



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

Minutes of the Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body held 28/06/2022
And the additional AWERB meeting 09-08-2022
Microsoft Teams

1. **Welcome** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Apologies – **separate attendance log**
 2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 24/05/2022: approved**
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Named person and Director updates

3. **Directors update**
 - Redacted AWERB Minutes to be added onto a public facing website.
 - Roadshows both went well.
 - Estates working on [REDACTED] plans. [REDACTED] moving and set-up plans making good progress
 - Interviews for DD HOV taking place Monday 25 July 2022.
4. **Deputy Director (Facilities) update:**
 - **Recruitment:** multiple recruitments underway interviews for [REDACTED] taking place w/c 25 July 2022.
 - **Culture of Care:** Meetings held with all facilities including NVS and Admin and we have x12 Mental Health First Aiders.
5. **NVS update**
 - **Welfare:** The NVS updated on potential non-compliance.
 - **Health Issues:** health status in rats were discussed and one still currently being investigated in detail.
 - **HO & Vet Services:** This was being provided in [REDACTED] but now closed for [REDACTED].
6. **NACWO update:**
 - **Spreading Happiness:** 3R's, Culture of Care and Environmental Enrichment for animals. NVS have held talks with senior technicians re enrichment. A Deputy Facility Manager is looking to engage staff in social/sports activities.
7. **NTCO update:**
 - All going well.
 - **PIL Course:** Recent course had 35 attendees of which 34 passed.



8. HOLC update to the committee

ASRU: Continuing challenges at the home office in terms of licence turnaround time and concerns due to staff shortages.

9. [REDACTED] AWERB: The [REDACTED] AWERB met yesterday and discussed an amendment to an [REDACTED] PPL, some further discussion is required and a sub-committee for assessment will be set up. The committee also discussed 2 overseas research proposals, some further information is required before giving approval, there can be issues in relation to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the projects are already set up in terms of study design.

10. (a) Project licences under consideration:

PL23-22 :

This application is for the renewal of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the applicant is suitably qualified and has extensive experience in the field, he is a current PPL holder. The application comprises 8 protocols and overall it was very well written and straightforward with only a few minor comments, as detailed below. It was agreed that the committee are happy to approve this with minor amendments suggested.

- Some minor revisions to protocol 1 is required, noted some steps and life stages have been omitted.
- Some additional detail on the adverse effects for specific GA strains
- Protocol 3 and 7: no details on adverse effects for some surgical techniques [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- Noted that the NTS was very well written, [REDACTED] should be detailed rather than the latin name.

PL24-22:

This PPL is from a very experienced PPL holder and senior academic who is very familiar with the models. The licence application has been extremely well written and scientifically justified with only minor comments to address as noted below.

- Noted that the licence will include some new GA strains for which the adverse effects are unknown. Suggested that a clinical scoring sheet could be included to monitor for any adverse effects that may occur.
- Non Schedule 1 methods: additional justification is required if specific methods are to be included.



PL25-22:

This PPL is from an experienced PPL holder and senior academic who is very familiar with the models. The application focuses on a number of models to generate [REDACTED] models in-vivo, the applicant is recognised as a world leader in the field. The licence application has been well written and scientifically justified.

- Some typographical errors throughout were noted
- The applicant must try to emphasise the importance of this work and previous publications as this did not come across in the application.
- The applicant is well funded, again this should be emphasised.
- We need to include a clinical monitoring/scoring sheet which can be added to the PPL in an appropriate place.
- Tamoxifen: this should be via oral gavage and not via other routes, we have recently circulated a document with guidance on delivery modes of tamoxifen.
- Unclear why shams are required, suggested that these are removed or a robust justification is required.

PL26-22:

This PPL is from an experienced PPL holder, it was noted that while the licence has been generally well written a number of revisions are required before submission to the home office can be completed.

- No mention of ageing guidelines within the application.
- No justification for the use of rats within the application.
- Animal experience section: in some protocols details of models/species are missing.
- Ensure that the NTS reflects what is in the licence, some discrepancies with numbers in places.
- Scoring and monitoring sheets these must be added to the licence itself rather than just making reference to these.
- Clinical humane endpoints need to be detailed and included. In practice the group has implemented detailed monitoring regimes and clear endpoints but these have been omitted from the current application.

Amendments – for consideration by full committee:

none

Applications submitted and considered by the amendment Sub-Committee

Approved: A27-22, A28-22, A37-22, A39-22



11. **RR03-22:** The committee approved the submission of the retrospective review subject to addressing the below points. It was noted that this review has been written in a similar way to the PPL application (contract research PPL) with client confidentiality in mind. The committee felt that in some sections details could be expanded without breaching client confidentiality.

Review summary

- Add details of overall numbers used and number of severe procedures: actual numbers versus predicted.
 - If confidentiality permits the replacement of animals with cells lines should be emphasised with examples of the lines or cancer models.
 - In section 4 please revise text to state that humane endpoints were applied appropriately as detailed within the PPL.
12. **AOCB:** the committee discussed the relocation of a PPL holder who would retain a visiting chair position and will visit regularly. We have had similar scenarios previously without issue and the committee raised no issues. It was suggested that this arrangement was reviewed on an annual basis ■■■: diary note for review for June 2023

Date of next Meeting: **23/08/2022** 10am MS teams