

ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, Tuesday 20th July 2021, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 9 x members, 1 x observer	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Up to date and sent on to ASU Management Board.	Complete
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (15 th June 2021)	
3.1	3.1 Formalising draft PPL application review deadlines and production of guidance documents.	Ongoing.
3.2	3.2 internal Tissue Sharing Network platform to be launched this week after final Etiquette Doc review.	Approved
3.3	3.3 Structure of AWERB continues to be discussed at ASU Management Board (ASUMB).	Ongoing
3.4	3.4 Future AWERB auditing of techniques.	Ongoing
3.5	3.5 Explore potential updated options for facilitating anonymous whistleblowing - Official University policy added to AOB section. Additional anonymous form to be added to ASU Sharepoint.	Summary document to be provided detailing the different available routes for feedback and whistleblowing
3.6	Two new potential Scientific Reviewers will be joining as observers – one for this session and another when we resume in September.	
4	Chair's Report	
4.1	Welcome to potential new Scientific Member.	

4.2	Biostatistician is no longer available as an AWERB resource.	To be raised at ASUMB.
4.3	COVID-contingency plans may need to be revisited for current studies and reviews of new PSB should take into account risks associated with COVID-19 case rate in Bristol and people being required to self-isolate.	
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Training & Competency report – going forward, all those being reviewed will be asked when they last performed a procedure. Mixed CPD records.	
5.2	NVS is continuing to record observations from daily walk arounds on animal units within the online animal management software. Positive feedback from research community about these interactions.	
5.3	PIL Training course materials are being refreshed and updated. Room bookings are still unavailable.	
5.4	Training and competency records checked for July PPL and PPL Amendment applicants.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Selection of relevant upcoming 3Rs webinars and CPD opportunities circulated to PPL holders, PIL holders and ASU technicians.	
6.2	New content on ASU Intranet	
6.3	Deputy NIO presented internal Tissue Sharing Network walkthrough at NACWO meeting.	
6.4	AWERB minutes published alongside annual animal procedure numbers.	
7	NVS Report.	
7.1	One Standard Condition 18 report sent to HO.	
7.2	Guidance document in preparation to showcase best practice when installing head implants.	

8	NACWO reports.	
8.1	Improved treatment and husbandry for rodents with head mounted devices.	
8.2	Provided recent guidance and education for some users regarding acclimatisation and group housing.	
8.3	Nesting behaviour study by researcher showing to be a promising enrichment tool.	
8.4	Working to improve induction process. Explanation of vet walk-arounds added to standard Induction checklist.	
8.5	Discussion about how best to manage physiotherapy for large animals undergoing long procedures.	NVS & NACWO to regularly monitor and update.
9	Project Licences – New Applications.	
9.1	<p>PPL.1July21</p> <p>Aims: To breed and maintain genetically altered or harmful mutant rodents and fish for use in bio-medical research.</p> <p>Benefits: Genetically altered and harmful mutant animals are essential for addressing many scientific questions of bio-medical importance including understanding the function of specific genes and the role they play in disease.</p> <p>Costs: Most animals used or generated will suffer no harmful effects. A small proportion may carry genetic alterations or mutations that could result in the development of disease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal numbers. • Management of potential harmful mutations. • Enrichment and handling. • Genotyping methods. • Application of reference and guidance materials. • Exemplary training and competency record 	Approved subject to minor changes.
10	Project Licences – Amendments.	
10.1	<p>PPLAmend.1July21</p> <p>Additional step for electrophysiology step and a refined route of implantation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific justification required within body of licence 	Approved subject to clarifications.

10.2	PPLAmend.2July21 Additional model request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific justification required within body of licence • Clarity required on need for further model. 	Not approved at this stage, to be resubmitted to sub-committee. Approved subject to clarifications.
10.3	PPLAmend.3July21 Additional blood sampling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific justification required within body of licence • Routes of administration must be clearly defined. 	
11 11.1	Project Licence Reviews Mid Term Reviews. (None)	
11.2	Home Office Retrospective Reviews. (None)	
11.3 11.3.1	Final Reviews. (None)	
12	Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.	
12.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs Reviewed: UIN.1-4 AWERB approved: 1, 3, 4 AWERB approved pending clarifications: 2 AWERB did not yet approve:	Secretary to inform
12.1.1 12.1.1.1	UINs to note: (None) UIN.2 Small change to title requested.	Approved subject to changes
12.2	Non-Regulated Projects – VINs. Reviewed: VIN.1-6 + Resubmission of VIN.4 (June) AWERB approved: VIN.1-6 AWERB approved pending clarifications: VIN.4 (June) AWERB not yet approved: None.	Secretary to inform

12.2.1	VINs to note:	
12.2.1.1	VIN.4(June). Requested evidence has been provided.	Approved subject to minor changes.
13	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments	
13.1	(None)	
14	AWERB Hub. (None)	
16	For Information. (None)	
17	Any Other Business.	
17.1	New NC3Rs Environmental Enrichment Resource Tool.	
17.2	NC3Rs Self-Assessment webinar scheduled soon.	
17.3	Suggested process for evaluating risk for late licences.	
17.4	Proposed 2021-22 AWERB dates	Approved
17.5	iTSN Etiquette Document	Approved
17.6	Meetings to remain online for the following 12 months.	Approved
18.	Dates of Next Meetings (Online until further notice): TBC	