



## **The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 Boardroom and Microsoft teams Hybrid  
Minutes**

### **1. Attendance and apologies.**

Apologies: [REDACTED]

The chair welcomed [REDACTED] to observe the process of the AWERB meeting, this in relation to potentially adopting a future membership role as a lay member.

### **2. Minutes of last meeting:**

The AWERB committee minutes were accepted as true record of the previous meeting that took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **3. Matters arising/Action points**

**No matters raised, minutes approved.**

### **4. NVS update:**

- [REDACTED] A standard condition 18 report was submitted concerning an error in the use of equipment which resulted in an animal having to be euthanased. Some concerns raised over an animal in the [REDACTED] study have now been resolved. Measures put in place to confirm the weights of neonatal pigs prior to being signed on to study include direct prior communication with the farmer and the provision of relevant images for assessment.
- **New NVS:** the new NVS post has commenced and the new NVS was welcomed to the AWERB.
- **Poultry:** No issues of concern to report, facilities have been relatively quiet.

### **5. NTCO update:** apologies given.

### **6. PEL Holder update:** Noted that the current director of BVS has announced her forthcoming resignation. Whilst the committee recognizes the significant loss that this will represent, and will look forward in due course to formally thanking her for such excellent direction and service, the necessary transition towards seeking a new director is being actively managed. The meeting with [REDACTED] that took place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July went very well and the concerns from the PEL holders were noted. Six recommendations were to be taken forward to the home office and a further meeting in the autumn will be held. The group felt this was a very positive outcome. It should be noted that our establishment has not seen the same level of delay that some establishments have. It was noted that we are currently assessing patterns of non-compliances and optimizing training to reduce their incidence in the future.

### **7. Reports from Facilities**

[REDACTED] The facility remains busy and the calendar is full to the end of the year. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

In the containment suites the air pressure cascades will be optimized in due course. Concerns have been raised about whether designs are appropriate for tick feeds. Whether this will be completed under the main project or as a minor works project has yet to be determined.

Autoclave plumbing has been installed. Waiting for [REDACTED] to commission this now.

#### **Poultry** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] birds are now at 32 weeks and remain healthy with no incidence of adverse gut phenotype.

Regarding previously noted feed supply issues, feed is en route from [REDACTED]. In future feed may be milled and irradiated in [REDACTED] (rather than produced in the UK and shipped to EU for irradiation).

The 'Freezer Farm' work is at tender stage and all companies appear to be engaging well regarding biosecurity constraints

[REDACTED] birds in [REDACTED] (13 days old) appear well with no phenotype observed.

Chick Embryo room – no report tabled.

**Aquaculture Facility** [REDACTED] progressing with the amendment ([REDACTED]) for work originating from [REDACTED] for additional availability and [REDACTED] studies at Roslin.

**Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** A culture of care symposium is being planned for October/November 2022 to be held centrally.

#### **8. a. Project Licences *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting**

PL22-22

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

A34-22

A46-22

#### **9. Presentations:** the committee heard a number of interesting presentations relating to proposed amendments and a PPL application. The outcome and comments on these amendments and application are noted below.

#### **10. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB**

##### **PL31-22:**

This new application was approved subject to minor revision as detailed below.

Minor points for clarification

#### **11. Amendments:**

##### **A46-22:**

It was noted that this amendment has already been approved by the [REDACTED] AWERB. The committee raised the following points on the application.

1. Noted that the organization of the proposed work and its intended incorporation within the PPL has been rushed, leading to unnecessary urgency at this stage.
2. Whilst challenge studies are intended for pigs that are now available, the purpose and objectives of the proposed study must fit within the overall PPL aims and objectives.
3. The clinical scoring sheet is not currently appropriate and must take into account the size of the animals and their weight.
4. It was also noted that the likely timescales involved in bringing applications and amendments forward should be communicated to applicants at the earliest juncture.

*Approved for submission*

#### **A40-22:**

This application includes a request for the inclusion of additional availability in addition to additional amendments which include the option to transfer fish to another organization, to allow [REDACTED] and to permit challenge studies with [REDACTED] (protocol 4). A number of points had been raised at an earlier meeting (27/6/22) and clarification had been sought as detailed below: **It was agreed to approve this application for submission to the home office.**

1. Clarify the anticipated mortality rate (protocol 4). *Agreed on specified levels of mortality.*
2. Camera technology: *agreed that this is an important addition to the study as the conditions (low temperatures) within the facility will not allow prolonged monitoring by members of staff.*
3. It was agreed that a copy of a similar PPL would be obtained from another institute and discussions convened to ask about experience with mortality rates with similar studies. *Discussions with the NVS at [REDACTED] have occurred*
4. Discussions would be held with the other organisations involved regarding mortality rates and a revised version produced for re-circulation to the committee for consideration on 22/8/22: *completed, however some points as noted above should still be considered.*

#### **A34-22:**

The committee agreed to approve this amendment subsequent to very minor comments regarding syntax being addressed.

#### **A49-22:**

Additional availability application [REDACTED]: The committee were happy to approve this amendment subject to a revised version with details of the proposed [REDACTED] addition included for final approval in September (omitted from the original amendment). The committee also asked for any comments from the [REDACTED] AWERB to be circulated for information.

### **12. Overseas research: OS8-22**

The aims of this project involving [REDACTED] were to look at the use of analgesia for specific husbandry practices. Currently analgesia is not used for such purpose in [REDACTED]. A meeting with the supervisor of the project to discuss this matter further was conducted by the Chair, NVS and HOLC, and subsequently a revised version was re-circulated to the committee.

The following further minor points were raised.

1. Power calculations: whilst not explicitly addressed, noted that further input in relation to justification of group sizes had been provided.
2. Procedures: wording added to reflect that male [REDACTED] do currently undergo these specific husbandry procedures. Would benefit from further justification.
3. The issue of the global problem of the lack of analgesia (not just restricted to [REDACTED]) was emphasized in the revised application.
4. The committee acknowledged that the supervisor's experience would ensure the work was conducted to a high standard.

The committee approved the application.

### **13. Overseas research: OS10-22**

The committee were happy to approve this overseas research application subject to the consideration of two additional points raised:

1. Include details on how the effectiveness of the [REDACTED] treatment will be assessed and include plans for data analysis

2. As the animals appear to be privately owned, how will the study, and any related risks, be explained to the owner and how will consent from the owner be obtained and documented?

14. **Report from Central AWERB**: noted that a licence considered at the central AWERB has been served with a notice to refuse. This extremely unusual circumstance is currently being followed up. A meeting is being requested to discuss how best to progress with this issue.

15. **Date of next meeting**: September 12th 2pm, [REDACTED]