

## ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 10 x Committee members. 2 x observers. Lay observer attended plus external observer.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Approved and finalised for ASUMB.	Complete
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (13 <sup>th</sup> September 2022)	
3.1	3.1 Advert for academic post of biostatistician has been circulated for review and will be live soon.	Ongoing.
3.2	3.2 Generation of communal SOPs for audit preparation progressing	Ongoing.
3.3	3.4 Lay member recruitment: Welcome to lay member recruit who is observing this meeting, and introduction to AWERB members. Recruitment also being sought from ELH network	Ongoing
3.4	3.5 Governance routes for commercial work carried out under service PPLs.	Ongoing
3.5	3.6 Paper regarding the approach to dissemination of animal research related materials and increasing transparency approved at ASUMB and contained within review materials for AWERB members to read.	Discussed in Chairs Report
3.6	3.7 NC3Rs Self-Assessment Institution review to be worked on by Chair, NVS and NC3Rs regional manager – meeting in the diaries, will have update for next meeting.	Ongoing
3.7	3.8 Increase visibility of AWERB on ASU Intranet – template in process for standardisation.	ASU Governance Team to request members short biographies
3.8	4.2 University of Bristol 3Rs award – discussion for all regarding the application format and judging panel	Ongoing
3.9	7.2 Umbrella UIN for iTSN under construction	Ongoing

3.10	7.1 Standard Condition 18 with cause unknown and currently under investigation.	Discussed within NVS Report.
4	Chair's Report	
4.1	Culture of care recognition programme launched. 3 certificates given out to 3 technicians, for championing tissue sharing and for extra actions at recent technical conferences.	
4.2	Openness paper approved by ASUMB, which included proposal to publish severity alongside annual procedures numbers and the genesis of an annual document summarising the aims, benefits and costs of PPL applications approved across the year. Highlighting a need to refresh the current case studies – discussion regarding historical participation. Discussion about considering how to engage with the student union re: animal research	Discuss further at next meeting. Named Persons to discuss with ELH
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Discussion of training and competency review report.	
5.2	Addition of interactive record update section within PIL interview to encourage record-keeping within the software across PIL-holders.	
5.3	Recent PIL training course and schedule of future planned courses	
5.4	Recent organisation of University's Trainers day to great success with positive feedback and showcases of innovation shown throughout lockdowns and the pandemic.	
5.5	Success of new Study Plans rollout.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Circulation of 3Rs news and updates to relevant stakeholder groups	
6.2	New Schedule 1 methods poster designed with NVS for display within relevant animal units	
6.3	Ongoing work with ASU stakeholder consultation programme	
6.4	Attended Wales and West AWERB Hub meeting.	
6.5	Attended AWERB UK meeting.	

7	NVS Report.	
7.1	One SC18 previously reported has been further examined with no further concerns and a PPL amendment to follow.	
8	NACWO reports.	
8.1	No welfare concerns across units.	
8.2	Recent space concerns within breeding facility have been addressed	
8.3	New heat mats have been implemented and positive nest-building behaviours have been observed.	
8.4	New bedding machinery installed which allows standardisation of bedding and fewer physical demand on technical staff	
9	3Rs Updates	
9.1	GW4 Symposium 3Rs Symposium – 90/100 attendees, many posters and speakers from Bristol, with Bristol winning both the researcher and technical poster prizes	
9.2	ECR 3Rs meeting planned for November	
9.3	Upcoming CRACK-IT challenge winner webinar	
9.4	Panel membership opening for NC3Rs funding panels.	
10	Culture of Care	
10.1	First meeting of Culture of Care subgroup, with scope and future aims of group presented and discussed.	
11	Project Licences – New Applications.	
11.1	PPL.1Oct22  Aims: to advance understanding of how the brain acquires and stores memory information, investigate the cellular processes that occur during learning, and how memory information is communicated between brain regions.	Approved subject to minor changes

	<p>Benefits: improving the understanding of how learning and memory occurs in the healthy adult brain, which in turn will improve understanding of how learning and memory fails e.g. during ageing and in neurological and psychiatric disorders such as dementia, depression and schizophrenia.</p> <p>Harms: rat and mouse research models. Some animals will either be bred with specific genetic alterations (no specific observable effects) or will undergo surgery involving either the implantation of indwelling cannulae (e.g. to enable drugs to be delivered directly into the brain), or neural probes (e.g. to stimulate specific neuronal networks) . Thereafter, the performance of the animals will be assessed in a range of behavioural tasks to determine the effect of the manipulation on memory and learning.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choice of routes of humane killing</li> <li>• Language used in NTS</li> <li>• Use of both sexes</li> <li>• Durations of single housing</li> <li>• Use of tethering</li> <li>• Potential refinements to behavioural tests</li> <li>• Training of personnel involved with the animal research</li> <li>• Context of weight-loss limits</li> <li>• Calculation of food provisions</li> <li>• Breeding colony guidance</li> </ul>	
12	<p>Project Licences – Amendments.</p>	
12.1	<p>PPLAmend.1Oct22 – Applicant invited to attend meeting Inclusion of severe sepsis model</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessing potential mortality and ways to avoid this</li> <li>• Alternative model availability</li> <li>• Clinical relevance</li> <li>• Justification</li> <li>• Monitoring schedule and defined end points</li> <li>• Novelty of proposal</li> <li>• Funding status</li> </ul>	Not approved

13	Project Licence Reviews	
13.1	Mid Term Reviews	
13.1.1	PPLMTR.1Sep22 – Postponed to next meeting	
13.1.2	PPLMTR.1Oct22 – Postponed to next meeting	
13.2	Home Office Retrospective Reviews. (None)	
13.3	Final Reviews.	
13.3.1	PPLFR.1Sep22 – Postponed to next meeting	
13.3.2	PPLFR.2Sep22 – Postponed to next meeting	
13.3.3	PPLFR.3Sep22 – Postponed to next meeting	
13	Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.	
13.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs  Reviewed: UIN 1-5 AWERB approved: 1, 2, 3 AWERB approved pending clarifications: AWERB did not yet approved:	Secretary to inform
13.1.1	UINs to note:  1 – encourage internal use of iTSN where able  4 & 5 – UINs not required	
13.2	Non-Regulated Projects – VINs.  Reviewed: VIN.1-4 AWERB approved: 1, 2, 3, 4 AWERB approved pending clarifications:	Secretary to inform

	AWERB not yet approved:	
13.2.1	VINs to note:	
14	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments  VIN.Amend1 context to be added and archived within application - Approved	
15	AWERB Hub.	
15.1	Notes from recent AWERB Hub meeting available for members to read	
16	For Information. (None)	
17.	Any Other Business. (None)	
18.	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b> (Online until further notice):  8 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2023 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2023 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	