



The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday 16th June [REDACTED] /Microsoft Teams Hybrid option
Minutes

1. Attendance and apologies.

- Apologies: [REDACTED]

Minutes of last meeting:

- The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on 27th May 2025.

Matters arising/Action points

- None tabled.

3. Presentations to the committee:

1. Decapod crustaceans

- [REDACTED] projects: Update of current [REDACTED] projects to the committee

A general overview of projects was provided

- functional regulation of commercial traits in [REDACTED]
- response to stressors and how they are influenced/enhanced by nutrition
- improve genomes, enriched function annotations and application of omics
- regeneration of [REDACTED] cuticle
- molecular regulation of colour
- [REDACTED] ovarian development
- nutrition and hemolymph biochemistry

Comments:

- The committee would need to take advice on human killing methods due to limited knowledge on [REDACTED]
- The main point as a committee is to have an awareness of what experiments are being carried out and justification for this.

Action: to follow up at a later date in relation to the potential addition of these species to A(SP)A

- **2. Presentation** [REDACTED] **PPL Renewal: PL16-25:** The committee heard a presentation on the proposed licence renewal.

Questions

- In terms of refinements can it be clarified if the controls are required.
- Veterinary improvements: noted that there has been some publications which may inform the community, for example genetic susceptibility to [REDACTED]

Comments

- No major concerns raised in relation to this application.
- Clarify the level of funding, noted that current funding is in place and a [REDACTED] funding grant is planned for the future.
- Check timings for licence as we may have this ahead of time, clarify with applicant.

3. Amendment applications under consideration by the AWERB:

none

4. Discussion of Business:

- **Additional availability application** [REDACTED]) PL19-25 final formal approval.
- **PPL renewal application** [REDACTED]: PL16-25 formal consideration final formal approval
- **Additional availability application** [REDACTED]: discussion of circulated responses to initial review comments.
- Some additional information is needed for maximal severity limits for procedures.
- Can we confirm/discuss if the option to use mobile imaging can be used, this has still not be clarified.
- Can clarify how we will be able to understand [REDACTED] are suitable for these procedures.
- Can we clarify how long animals will be able to sit still for, there is some confusion as to how long this will take. Noted that the maximum time will be 5 minutes.
- Suggest speaking with the NVS about this at [REDACTED] to consider their opinion on the validity of the procedures with other relevant people
- Concerns raised about possible ingestion of metal in the MRI [REDACTED] as they will be unsupervised. Can it be clarified if this will be a possibility.
- **Overseas Research Proposal:**
 - OS01-25: cannot be approved letter to this effect.
 - OS9-25: approved subject to minor comments and final sub-committee approval
 - OS10-25: approved subject to minor comments and final sub-committee approval

5. Updates and Reports

- **BVS Director update:**
- Collaborating with estates in relation to streamlining services, looking at specific buildings that could be closed.
- Moving towards dry heat sterilization will help save money going forward.
- Publishing guidelines for good practice in science to be published shortly.
- **NVS update:**

- **Poultry**

- Egg export: testing will be done and if paperwork is completed then the export can go ahead.
- Some poultry lines being regenerated and re-derived.
- **LA:** some habituation studies in relation to catheters underway.
- [REDACTED], used in first study, doing really well. Needed clarification as to the logistics of treating animal (no welfare). Meeting convened on Thursday 12th June allowed to delegate tasks at this stage, a new amendment will go forward. [REDACTED] has gone home and is doing really well.
- **NTCO update:**
None tabled
- **PEL Holder update:**
 - None tabled
- **Edinburgh AWERB report:**
- Licences moving well no issues to report. Noted some recent licences granted well ahead of time.
- Licencing pilot of updates to Aspel: Edinburgh selected as a test establishment, further updates in due course.

- **Reports from Facilities**

- Farms** [REDACTED]

- New NACWO completed training we will add him to the PEL.
 - [REDACTED] taken off licence, they will go back on as soon as is possible (no welfare concerns)
 - [REDACTED] funding: lots of work in relation to this proposal with Estates, the final proposal will go to the exceptions committee. Hoping that the proposals will go out to tender and this can all be concluded by March 2026.
- **Poultry.**
[REDACTED] all lines being concluded. Noted a thank you to NARF staff for their help and assistance with this. Some additional orders have been sent out in the last week before closure
- **Chick embryo room:** no report.
- **Aquaculture Facility:**
 - Staffing level remain good, with [REDACTED] aquatics Team continuing to be trained in the AGRF aquaria maintenance.
 - Some additional upgrades to the egg incubators are now required.
 - The current salmon study will be to examine IVF; future studies will repeat the GE (disease resistance) salmon, with the planned shipment at the eyed-staged for disease challenged at [REDACTED]; TBC.
 - Wild-type salmon muscle study has been extended again with additional sample timepoints in June and July. Currently the facility houses a small number (13 fish) of salmon (35-40g), with a request for a further 20 more fish (35-50g); delivery TBC.
 - [REDACTED] to visit on Wednesday, June 18th.
 - Roslin Aquaculture Middle Wing infrastructure develop being planned for various rooms, to house aquaria for [REDACTED].

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

Date for 3Rs 6th November.

Joint Scotland wide symposium for 2026, date to be confirmed.

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

none

Project Licence amendments *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting

none

7. A.O.C.B: none

Date of next meeting: 18th August 2025