



## Minutes

Date Wednesday, 23/08/2023

Time 1pm

To Standing Committee

At [REDACTED]

Subject AWERB Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.23.08.23

**In attendance:** [REDACTED]

**Scientists in attendance for 1a)** [REDACTED] **and 1b)** [REDACTED]

**Apologies:** [REDACTED]

**Minutes:** [REDACTED]

### 1. Project Licences

#### (a) New licence: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Several typographical errors that require amending.
- Explanations required for scientific terminology used in the Non-Technical Summary.
- The removal of specific references from the Project Harms as they are not appropriate and the recommendation that the applicant considers the general adverse effects set templates in regards to Protocol 6.
- The inclusion of references to the [REDACTED] and the recommendation that the applicant reconsiders the second paragraph in the Reduction section.
- The removal of references to adverse effects not expected in all protocols.
- The inclusion of references to control animals if planned for use.
- The recommendation that the applicant does not deviate from the Home Office set templates in regards to the Animal Experience section of Protocol 3.
- The removal of references to the NVS in regards to step 3 of Protocol 6.
- The recommendation that the applicant considers again the humane endpoints applied to Protocols 6 and 9 to ensure the appropriate severity has been applied.
- The answer of 'no' to specific questions in Protocol 7 and all subsequent protocols.
- The recommendation that the applicant uses the wording suggested by the Scientist on the committee in regards to step 3c of Protocol 6.
- Specific sections require completing.

The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

#### (b) New Licence: [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:



- The committee commended the well written Non-Technical Summary and requested permission from the applicant to use this section as an example for other researchers writing project licence applications.
- The inclusion of references to disseminating any non-successful approaches along with the successful ones in the Benefits section.
- The recommendation that the applicant checks the reference to the age of animals in Protocol 3 to ensure they correlate throughout the protocol.

The committee agreed minor changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

**(c) Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further justification for the increase in animal numbers required in the Reduction section.
- Further clarity in regards to specific procedures listed in regards to step 6 of Protocol 8.
- The inclusion of reference to control animals if likely needed.

The committee agreed minor changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

**(d) Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further justification required in regards to specific procedures planned.
- Further refinement of human endpoints required in regards to specific procedures planned in step 6 of Protocol 1.
- Further information around clinical signs in step 6 of Protocol 1.

The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

**(e) Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Further consideration given to potential optional steps in regards to step 2 of Protocol 1.

The committee agreed a minor change was needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

**(f) Amendment:** [REDACTED]

The committee discussed the following:

- Consideration as to whether the Licence Holder could transfer the licence to another person who would support them in the day to day running and management of the licence.
- Amendment of previous years' Return of Procedures with the correct animal numbers.
- The committee requested a report in 6 months' time which includes how the new plan for management of the PPL is working, an update on the number of animals used and a prediction of animal usage for the remaining period of tenure of the licence.
- Consideration given as to whether the researcher is able to reduce animal numbers being used until the Home Office approves the amendment.

The committee agreed they supported the amendment but needed clarity on the increase in numbers.



## 2. Retrospective Reviews

(a) None

## 3. Minutes of last meeting 26/07/23

The minutes were approved.

## 4. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 05/07/23

The minutes were noted.

## 5. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 23/06/23

The minutes were noted.

## 7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

Overseas Researcher request: [REDACTED] – The AWERB committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and asked for the inclusion of information around measures that will be taken if there are any adverse effects seen with cross fostering animals. The committee agreed the request would need to be updated with this information before it could receive ethical approval.

Non-Regulated Procedure request: [REDACTED] – The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and asked for the inclusion of an upper limit for how long animals can be removed from their home cage. They also requested specific references be amended. The committee agreed the request would need to be updated with this information before it could receive ethical approval.

Non-Regulated Procedure request: [REDACTED] – The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request had no comments that needed to be addressed. The committee agreed this would receive ethical approval.

## 8. List items of note

None

**Date of next meeting:** 27/09/23