

## ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 10 x AWERB members,	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	All up to date.	Complete
3	<b>Matters arising</b> from the notes of previous meeting (17 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2021)	
3.1	3.1 Formalising draft PPL application review deadlines and production of guidance documents.	Ongoing.
3.2	3.2 Etiquette Document required for those wanting to sign up to the Tissue Sharing Network. Once finalised, iTSN to be launched.	Ongoing.
3.3	3.3 Independent review of COVID-19 lockdown – Terms of Reference received. Item closed until review is available.	Complete.
3.4	3.4 Structure of AWERB continues to be discussed at ASU Management Board.	Ongoing.
3.5	3.6 Future AWERB auditing of techniques – will remain as ongoing action for ASU Management Board.	Ongoing.
3.6	3.8 Interpretation of HO guidance regarding the sample collection of residual blood – in Chairs Report.	Ongoing.
3.7	ASU to formalise enrichment piloting.	Ongoing.
3.8	Welfare Escalation Process – new poster draft to include PPL/PIL notification step to be ready for March AWERB.	Ongoing.
3.9	7.1 Final Incident Report provided to AWERB	Complete.
3.10	Zebrafish sentinel health screens – discussed in NVS report.	Ongoing.
3.11	Jan UIN.3 & 4 clarifications received and approved.	Complete.

4	Chairs Report	
4.1	Lessons Learnt Document Terms of Reference	Approved.
4.2	Interpretation of HO guidance regarding the sample collection of residual blood.	Complete.
4.3	Ad hoc meetings required for expected PPLs.	
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Number of PILs processed lower than previous years.	
5.2	Training record reviews completed, and feedback provided to PIL holders where recommendations have been made.	
5.3	Received good preliminary feedback from internal audit of licence processes.	
5.4	February PIL Training course completed with increasing positive feedback. Further course planned for May.	
5.5	Training and competency records checked for PPL Amendment applicant.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Work is increasing in ASU.	
6.2	ASU is currently considering outsourcing breeding. AWERB discussed the potential welfare implications of moving breeding off site and both scientific and welfare impacts of the increased animal transport. Further input from ASU staff and researchers will be sought and fed back to ASUMB.	AWERB expressed need for consultation regarding any future decisions made.
6.3	Staffing levels.	
6.4	Apprenticeship training scheme planned for future.	
6.5	All studies currently being processed with Pre-Study Briefing	
6.6	Rat Tickling seminar	
6.7	Final Incident Report.	AWERB feedback to ASU the need for SOPs for

		monitoring for the lighting as part of the environmental checks, including recording, frequency and named position responsibilities and an SOP for commissioning rooms after a period of emptiness or estate works.
7	<b>NVS Report.</b>	
7.1	Health status returned as normal for zebrafish health screening.	Complete.
7.2	2 x standard condition 18 Reports submitted to HOI but no further actions required at this time.	
8	<b>NACWO reports.</b>	
8.1	Breeding continues at steady pace.	
8.2	Acclimatisation periods for some imported large animals.	
8.3	Update on the pig clicker training for managing routine handling.	
8.4	NACWO monitoring of animals on high fat diet.	
9	<b>Project Licences – New Applications.</b>	
9.1	None to review for this meeting.	
10	<b>Project Licences – Amendments.</b>	
10.1	<p>PPLAmend.1Dec20 (resubmission): Addition of cryo-anaesthesia protocol for neonatal rats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NVS has sought advice from colleagues with experience in brain cooling and anaesthesia.</li> <li>Concerns remain over potential for pain and suffering during transitions through temperature gradient.</li> <li>Harms vs benefit did not outweigh individual suffering of animals undergoing the procedure.</li> <li>AWERB encourages a review of current gas induction protocol for neonates with the assistance of NVS to improve recovery rates.</li> </ul>	Not approved

11 11.1	Project Licence Reviews. (None)	
11.2	Home Office Retrospective Reviews. (None)	
11.3 11.3.1	Final Reviews. (None)	
12	<b>Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.</b>	
12.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs Reviewed: UIN.1 AWERB approved: UIN.1 AWERB approved pending clarifications: None AWERB did not yet approve: None	Secretary to inform
12.1.1	UINs to note: (None)	
12.2	Non-Regulated Projects – VINs. Reviewed: VIN.1 & 2 AWERB approved: VIN.1 & 2 AWERB approved pending clarifications: None AWERB did not yet approved: None.	Secretary to inform
12.2.1	VINs to note: Feedback for VIN.2 How are they factoring in biological differences from live biopsies and cadavers?	
13	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments (None)	
14 14.1	<b>AWERB Hub.</b> (None)	
15 15.1	<b>For Information.</b> Legislative framework for animal research in the UK – In Practice article	
16 16.1	<b>Any Other Business.</b> Rat Tickling presentation.	AWERB encourages a pilot proposal from ASU.
17.1	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b> (Online until further notice): Tuesday 16th March 2021	

	Tuesday 27th April 2021 Tuesday 18th May 2021 Tuesday 15th June 2021 Tuesday 20th July 2021	
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