

**Date** Friday, 24/09/2021

**Time** 1.30pm

**To** Committee Members

**At** Held virtually using MS Teams

**Subject** AWERB Operations Committee

**Attendees:**

**Apologies:**

**Minutes:**

**Mentioned within text:**

## 1. Minutes

The previous minutes were approved

## 2. Matters arising

None

## 3. Establishment Licence Holder Report

■ asked if there were any questions about the ASRU programme bridging ways of working. ■, ■ & ■ are attending the ASRU customer relations meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September and welcomed some feedback. ■ has sent an email to the generic ASRU email address and received no response. ■ will raise this with the HO Change programme board that he sits on. ■ submitted two very similar SC18 reports and received two very different types of advice. ■ reported she had experienced very similar issues with this. ■ discussed an issue previously raised regarding SC18 reports and keeping an animal alive over a weekend there is conflicting information that needs to be clarified. ■ informed the committee that she attended the SC18 training and the advice is that the animal has to be killed but they asked for anyone attending to hold back on disseminating this information until the HO have finished their training session so they can issue a report. ■ reported that licences are going through quite quickly now and responses are received from SC18 reports that are submitted. ■ sent ASRU some information about wanting to carry out some rabbit surgery between 2 animals rooms 1 was a procedure room but not for surgical procedures and he received a response within 48 hours which was very positive and helpful. ■ asked ■ to confirm with ■ what email address he used when sending information.

## 4. Licensing update; SC18; legislation; welfare issues; Home Office inspections

33 SC18 reports in the past month. No Home Office inspections.

## 5. Non-regulated procedures (to note)

6. **Discussion of animal production, care and use; animal accommodation; animal health issues; animal models; animal transport; health screening.**

■ informed the committee that there are discussions regarding the reconfiguring of the space on level 4 at the ■. There will be some disruption next year when the work takes place, there will be plenty of notice sent out to users who will be asked to reduce breeding to space availability. ■ space is filling up & ■ is being considered with regards to use now it is no longer being used as space for ■ & ■. Across the estate there are opportunities for users. Transport information was discussed.

7. **Good practice; training and competencies**

Next NACWO course starts on 4<sup>th</sup> October the course currently has quite low numbers. PIL course dates for 2022 are available on the Training Centre webpage. IAT live sessions start next week, Tuesday afternoon Level 3, Thursday afternoon Level 2.

8. **Staffing; management and operation processes**

■ informed the committee that there is an HSE visit-taking place in December inspecting GM animals, their containment and management.. Those who are involved should be aware of the timetable for the inspectors visit to ■ and the ■. ■ reminded the committee that if anyone has GM animals in their facility they should all have up to date GM risk assessments. Please can this information be disseminated to all users. When accidents, incidents & near miss reports have been uploaded, please can managers make sure they regularly log on to check for any updates or tasks needing to be completed. ■ informed the committee that there may be some delays with the delivery of Co2. There is a shortage of staff and T3 posts are being recruited as the last rounds of recruitment did not fill all the posts and the adverts have gone out for 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds. MCMS will officially be hosted by UoC from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021. The Christmas party may not go ahead this year due lack of appropriate facilities to hold the numbers we have. ■ asked for peoples comments on whether they want a party to go ahead or if staff would be happy with receiving vouchers again. ■ asked if everyone had received the equipment list for what is left in Sanger, he will be putting in a bid for some equipment this week. ■ informed the committee the ■ will be joining the licencing team as a part time licence manager. ■ is going to a full time secondment in November and ■ is going on maternity leave in December. Temporary replacements and Agency staff for these roles are being considered.

9. **3Rs; rehoming; outreach and openness**

■ informed the committee that all 44 guinea pigs have been rehomed. It has been a huge success and ■ has received some very positive feedback from the families where they were rehomed. ■ asked ■ to give the committee an update of her experience with the UoC so far with regards to outreach and 3Rs. ■ said she will be working closely with the 3Rs committee and ■ and is looking forward to being part of the website working groups. ■ said the national risk level from animals rights groups has recently gone from green to orange.

10. **Any other business**

■ asked if Sch1 books are still needed and how can they be moved away from, as this is now a facility on the MCMS database. It was felt the books will still be needed in areas where species are not on MCMS, if they are covered, they would no longer be required.

**Date of next meeting:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021