

MINUTES OF THE [REDACTED] ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Held 28th October [REDACTED] 2019 at 2.00pm
[REDACTED]

1.0 Attendance and apologies

[REDACTED]

2.0 Minutes of last AWERB meeting

Accepted as a true record of the meeting

3.0 Matters arising

- Suggested that the NTCO attend relevant divisional meetings to update users on training records and other relevant matters.
- [REDACTED]: invite to the next relevant AWERB to discuss. [REDACTED] to forward [REDACTED] relevant email from [REDACTED]
- Updates from Animal in Science Committee (under AOCB)

4.0 [REDACTED] update: proposed guidance on collection of additional blood samples in the [REDACTED]: Summary below

- Review of processes conducted in summer by [REDACTED]
- Issues raised: lack of understanding of processes/legislation may have contributed.
- Review of processes at other [REDACTED] to be considered.
- Review of practices for sampling and criteria for what constitutes surplus blood is underway.
- Form has been modified to include an additional box for the removal of additional samples, this shows that they have agreed to this additional sample.
- [REDACTED] website: website will be made transparent with clear links to the sampling criteria and guidance.
- Presentation on [REDACTED]: this has been given at the [REDACTED] to explain to staff what is covered by this process, it will be repeated at regular intervals (approx. once or twice a year).
- **How will samples be monitored and used:** policy not formulated yet but guidance on storage/destruction of samples to be produced. This needs to be made clear within the [REDACTED] and stored with the relevant records.
- **Additional blood sampling:** need to emphasise that if there is consent for additional blood sampling this must be stopped if animals show any distress with restraint etc. It was noted that this is already detailed on the consent form.
- Clarify if there are any other potential loopholes where blood is removed under any other circumstances. This is thought to be unlikely with approval processes now in place.
- **Large animals:** animals belong to the University therefore there is no issue for consent however paperwork should still be in place. Plan is to produce a similar document to that for the [REDACTED]

- Consent form will be circulated for information to the committee. Action: disseminate to committee when available.

5.0 Licences submitted to Home Office since last AWERB meeting :

New Project licences

- none

Amended Project licences

- AWERB A65-19 [REDACTED]
- AWERB A73-19 [REDACTED]

6.0 Presentation of project work

2.15pm Dr [REDACTED]

An update on [REDACTED] project was given to the AWERB, it was noted that data on this project was confidential.

7.0 PPL review: no new project licence applications

PPL amendments:

AWERB

AWERB A76-19 [REDACTED]

Outcome:

No issues raised and no welfare issues highlighted with this amendment.

AWERB A66-19 [REDACTED]

Brief overview of the project

This amendment is to investigate whether [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Outcome:

- The committee approved submission to the Home Office.
- The applicant should consider similar work in Canada where restraint is not involved.

AWERB A67-19 [REDACTED]

Brief overview of the project

This amendment includes the addition of cattle to this project. The aims of this project are to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Outcome:

- Some thought-provoking discussion on the social ethics of the project was generated by the lay member, particularly with respect to gauging end-user opinions of [REDACTED]
- Given the acknowledged positive ethical intent, with potential benefits to welfare and productivity, the committee approved this submission.

AWERB A41-19 (revised) [REDACTED]

Brief overview of the project

The aim of this amendment is to study the [REDACTED] (objective 4). This will involve blood sampling and then discharge of animals from the act.

Outcome:

- This has been discussed with the Home Office and no issues have been raised.
- It was noted that currently the Home Office have requested that for minor amendments any proposed changes are limited to the project plan and the protocols section - no changes should be made to the scientific background or the non-technical summary.

8.0 Overseas research applications:

OS12-19 [REDACTED]

Brief overview of the project

The purpose of the study is to identify the genetic factors that affect chicken survival, health and productivity under village conditions in sub-Saharan Africa.

Outcome: **Approved**

Overseas Research Discussion

The committee discussed the potential addition to the overseas research form to consider those circumstances where there is no formal review in the country where the research is being carried out, and/or where systems are not directly comparable.

Comments:

- Remove “welfare” from the addition to the form.
- The committee discussed additional wording to the form that would acknowledge that it is the applicant’s responsibility for ensuring that the welfare, care and health of animals is in line with the standards required by ASPA, and where these standards are not comparable, that the applicant should declare this on the form **AP:** [REDACTED] to consider a relevant box on the form.

9.0 Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care: Large animal welfare day went very well and attended by a variety of delegates including the Home Office inspectorate, researchers, students and vets.

10.0 NVS update: updating of Intranet has been completed.

11.0 NTCO update: No update

11.0 PEL Holder update: No updates

12.0 Reports from Facilities

Large Animal Facilities

- No issues at [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], may be postponed if there is a general election on the 12th.
- The opening may be delayed further and the committee will be updated when information is available.

- [REDACTED]
- Building works are still ongoing but progress has been made.
 - Discussions are continuing on the eradication of mycoplasma, not a major issue but the removal of mycoplasma will have clear benefits. Further updates will be given at the next AWERB.

- [REDACTED]
- Nothing to report.

Chicken Embryo Labs: nothing to report

Aquaculture: nothing to report

13.0 Any Other Business:

14.0 Date of next meeting:

AWERB 11th December 2019, 2.30pm, [REDACTED]