



The Roslin Institute Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body

Monday November 21st 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 25th October 2022

3. Matters arising/Action points

No matters raised, minutes approved.

4. NVS update:

- ASRU Facilities Audit – focused on special species. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] General walk around the facility; no concerns from HOI perspective.
- Job advert for new NVS role to be extended until end of the year due to lack of candidates meeting the minimum criteria.
- NACWOs trialing additional environmental enrichment for pigs (ropes) and looking at increasing variety.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] to meet with [REDACTED] to review [REDACTED] work due to early termination of 4 out of 12 studies in the last 5 months.
- SRF form. It will be distributed to PIL and PPL holders as soon as uploaded on BVS Sharepoint.

5. NTCO update:

September training attracted 77 applicants, including 10 large animal candidates. The LA course will continue to operate on a face to face basis. The NTCO attended the home office accreditation meeting for all establishments. This involved the 3 accreditation boards and these meetings are proposed to align processes and provide consistency.

6. PEL Holder update:

Awaiting a response from the home office in relation to a letter regarding a project licence application

7. Edinburgh AWERB:

Noted some delays with licences determined to be “not complete and correct” by inspectors, with these responses being delivered just prior to the end of the 40 day project application review period. This has caused issues, particularly where licences require continued authority.

8. Reports from Facilities

Farms: [REDACTED] is running well, breeding of [REDACTED] sheep is ongoing and there are no issues. Some buildings which are not being used have been closed in preparation for winter.

██████████: some staffing issues due to staff sickness. Some issues with water ingress at the facility which is currently being investigated. Home office visit went well, no issues encountered, visited the parts of the building which will be used to house horses going forward. HOI commented on the well run facility.

Poultry ██████████ ██████████ building work is ongoing with no impacts on the running of the facility. Eggs will be shipped to ██████████, this being planned for before Christmas.

██████████ some staffing issues arising due to short and long term sick leave are expected to resolve shortly. Currently recruiting to fill a 12 month contract position. ██████████ GA poultry line being reared as standard broilers, some additional monitoring will be in place but no adverse effects are anticipated. ██████████ birds are being bred within the facility, additional monitoring but no issues currently. Avian influenza, greater biosecurity is in place with understandable limitations on visitor access.

Chick embryo room ██████████): everything running well, no issues encountered.

Aquaculture Facility ██████████:

1. Issues with air handling unit has resulted in condensation. A deep clean will be conducted. Some issues connected to ceiling space are being investigated currently.
2. Manufacturers of aquarium facilities will attend for a service.
3. 2 resignations from members of staff involved in the ██████████ facility, currently recruiting and it is hoped interviews will be held next week.
4. Fish stocks at the ██████████ have been removed. There are eggs in incubators but no live fish, this should help with management of the facility.

9. Ethics, 3Rs and the culture of care:

The culture of care day held on 10th November was well attended and considered a great success. It was noted that great feedback has been received on the event including the panel discussion which was well received.

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

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

A70-22 ██████████

12. Presentations:

Additional availability: ██████████ application:

Questions/Discussion:

1. Some concerns raised around the use of the high fat diet: noted that with its previous use at ██████████ no adverse effects noted.
2. Requested justification of the use of single sex animals: clarified that use of females relates to interests surrounding impacts of hormonal changes on cardiovascular health in this gender.
3. Management of project: clarification required over what resources will be required at ██████████ and who will perform the procedures etc. It was noted that the project lead will be actively involved and plans to visit the facility regularly and will in particular be involved in the procedural work.
4. Discussed the use of ██████████ ██████████ and the rationale for this, a NACWO with expertise in ██████████ is in place and refresher training will be instigated as appropriate for this role.

13. New PPL applications under consideration by the AWERB

Additional Availability: ██████████) A68-22

1. **Facilities:** noted that there are facilities available in ██████████ for this work involving ██████████ but some concerns raised over the possibility that this work will expand. Whilst ██████████ is not currently viewed as an appropriate long term solution for this work, it could potentially be conducted in the ██████████ building as a longer term

solution. There are also some concerns about the numbers involved in this study, with the likelihood that smaller groups would be required in individual accommodation rooms.

2. Agree to offer approval but highlight the outstanding logistical and strategic issues to be addressed.

PL34-22 [REDACTED]

This application was approved following previous robust discussion and review, no further comments.

14. PPL amendments:

A58-22:

The committee agreed that a separate PPL should be produced for this work and the existing PPL should be moved to the [REDACTED]. The amendment was not approved.

15. Rehoming discussion:

Concerns raised about the use of the word “rescue” in relation to rehoming discussions. Some concerns raised about inexperienced people obtaining birds. It was agreed to progress on a limited scale with rehoming to people connected to the institute until suitable agreement can be reached.

16. LP departure:

The chair noted the many sincere thanks directed towards [REDACTED] (outgoing director) for her involvement in the AWERB and her outstanding contribution to animal science and welfare over the years.

17. Date of next meeting:

January 23rd 2pm, [REDACTED] hybrid format.