Minutes

Date Wednesday, 25/05/2022
Time 1pm
To Standing Committee
At Virtual, MS Teams
Subject AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.25.05.22

In attendance:

Scientists in attendance for 1a) [Name], 1b) [Name] & 1c) [Name]

Apologies:

Minutes:

1. Project Licences
(a) Amendment:

- Submission of a more detailed report from the experiment that was carried out at the [facility name] which includes the PIL holder’s details that carried out the surgery, the duration of the surgery procedure and the anaesthetic regime that was used.
- The recommendation that the group engages with the Home Office Inspector in response to their comments and keep the Named People in Cambridge involved with this.
- The recommendation that the researcher provides the NACWO and NVS with a detailed study plan of the proposed experiment with specific details given to the exact surgical approach and timelines and with direct liaison with the UBS NVS to approve an anaesthesia and analgesia regime.
- The recommendation that any PIL holders new to the facility visit the [induction facility name] for an induction to the facilities ahead of any planned surgery.

The committee agreed that these comments should be addressed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

(b) New Licence:

The committee discussed the following:

- Re-writing required in regards to the scientific words used in the Non-Technical Summary.
- Further information around how the group will monitor for and/or minimise adverse effects in regards to specific procedures planned in the Refinement section.
- Further information around how the animal numbers have been estimated in the Reduction section.
- Further information around the typical experience of an animal on Protocols 6 and 7.
- Further description and clarification of the procedures that will be carried out on Step 8 and 9 of Protocol 7.
The committee agreed changes needed to be made before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.

(c) New Licence:

The committee discussed the following:
- Refinements mentioned in the presentation should be included in the Refinement section of the application.
- Further information around a typical and worst case scenario experiment included in the Animal Experience sections.
- Further information in regards to the humane end points for Step 5, Protocol 1.
- Further description of the procedures that will be carried out on Step 7 of Protocol 1.
- The inclusion of the altered diet feeding from Step 4 in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 1, 2 and 4.
- The recommendation that the researcher goes through the experimental design section of Protocol 2 to ensure that all sections are relevant to the proposed experiments.
- Further description of procedures that will be carried out on Step 3 of Protocol 3.
- Further information around the humane end points listed in Step 3, Protocol 3.
- Further description of procedures that will be carried out, specific procedures separated out as a standalone step and more appropriate end points should be listed on Step 6 of Protocol 3.
- Further information around appropriate end points needed in regards to specific adverse effects expected in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 3.
- The inclusion of specific procedures planned in the Animal Experience section of Protocol 3.

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

(d) Amendment:

The committee discussed the following:
- Further information in regards to funding included in the application.
- The recommendation that the applicant includes reference to the fact that the application has been reviewed by the as well as the .

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

2. Retrospective Reviews

(a) RR: The committee discussed the following:
- A breakdown of animal numbers by protocol rather than total in Section 2.1.
- Further information around severity of animals reported in Section 2.3 and whether a SC18 report was completed for these.
- Answer required for Section 2.9.
- Further information around specific methods used to decrease animal numbers in Section 3.2.
- Further detail around monitoring in regards to specific procedures that took place in Section 3.8.
- Further information around the reasons for the amendments to the licence in Section 5.1.

RR: The committee discussed the following:
- A breakdown of animal numbers by protocol rather than total in Section 2.1.
• The recommendation that the researcher reconsiders the information given in Sections 2.2-2.5.
• Revision of answer given in Section 3.5 as it seems to conflict with the answer given in Section 2.5.
• The inclusion of information around the non-invasive methods used for monitoring in Section 3.7.
• Further clarification around amendments submitted for this licence in Section 5.1.

3. Minutes of last meeting 27/04/22
After a minor change the minutes were approved.

4. Minutes of the AWERB sub-standing committee 13/04/22
The minutes were noted.

5. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee 06/04/22
The minutes were noted.

6. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 25/03/22
The minutes were noted.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments for the researcher to address. The committee agreed this could be signed off.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and requested clarification in regards to specific procedures planned and that rewording may be required.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments for the researcher to address. The committee agreed this could be signed off however they wanted to highlight the impending closure of the facility. The committee stressed that work would either need to be completed by the proposed time or have arranged adequate provisions to continue the work at another location. They requested the researcher liaise directly with the facility NACWO and NVS regarding the closure date.
Non-Regulated Procedure Request: The AWERB committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and had no comments for the researcher to address. The committee agreed this could be signed off.

8. List items of note

Date of next meeting: 29/06/22