



The [REDACTED] Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Thursday 27th August 2020

2pm [REDACTED] Microsoft teams

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 22/06/2020

3. Matters arising/Action points

- *Action:* presentation to AWERB by [REDACTED]: Outcome [REDACTED] not available until later in year, [REDACTED] to invite to later meeting.
- *Action: AWERB:* preparation of a poster emphasising the role of the AWERB (for example at open days): *Action* poster to be circulated for comment [REDACTED].
- *Action:* Letter to all animal staff thanking them during the pandemic, [REDACTED] will prepare and [REDACTED] to circulate. *Action* [REDACTED]
- *Action:* inform AWERB members to check settings about meetings to make sure these are private. **complete**
- *Action:* 3Rs committee poultry: consider format of poultry focus group to disseminate best practice in poultry research and where necessary undertake project work to facilitate this. Invitation to current [REDACTED] academic liaison to formally join AWERB. *Action* [REDACTED]
- *Action:* lessons learned from the Covid pandemic in animal research. To be considered at the central AWERB on the 3rd September. Consider obtaining user feedback going forward ([REDACTED] to send survey software link to [REDACTED] for consideration).
- The chair gave a short presentation covering the excellent contribution to the AWERB over the last 7 years of our lay member [REDACTED]. It was noted that the committee formally wished to thank him for his service to the Roslin AWERB.

4. Licences *submitted* to Home Office since last AWERB meeting

New Project licences

- none

Amended Project licences

- **A34-20 [REDACTED]: approved**

5. A38-20 [REDACTED] (presented by [REDACTED]) Presentation to the AWERB

This project licence amendment has requested the addition of ruminants to permit [REDACTED] work at the [REDACTED] where the licence has additional availability

Main points as follows:

- All work will be carried out at [REDACTED] and formal AWERB approval has been obtained.
- Additional justification should be included in the amendment for this additional work
- Adverse effects section: adverse effects that are mentioned in the PPL are not included in the clinical scoring system, this should be revised.
- Scoring system: some clarification required in relation to the practical implementation of the clinical scoring system.
- Comments/final version of PPL to be submitted to the [REDACTED] AWERB.

6. PPL amendment review:

- a. **A38-20 [REDACTED] amendment:** approved pending revision of comments above,

b. **A22-20: [REDACTED] additional availability application:**

This application has been returned to the AWERB for approval following revision, a summary of the main points are detailed below

Summary:

A22-20: [REDACTED] additional availability application:

- Clarify numbers requested in protocol 4 (total 8) as these do not appear to correlate with those described in the application (discrepancies between shams and experimental animals)
- Severity limit: clarify the proposed severity limit of moderate in protocol 4. [REDACTED] to discuss severity limits with the inspector as it was noted that other protocols within the PPL with this technique have a severity limit of moderate.
- Given the preferred intention and background experience of using pharmacological means to influence ventricular function, the possibility of only progressing to infarct models on the basis of further AWERB and/or NVS input should be discussed.
- Other comments included concerns over the conceptual use of ‘conscious sedation’ in protocol 4 and its exact definition.
- Licence to be returned to the AWERB on 21/9/2020 for approval of revised licence.

c. **A33-20 ([REDACTED]):**

This application was considered at a previous AWERB and a revised version submitted for approval.

Summary

- PPL holder has addressed the original comments well.
- The HOI has already been informed of the amendment without concern. HOI has requested that periodic neurological assessments could be carried out for the first group of animals. Options going forward could include the use of accelerometers or the use of EEGs for measurements.

- Summary: the committee approved submission to the home office.

d.A39-20 ([REDACTED])

This amendment application was approved subject to the points detailed below

- The aim is to look at the potential benefits of the [REDACTED] mutation in helping birds cope in hot climates.
- The amendment will investigate the impact of environmental temperature on egg and meat production.
- Most review comments were supportive however justification of controls and more details on the relationship between environmental and body temperatures, and the adverse effects associated with high temperatures is required.
- **Summary:** the committee approved the application subject to the above minor points being addressed.

e. PPL transfer: [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] approved

7. **Overseas Research application:** OS10-20 [REDACTED] Approved.

8. **Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** consider the production of a poster showing the effectiveness of paracetamol on pecking issues in birds and its effectiveness.

9. **Statistics and experimental design:** no report tabled

10. NVS and NTCO update

NTCO update:

- No report tabled

NVS update:

- **Poultry:** Routine visits to both Poultry facilities have been completed.
- [REDACTED]: some minor pecking issues occurred, which have been resolved.
- **Large animal facilities:** work has restarted at the farm ([REDACTED] cattle) and [REDACTED] work has also re-started with a large study ongoing.

11. PEL Holder update:

No report tabled.

12. Reports from Facilities

Farms & [REDACTED] update ([REDACTED]):

- Work has re-started within the facilities, all are functioning well with no issues detailed. Several studies have commenced and all are running well.
- A Junior Technician vacancy has arisen at the farm due to the departure of the current technician.
- Students have also returned to the farm facilities with accommodation made for social distancing as appropriate.

- [REDACTED]: remedial works due to be completed in October, this will then move forward to designation by the home office. Planning for an operational start for end of March 2021.

Poultry ([REDACTED])

- Research studies have now re-commenced.
- [REDACTED]: staffing working well within the restrictions on social distancing.
- Transgenic lines: production of a number of new transgenic lines will commence shortly.
- [REDACTED]: one isolator failed and alarm monitors have been purchased, these will be linked to staff so that they can be alerted.
- Modern apprentices: 2 new modern apprentices in place at the Greenwood facility.
- Chick Embryo room – [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) No updates to report.
- Aquaculture Facility – No report tabled

13. A.O.B: [REDACTED] will formally attend his final meeting next month and we plan to formally thank him at this time.

AWERB poster: to be circulated via email.

AWERB and [REDACTED] liaison: potential 3Rs committee Avian: discussion was initiated on the topic of whether an additional committee is required. Suggested examples of projects that could feature included those directed at determining the effects of various enrichments on poultry welfare. Consensus was reached that this would be well directed towards a sub-group of the AWERB specifically tasked with prioritizing feedback and dissemination of best practise in our poultry research.

14. Date of next meeting: 21st September 2pm, Microsoft Teams.