



The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday January 23rd 2023 [REDACTED] and Microsoft teams Hybrid
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 the 22nd November.

3. Matters arising/Action points

Lay members: an unforeseen change of circumstances led to the resignation of our newly appointed lay member. Fortunately our previous lay member has kindly agreed to return to the committee.

4. NVS update:

- **Poultry:** Pecking incidents have resolved following remedial action. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Cryopreservation of gonads strategy is moving forward.
- **LA:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- **Tissue sharing:** this was briefly discussed and given consideration as a new initiative going forward.

5. NTCO update: no issues raised

6. PEL Holder update:

- A recent issue with a project licence and subsequent complaint to the home office has now been resolved
- Noted that the new director of BVS will take us his post on the 1st February.
- Noted that HO PEL holders forum is yet to be held.

7. Edinburgh AWERB report:

- Return of procedure exercise is well underway: almost 70% of returns have already been submitted.
- 2 presentations to PPL holders have been given with offers of assistance to help with the completion of the return of procedure.

- PPLs: December meeting considered 4 project licences, January also is very busy with 4 new PPL applications and 2 applications for additional availability.

8. Reports from Facilities

- **Farms** [redacted] Some issues with drainage and water freezing at the [redacted] Recruitment to be initiated in relation to [redacted] Work has been very busy within the facilities. A ministerial visit occurred last week and was very successful.
- **Poultry :**
[redacted]
Some pecking in a broiler model, now improved by reducing numbers and dimming lights within the facility. [redacted]
[redacted] Cryopreservation work is underway, with specific lines earmarked for preservation in this way.
[redacted] health screens submitted, building work is nearing completion.
- **Chick embryo room** ([redacted] no issues raised
- **Aquaculture Facility** ([redacted]
[redacted], these are being arranged.
- A new member of staff has been recruited.
- Studies: whilst a new (internal) grant holder anticipates starting two new studies in 2023, the potential for space to be outsourced to external companies may also be explored.
- Replacement PPL holder: a new chair has been appointed (fish immunologist) who will be in post later this year. It is anticipated that individual will relieve [redacted] of his role as PPL holder. However it is acknowledged that the aims of the work and the licence may also change in the future.
- [redacted]: If future strategy determines the need for this, issues in relation to visualizing disease challenge phenotypes in the facility will need to be addressed.
- **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** Rehoming group, email circulated. The first session of a workshop on compassion fatigue organised by [redacted] to be held at the chaplaincy.
- **Project Licences *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
none
- **Project Licence amendments *submitted*** to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting
A74-22: [redacted]
A78-22: [redacted]

9. Presentations:

PPL application PL05-22:

Questions/Discussion:

1. Microbiome: some questions on the constituents of the remaining [redacted] after the experimental manipulations.

2. Nasal swabs: noted that this was an optional step for potential future use, for example with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] It was agreed that this sampling time point could be removed and potentially re-instated via future amendment if required.
4. Sampling numbers: noted that fewer animals in the control group reflects the anticipated absence of adverse effects in this group.
5. Age of animals: it was clarified that young animals (eg from 5 days of age) had been used previously [REDACTED]
6. The development of the [REDACTED] model should be added as a scientific objective.
7. Antibiotics: the use of systemic antibiotics will be included within this application, as this is in line with published work.
8. Welfare health monitoring: a more unified approach to monitoring should be adopted.

PPL application PL06-22:

Questions/Discussion:

1. Discussed the potential plans going forward, noted that [REDACTED] will still have to hold the PPL as there is no suitably qualified person currently in post.
2. Hoped that the replacement for [REDACTED] will hold the PPL although it is unclear whether the PPL will need to be amended.
3. Disease work: noted that [REDACTED] are now operational now and this does offer the potential opportunity [REDACTED]

10. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB

PL05-22:

This application was approved subject to the addressing of the collated review comments

PL06-22:

This application was approved subject to the addressing of the collated review comments and those detailed below:

1. Clarify the numbers, the current PPL [REDACTED] but this number has not been used on this application.
2. Clarify if the new PPL application is in place at [REDACTED] as this would offer the possibility of transferring animals there for infection studies.
3. Regulatory advice box: this should be unchecked.
4. Clarification required in relation to what will typically happen to animals that will go forward for disease challenge work after being bred.
5. New PPL holder: it was agreed that another meeting should be convened to try to firm up details for the replacement PPL holder: [REDACTED] to action
6. Benefits section: this needs to be expanded with the benefits made clearer.

11. PPL amendments:

None tabled

12. Date of next meeting: February 27th 2pm, [REDACTED]/hybrid format.