

## The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 [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 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022

### 3. Matters arising/Action points

No matters raised, minutes approved.

### 4. NVS update:

- **Amendment [REDACTED]:** the licence amendment has now been approved. Still in discussion with the additional establishment to determine whether the pigs can be moved. Noted that movement restrictions will likely delay any start until the end of September in any case. Alternative studies have been planned in the event that the pigs (n=5) cannot be moved.
- **Standard condition 18:** submitted in relation to one [REDACTED] pig which became unwell during a study. The result of post mortem examination was inconclusive. The home office confirmed that no further actions would be required. Refinement in the form of checking for expression in tissue biopsies prior to induction will be implemented.
- **Cat E licences:** two Cat E licences are now in place for a course that will run on the 20<sup>th</sup> September.
- **Poultry:** no updates

5. **NTCO update:** September PIL courses are again popular this year including the large animal course. NACWO refreshers are being implemented with 5 NACWOs attending. A meeting organised for aquaculture NACWOs proved productive, covering various topics including enrichment. The Home Office has set up a new training and accreditation group for Stakeholders to promote consistent practice across the UK. The NTCO will attend and feed back to the AWERB in due course.

6. **PEL Holder update:** The autumn meeting with ASRU has been rescheduled to early October. The application window for the post of Director of BVS closes today.

7. **Edinburgh AWERB:** discussed recent issues with a PPL which had been rejected for very minor reasons. Following a meeting with the home office this has now been re-submitted and should be granted shortly.

### 8. Reports from Facilities

**Farms:** nothing to report, no concerns.

[REDACTED]: A new [REDACTED] in post. An additional vacancy will be advertised for the team to assist with workload, and a vacancy for a [REDACTED] will be advertised in due course. The facility is extremely busy with only one or 2 weeks available between now and Christmas. A variety of groups have work

planned, reflecting interests ranging from [REDACTED] studies. In the latter instance NVS input has been crucial to developing proposed refinements to the [REDACTED] study.

**Poultry [REDACTED]:** no major issues. The freezer farm work is due to start in the [REDACTED] on 26<sup>h</sup> September, updates to follow. [REDACTED] Received new experimental plans for cryopreservation, plans to freeze down gonadal tissues, this is being taken forward.

**Chick embryo room [REDACTED]:** all running well, nothing to report.

**Aquaculture Facility [REDACTED]:** NACWO meeting very useful. Repairs to the air conditioning are being carried out. No staffing issues to report. The amendment for the challenge studies has been submitted to the home office, with required measures to facilitate this work being put in place

**Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:** the culture of care symposium will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at the [REDACTED] Registration details to be circulated.

**9. Project Licences *submitted* to Home Office since the last AWERB meeting**

PL22-22 [REDACTED]

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

A34-22: [REDACTED]

A46-22: [REDACTED]

**10. Presentations:** the committee heard two very interesting presentations relating to proposed project licence applications, one directed towards investigating the pathophysiology of [REDACTED], and one towards developing [REDACTED].

**11. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB**

**PL30-22 [REDACTED]**

**Discussion:** This was approved subject to addressing the following minor points

- Additional justification as to why only female sheep are required.
- Consider the requirements for imaging within the application.
- Expand the general background on a scientific level.
- Clarify the source of the GA pigs.
- Review the animal experience section and include a more transparent description of what an animal will experience from the start to the end of a typical experimental protocol.

**PL32-22 [REDACTED]:** A service PPL for the breeding and generation of [REDACTED]. Further directed studies under separate PPLs, will benefit from these animals as models of human disease, and for their potential to generate disease resistant livestock.

A number of minor points are detailed below however it was agreed that this application could be approved for submission pending final sub-committee review:

- Additional justification for the breeding of male [REDACTED] pigs is required to reflect the potential for development of clinical signs. This should include clear endpoints.
- Check the guidelines for blood sampling, these are out of date as currently noted within the application.
- The application will need to go back to sub-committee for final approval.

**PL34-22** [REDACTED] (*application to be submitted to the next meeting*):

**Discussion:**

- **Funding:** Currently applying for funding at the moment.
- **ex vivo work:** could initial work be carried out on explanted hearts in order to facilitate the development of downstream protocols? Hoping to start this soon but there are logistics in obtaining tissue.
- **Imaging:** clarified that there would be no imaging carried out due to the large size of the animals.
- **AWERB:** [REDACTED] we will invite the applicant to our central AWERB meeting.

**12. PPL amendments: both PPL amendments approved subject to addressing minor comments.**

**A49-22: additional availability application** ([REDACTED]). Following additional revisions and sub-committee review the committee approved this application.

**A57-22:** This straightforward amendment involves the addition of an option to transfer animals to an additional PPL (or [REDACTED]) in order to facilitate infection studies.

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**13. Date of next meeting:** October 24th 2pm, [REDACTED]/hybrid format.