

## ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 10 x Committee members. Comments from lay member submitted prior to meeting	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Approved and finalised for ASUMB.	Ongoing
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (18 <sup>th</sup> May 2022)	
3.1	3.1 Biostatistician recruitment discussed in Chairs Report.	Ongoing
3.2	3.2 ASU policies forwarded to previous AWERB Chair to facilitate generation of general PPL SOPs in preparation for Home Office audit.	Ongoing
3.3	3.8 Lay member recruitment discussed in Chairs Report	Ongoing
3.4	3.9 Governance routes for commercial work carried out under service PPLs - to be discussed at next ASUMB	Ongoing
3.5	5.4 Inclusion of reminder of handling policy included in ASU Newsletter.	Complete
3.6	4.2 Paper to be prepared by Chairs regarding the approach to dissemination of animal research related materials and increasing transparency	Ongoing
3.7	3.9 AWERB have received the ELH commissioned review of lessons learned from lockdown – to be discussed at this meeting	Complete
4	Chair's Report	
4.1	Thanks given to exiting Chair for years of service and for support during handover process.	
4.2	Discussion regarding status of recruitment of lay members and biostatistician.	AWERB members encourage biostatistician recruitment at pace.

4.3	Thanks given to departing lay member for several years of service.	ASUMB to receive collated AWERB feedback from report discussion.
4.4	Benchmarking of openness ideas regarding the publication of NTS and further work on paper for ASUMB.	
4.5	Plans for upcoming AWERB Social and workshop.	
4.6	COVID Lessons Learned report discussed	
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Training and Competency monthly review discussed.	
5.2	Updated FAQ guides to include additional information.	
5.3	Auto-notification of expiry dates for PIL techniques have now been switched on – explanatory email sent to animal users.	
5.4	Recent contact with ASRU Policy Management in relation to University Trainers Group.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Assisting in the organisation of internal refinement workshop	
6.2	Publication of recent ASU newsletter	
6.3	Preparation for external publication of animal procedure numbers, with breeding vs experimental procedure numbers specified for high use GAA models.	
7	NVS Report.	Ongoing
7.1	Recent follow-up correspondence received from HO regarding a reported lighting issue in previous year.	
7.2	I.T issues resulted in recent lighting error. Incident was unlikely to have had any negative impact upon the animals or study.	

7.3	Previously discussed minor respiratory symptom frequency has reduced, with no further health or welfare concerns.	Complete
8	NACWO reports.	
8.1	New sedation protocol for large animal models introduced to reduce stress and improve safety for staff.	
8.2	No welfare concerns from any units.	
9	Project Licences – New Applications.	
9.1	<p>PPL.1Jun22</p> <p>Aims: To develop large animal models of vascular aneurysm. Once developed successfully they will be used to assess efficacy and safety of novel treatments to support translation to clinical trials.</p> <p>Benefits: If successful in developing the model the ability to rapidly evaluate human interventions.</p> <p>Harms: Experimental creation of aneurysm and additional adverse effects covering rare outcomes associated with the procedure.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation of animal allocation across protocols.</li> <li>• Numbers of repeat anaesthesia.</li> <li>• Dietary modifications</li> <li>• Model choice</li> <li>• Regulatory requirement</li> <li>• Use of single sex model</li> <li>• Training record</li> <li>• Clarify on paediatric translational benefit</li> <li>• Randomisation and blinding</li> <li>• Target location of generated aneurysm</li> <li>• Husbandry modifications</li> </ul>	Approved subject to clarification. Changes to be reviewed by NVS and Chair.
10	Project Licences – Amendments.	
10.1	PPLAmend.1Jun22	

10.2	<p>Increase in breeding animal numbers Update to adverse effects</p> <p>PPLAmend.2Jun22 Textual change within licence to allow wider number of competent and trained personnel to monitor experimental animals.</p>	<p>Approved subject to minor clarifications</p> <p>Approved</p>
11 11.1	<p>Project Licence Reviews Mid Term Reviews (None)</p>	
11.2 11.2.1	<p>Home Office Retrospective Reviews. (None)</p>	
11.3 11.3.1	<p>Final Reviews. PPLFinal.1Jun22</p> <p>Investigations into injuries caused by heart attacks and open-heart surgeries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PPL was amended to include the testing of novel stents and heart valves.</li> <li>• Some recovery issues with heart valve investigation protocol.</li> <li>• No compliance issues seen throughout licence period.</li> <li>• Produced several publications.</li> </ul>	<p>Approved</p>
12	<p>Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.</p>	
12.1	<p>Non-Regulated Projects – UINs</p> <p>Reviewed: UIN.1 AWERB approved: AWERB approved pending clarifications: 1 AWERB did not yet approve:</p>	<p>Secretary to inform</p>
12.1.1	<p>UINs to note:</p> <p>Provide scientific justification as to why the study is limited to one sex.</p>	
12.2	<p>Non-Regulated Projects – VINs.</p> <p>Reviewed: VIN.1, 2</p>	<p>Secretary to inform</p>

	AWERB approved: 1, 2 AWERB approved pending clarifications: AWERB not yet approved:	
12.2.1	VINs to note: (None)	
13	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments (None).	
14	AWERB Hub.  Discussion regarding future hosting of a meeting.	Ongoing
16	For Information. (None)	
17	Any Other Business.	
17.1	NC3Rs upcoming event updates	
17.2	Discussion on how to empower technical staff to submit posters to 3Rs focused conferences.	
18.	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b> (Online until further notice): 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	