AWERB 3Rs Committee:

In Attendance:

Apologies:

Minutes –

1. Minutes
The minutes from the meeting held on 1st February were approved.

2. Matters Arising
The committee discussed the new Retrospective Review form. Comments were requested from the committee. asked if another column can be added to ask what percentage of animals exceeded the severity for that protocol. suggested that the numbers be put in bold at the bottom of each protocol because the severity is already on the page.

3. Retrospective Reviews
The committee discussed the following:

Therapeutic development of sphingolipid diseases.
• Section 3.1 (Replacement) zebrafish models have been investigated. Further details needed

Cellular senescence, plasticity and cancer, new frontiers and novel tools for diagnosis and therapy
• Section 3.3 Names and locations be removed to ensure anonymity.
• The committee commended the amount of public engagement listed within section 4.9

4. Amendments

5. Severe Severity Project Licence Applications
• Protocol 13, step 2. It is expected that animals may lose weight. Can supportive care e.g. nutrient gel, wet mash be provided to all animals to help prevent weight loss from reaching the limits specified.
• Protocol 13, step 2. Clarity needed as to whether clinical signs would be seen alongside the 25% weight loss following influenza infection and how combinations of weight loss and clinical signs feed into the humane endpoints.
• Protocol 13, step 2. Other methods to monitor animal condition aside from weight loss may be beneficial for monitoring animals under this step.

– Metabolic basis of microglia function in development
• In all protocols and steps. Please could the life stages that will undergo each step be included.
• Protocol 1, step 1. In the adverse effects section under stage 2. If an animal does not improve within 72 hours then they may not be euthanised for a further 24 hours. This contradicts the humane endpoints listed at the end of the protocol. Clarification and amendments needed as appropriate.
• Protocol 1 Animal Experience. Further clarification needed to explain what procedures the dams and offspring each undergo.

6. Severe Severity licence reviews
7. Standard condition 18 reports
8. 3Rs information/reports
9. Highlights of AWERB Standing meeting*
10. Highlights of January AOC meeting*
11. Any Other Business
   The following information was briefly discussed
   Upcoming Responsible Research in Practice Training Courses:
   • Statistical Analysis Training 12th-14th June 2023 Statistical analysis training (responsibleresearchinpractice.co.uk)
   • Other Webinars on various dates/on demand: https://www.responsibleresearchinpractice.co.uk/free-responsive-research-webinars/
12. For information only
   
   Date of next meeting: 5th April 2023 via MS Teams

*Items for information only unless un-starred by committee member