - Comments on ██████ guidance on writing animal research for publications: please do submit to director
 - Would like to introduce formal training for AWERB committee members.
 - A series of workshops is planned for the coming weeks on strategic planning for ██████
5. **██████ Deputy Director report (Facilities)**
 - Culture of Care: Last week was neurodiversity week. Videos and quizzes available throughout the week. No negative feedback received. Looking to plan another event at the end of the year, potentially around menopause
 - HO inspections: External inspections performed at several facilities, awaiting reports on some of these.
 - ██████: Air handling units starting to fail, ██████s has now come off the PEL
 - ██████ Adjacent demolition works causing some issues, ██████ forum meeting in person at which this will be discussed
6. **NVS update to the committee**
 - 8 SC18s since last meeting, all reported and dealt with appropriately
 - MHV scare found to be a false positive, discussions in progress with testing company based on these results.
7. **NACWO update to the committee**
 - One of the trainers from the central area has moved on, one trainer will be redeployed from another area 2 days a week, and further technicians are being developed to provide additional training
8. **NTCO update to the committee**
 - March PIL course was small this year, all exams done and handling ongoing.
 - A potential non-compliance has been submitted for training without a PIL
9. **HOLC update to the committee**
 - PIL audit 2025 now completed
 - HOLTIF forum: HOLC joining organising group.

AWERB Agenda March 2025 meeting

- Situation at ASRU: communication to PEL holders is due regarding movement to the target operating model (TOM), this is now due to be activated at the end of 2025. Significant disruption is expected as all existing inspectors are leaving ASRU, recruitment underway. Everyone who has a licence expiring in the next 18 months has been contacted by HOLC.

10. A.O.C.B

3Rs committee update:

Next 3Rs day is 6th November, general topic will be 3Hs

Tamoxifen oral dosing project is ongoing

Retrospective review of project licences is being discussed

AWERB review form: we'd like to streamline the form, perhaps change to 'confidential comments for committee' and 'comments for applicant', perhaps using shared document on sharepoint

Action point: [REDACTED] will take this onwards.

[REDACTED] are coming into [REDACTED] facility to record a news report with one of our PIs.

Date of next meeting: 6th May 2025 10am MS teams