



Date Friday, 24/07/2020

Time 1.30pm

To Committee Members

At Held virtually using MS Teams

Subject AWERB Operations Committee

Attendees:

Apologies:

Mentioned within text:

1. Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on 26th June 2020 were approved.

2. Matters arising

None.

3. Establishment Licence Holder Report

Two non-compliance matters are currently being investigated. One is for using too many animals and the other is for the use of a hood in an undesignated room by researchers to Schedule 1 their animals.

asked for all non-compliances to be reported through the UBS central office and not directly to the Home Office.

4. NACWO Reports

None.

5. Directors Reports

The Covid-19 testing facility at the will remain in place until the end of April 2021. thanked everyone based at the for their cooperation. From 1st August 2020 until the end of April 2021 UBS will receive an income for it. The space will be charged as if it were animal space.

thanked those who have undertaken the requested process for having new staff posts advertised. Posts are still only being filled internally, this will continue to be reviewed alongside the increase to research.

asked for clarity on when are counted as internal and when they are counted as external. are currently being charged internal prices for training but are not completing all of their training with UBS. stated that despite the University of Cambridge carrying reputational risk for , we hold no authority as they are managed under their own Establishment Licence. There are ongoing high level discussions regarding this. confirmed that if take their training elsewhere, they would be classed as a separate entity and therefore, be charged the full amount by us.

confirmed that some students had already started courses with other providers when joined the University of Cambridge and therefore made sense to complete those courses. Their current process is that each person can choose which provider they take their course with. sought confirmation that any internal

candidates would be encouraged to complete training internally unless there was a course we could not provide. [REDACTED] noted they have no problem with the training provided by UBS and are happy to support it.

[REDACTED] have come out of the period where they were focusing only on reopening buildings. 200 buildings have been reopened so far. [REDACTED] asked to be kept informed if any issues arise.

Equipment has been relocated from the redundant facilities. Lists of kit which is still available will be circulated in the near future.

LAVA, LASA and IAT have put together an initiative where they review what happened during Covid. They have devised a document to aid AWERBs to review what lessons can be learnt. The document will be circulated after the meeting and information will be gathered during the next month. A report will be written and sent to the AWERB Standing Committee. The animal numbers and the culling information has already been seen by the AWERB 3Rs Committee. Both documents will come together to form the final report. The Home Office will advise their inspectors to ask what AWERB is doing to review Covid lessons, [REDACTED] will submit this document to the Home Office as the University's response.

A new page has been set up on the UBS website called "For Researchers". This is for current communications specifically for researchers which they can access any time using their Raven access. Emails will still be sent but all current information will be uploaded to the website.

[REDACTED] informed the committee that [REDACTED] will be leaving in September for maternity leave. Temporary cover is currently being recruited and interviews will be held next week. [REDACTED] thanked [REDACTED] for working so hard and doing such a tremendous job running the AWERB meetings and project licence work during this time.

6. NVS Reports

[REDACTED] reported that there may be possible disruption to the supply of certain oral Metacam preparations. There may be some increased buying of the preparations not usually used.

Link to the letter: <https://veterinaryrecord.bmj.com/content/early/2020/07/16/vr.m2841.full>

Link to advice: https://www.boehringer-ingelheim.co.uk/sites/gb/files/documents/metacam_sub-dispensing_information_sheet.pdf

[REDACTED] advised that although the UK has left the EU, the trade agreements have not been put in place and therefore, supply chain issues cannot be ruled out.

[REDACTED] reported that the vets have decided to no longer use the lab submission forms made by UBS. Instead, the lab's own submission form will be used.

[REDACTED] asked what each facility does with regards to shoes if a fire alarm occurs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] noted that they change their shoes to their external ones before they leave the building. At the [REDACTED], everyone has to leave via the evacuation stairwell which does not pass where the shoes are kept. It was suggested that either overshoes are worn on the way out of the building or on the way back into the barrier and the shoes are decontaminated for the next day.

7. Training Centre Manager's Report

The FELASA accreditation looks as though it will be approved for internal candidates. [REDACTED] has a meeting to answer some final questions next week.

All species specific notes and presentations have been sent to [REDACTED] but no feedback has been received yet.

[REDACTED] thanked those who have, and are going to, help with invigilating exams for the Home Office PIL Course.

8. 3Rs/Outreach/Openness/Report

The stats for the top ten institutes went on to the website and UAR have been informed. The University of Cambridge are number eight on the list.

[REDACTED] reported on Home Office Inspector visits. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have had virtual visits within the last month.

Three Standard Condition 18 reports have been received in the last month.

[REDACTED] will be asking for feedback on the LASA/LAVA/IAT review document once the questions have been circulated.

9. Any other business

■ noted that he was shocked to learn of the Animal Health Trust going in to administration. The AHT held a significant frozen sample collection used in research which required saving. Moving the samples quickly involved a huge compliance aspect but the ■ are safely housing the collection for future use.

The wearing of face coverings will be mandatory in University buildings from now on. There is a list of medical exemptions which apply but those people will be expected to keep a social distance of at least two metres. A face shield will be accepted if someone requires to lip read. ■ asked for clarification on ■ wearing disposable face coverings when entering the facility and not changing them before leaving the building. ■ confirmed they should use a face covering until they enter the barrier, swap to PPE and then swap back when leaving. Face coverings are acceptable during exam invigilation.

The Vice Chancellor and Registrar have encouraged no meetings to be scheduled in August. The AWERB Standing, Sub and 3Rs meetings will take place due to the workload but AOC will be cancelled.

■ will arrange for pizza to be delivered to the facilities during August as the UBS Summer BBQ has been cancelled.

10. Discussion Topic/Presentation

None.

Date of next meeting: Friday 25th September 2020