

ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, 8th November 2022, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 11 members, 2 x observers	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Approved and finalised for ASUMB.	Complete
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (11 th October 2022)	
3.1	3.1 Advert for academic post of biostatistician	Chair to enquire the advertisement timeline of advert
3.2	3.2 Generation of communal SOPs for audit preparation progressing	Ongoing.
3.3	3.3 Lay member recruitment: Welcome to lay member recruit who is observing this meeting, and introduction to AWERB members. Recruitment also continues to be sought from ELH network. Welcome also to potential Scientific Member who is also observing today.	Ongoing.
3.4	3.4 Governance routes for commercial work carried out under service PPLs.	Ongoing.
3.5	3.6 Chair, NVS, NIO and NC3Rs regional manager progressing through NC3Rs Self-Assessment Institution, scheduling meeting to complete.	Ongoing.
3.6	3.7 Increase visibility of AWERB on ASU Intranet – template circulated and some submissions from members received. Reminder to all AWERB members to send in their profile.	Ongoing.
3.7	3.8 University of Bristol 3Rs award – discussion for all regarding the application format and judging panel	Ongoing.
3.8	3.9 Umbrella UIN for iTSN under construction	Ongoing.

3.9	4.2 AWERB to discuss how to engage with the student union about animal research.	Ongoing
3.10	Upcoming Neuroscience Festival is predicted to be a focus for groups opposed to animal research with a particular focus on the Forced Swim Test. One AWERB member is attending UAR Workshop regarding engaging with the public and will report back ideas for positive engagement strategies. Factsheet for Neuroscience community would be useful and provide support for colleagues.	AWERB Chair to notify ASUMB about festival, support requested from Press Office for pro-active action. Sci Member to work on FST Factsheet for Neuroscience community and awareness
4	Chair's Report	Approved
4.1	Discussion of proposals for how we effectively manage the meeting agendas. A subgroup to initially review VINs and UINs, with all members still welcome to review and comment on projects within the main meeting body. Less time-sensitive sections of Named Person Reports, Mid Term and Final Reviews and 3Rs and Culture of Care subgroup reports to be covered on a quarterly rotating agenda basis.	
4.2	Call for ELH items to discuss at Named Person meeting	
4.3	Another meeting with a group dedicated to protecting the rights of animals is scheduled to discuss the use of Forced Swim Test at the University of Bristol. Members raise concerns at the lack of scientific representation and interaction with Students Union regarding their debates around the use of animal research at the University.	
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Discussion of training and competency review report – recent improvements have been seen which are likely a credit to the roll-out of Study Plans requiring users to be more engaged with updating their Training and Competency records.	
5.2	Busy time for PIL interviews following new starters.	
5.3	New online ASU Access Form follows same software as recent paperless PIL Application Interview booking form.	
5.4	Upcoming PIL Training Course with further courses planned in 2023.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Circulation of 3Rs news and updates to relevant stakeholder groups	

6.2	Additional supportive information available on Intranet site.	
6.3	Recent presentation at Open Forum event regarding results of stakeholder survey consultation.	
6.4	Previous academic years' AWERB meeting minutes are now available on the external website.	
6.5	Attended ASC AWERB Meeting, discussed ideas of integration of NC3Rs Experimental Design Assistant PDF reports within the PPL review process.	
7	NVS Report.	
7.1	No concerns or events to report	
8	NACWO reports.	
8.1	Breeding mice numbers are increasing.	
8.2	No welfare concerns across any of the animal units.	
9	3Rs Updates	
9.1	NC3Rs project grants are now open, advice on applications available.	
9.2	NC3Rs are aiming to facilitate the uptake of replacement technologies. Survey running to identify knowledge gaps.	
9.3	CRACK IT challenge webinar recordings available.	
9.4	NC3Rs working group have published a new refinement paper for rodent behavioural experiments – GW4 focused workshop being planned for next summer.	
9.5	ECR3Rs group met and discussed ways to contribute and feed-in to AWERB	
9.6	Discussion over the use of ad libitum feeding and the use of breeding diet for experimental animals	
9.7	3Rs developments and contributions from members – mouse bedding enrichment and examples of habituation.	
9.8	Looking for new dissemination routes for 3Rs developments across the institution.	

10 10.1	Culture of Care Reporting at next themed agenda meeting.	
11 11.1	<p>Project Licences – New Applications.</p> <p>PPL.1Nov22</p> <p>Aims: Around 1% of babies are born with congenital cardiovascular defects that require surgery involving the implantation of valves, stents or grafts. A high proportion will require further surgery during childhood and adolescence to replace the implants with larger ones as they grow. To assess the feasibility and potential efficacy/safety of novel tissue engineered (stem cells seeded into 3D matrices to form living tissue products) constructs, such as valves, conduits, grafts and patches (as they are living, they can grow with the individual) and to determine how they perform in response to the changes that occur during growth.</p> <p>Benefits: This project aims to contribute to the development of surgical implants for corrective cardiovascular surgery that provide either a life-long or extended-life over those currently available. Data will be generated on the performance of novel implant being developed to grow with the individual and thereby advance the progression of technological developments towards human clinical trials.</p> <p>Harms: Pigs to be used, surgery including open heart surgery, imaging, small biopsy sample from heart. Severity largely moderate (90%).</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and valuable translational value • Well written non-technical summary • Experimental animal number and statistical power • Refined routes of administration • Adverse effects and theoretical risks • Clinical impacts from single-sex study 	Approved

12	Project Licences – Amendments.	
12.1	PPLAmend.1Oct22 Resubmission– Applicant invited to attend meeting Inclusion of severe sepsis model Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement to scientific clarity and adverse effect in revised application. • Number of animals required for pilot study • Monitoring schedule and equipment • Use of analgesia • Scientific justification for model and novelty of use • Adverse effects 	Approved subject to major corrections.
12.2	PPLAmend.1Nov22 Update to adverse effect Update to behavioural tests Update to heart rate monitoring Changes to percentage animal in the txt Removal of one behavioural test	Approved
12.3	PPLAmend.2Nov22 Additional imaging step	Approved subject to minor clarification
13	Project Licence Reviews	
13.1	Mid Term Reviews	
13.1.1	PPLMTR.1Sep22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13.1.2	PPLMTR.1Oct22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13.1.3	PPLMTR.1Nov22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13.2	Home Office Retrospective Reviews. HOPPLReview.1Nov22 Looking at sweet- itch in horses No issues seen throughout the treatment and no adverse effect	Approved

	Successful with study objective Work was disrupted by COVID 19 pandemic	AWERB to enquire as to whether the findings will be disseminated.
13.3	Final Reviews.	
13.3.1	PPLFR.1Sep22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13.3.2	PPLFR.2Sep22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13.3.3	PPLFR.3Sep22 – Postponed to future themed meeting	
13	Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.	
13.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs Reviewed: UIN 1 - 4 AWERB approved: 1 - 4 AWERB approved pending clarifications: AWERB did not yet approved:	Secretary to inform
13.1.1	UINs to note: (None)	
13.2	Non-Regulated Projects – VINs. Reviewed: VIN. 1 - 6 AWERB approved: 1 - 6 AWERB approved pending clarifications: AWERB not yet approved:	Secretary to inform
13.2.1	VINs to note: (None)	
14	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments	
14.1	VIN.Amend1	Approved
15	AWERB Hub. (None)	

16	For Information. (None)	
17.	Any Other Business. (None)	
18.	Dates of Next Meetings (Online until further notice): 6 th December 2022 17 th January 2023 21 st February 2023 21 st March 2023 25 th April 2023 23 rd May 2023 20 th June 2023 18 th July 2023	