



Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Board (AWERB) Minutes 21/09/2021

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 21/09/2021

Microsoft Teams

1. **Welcome** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. 3 new members – [REDACTED]
 2. **Minutes of Meeting held on 24th August 2021: approved**
 3. **Presentation:** *the committee heard a very interesting presentation from the [REDACTED] group*
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4. Named person and Director updates

Directors update:

- **Facility Staff Meetings:** These took place for each facility revisiting non-adverse handling with technicians. Looking at additional methods to tube handling i.e. cupping. Planning to work on this in 2022 after the current period of recruitment is completed. Good response to new approach to communications.
- **Facility Forums:** Detailed minutes to be distributed. Launched new training document for PIL holders encouraging removal of species/techniques no longer used. Introduced a new Vet poster showing commonly used drugs and dosages. Analgesic doses revised.
- **RSPCA document :** All about AWERB circulated previously. 4 weeks in total. Some useful information. Look at update to our terms of reference.
- **NVS:** [REDACTED] has taken on additional role in NVS team for 18 months, 2 hours per week to help with administration and organisation of team.
- **Deputy director:** Decision is ongoing for replacement.

5. NVS update

- **Facility Forums:** These were all very good, reminded users to ensure measures for monitoring match the PPL, are well described in the ERF and recording is consistent.
- **Condition 18:** two recent cndt 18 submissions were discussed
- **PPL review:** Asked by HOI not to include reference to local guidelines, Inconsistency as previously asked to include this. Discussions ongoing.

6. NACWO update:

- **Standardisation of non-tail capture:** Currently refocussing on use of tube handling or cupping. We tried cupping normal lab strain mice – mixed results depends on strain of animal.
- [REDACTED] – Looking at bringing them in to UoE, making progress and discussing care and handling owing to skin and tail being susceptible to shedding.
- **Training UE05:** Currently training BVS UE05 staff to obtain a standard set of skills across the board. Ongoing.
- **Training UE03:** In [REDACTED] we are currently looking to train UE03 staff in basic animal work to give staff flexibility and increase variation in job roles .



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- **Recruitment:** UE05 – successfully filled 2 posts, UE04 interviews [redacted] carrying these out w/c 19 September 2021, UE03 backfilling interviews [redacted] carrying out w/c 27 September 2021.

7. **NTCO update:**

- **PIL /training:** working with Facility Managers to ensure all technician training records up to date. Should be up to date by end of October 2021. Researchers will also be prompted to review.

8. **HOLC update to the committee**

- **Licence Feedback Consistency issue** – we are noting inconsistent feedback between inspectors also noted by others at ASRU HOLC meeting. [redacted] will raise the issue of consistency with the HO at next HOLC meeting.
- Noted difference in approach by inspectors in relation to communication and extension to turnaround time. Lack of representation of ASRU at HOLTIF forum unhelpful.
- **Audit:** awaiting notification of potential Home Office audit before Christmas

9. **(a) Project licences under consideration:**

PL19-21 (for information: final approval)

Discussed and all happy with the amendments.

PL21-21

This was a very well written PPL from a senior PI, the main focus of which is to determine how [redacted]. This is a new application, which has been very well written and very straightforward.

Overall [redacted] no comments. All well justified and clearly explained. Science and reasons for protocols well justified. Ensure it is written in lay language, no lay member present for feedback to [redacted]

PL22-21

This was considered at the May meeting, used to be in UoE group, [redacted] and has PPL there. Relocating back to Edinburgh, additional granted in May. All studies now completed in [redacted] and transfer as primary availability in Edinburgh. Well written licence with 5 protocols and realistic numbers. Licence already has availability just moving completely to Edinburgh requires final approval.

[redacted] wasn't involved in May review - the humane end points are more severe than comparable licences (in terms of permitted weight loss). [redacted] to feedback and ask for revision.



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(b) Amendments – for consideration by full committee:

A55-21: PPL amendment

Approved subject to final sub-committee approval

10. Restrospective Review: RR01-21

Approved

- 11. A.O.C.B:** [REDACTED] was thanked for all her years of service to the group as this was her last meeting. 3 new members were welcomed. There were 2 others who were due to join as members but 1 has declined the invitation, the other new member will join from October 21.

Date of next Meeting: 26th October 2021 10am MS teams