



## Minutes

Date Wednesday, 27/09/2023

Time 1pm

To Standing Committee

At [REDACTED]

Subject AWERB Standing Committee

Our Ref Doc.UBS.AWERB.27.09.23

**In attendance:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (providing written feedback)

**Scientists in attendance for 1a) N/A, 1b) N/A & 1c) N/A**

**Apologies:** [REDACTED]

**Minutes:** [REDACTED]

### 1. Project Licences

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

The committee discussed the following:

- Further detail in regards to specific issues that occurred in the previous licence and how the researcher might mitigate this in the Project Harms section.
- Further checking of animal numbers required in the Reduction section.
- Further consideration given to whether controls in the experiments are necessary and if so the inclusion of them in the steps where required.
- Further specificity required in regards to the location of specific procedures in step 7 of Protocol 9.

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

**(b) New Licence:** [REDACTED] was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- Further review of the Non-Technical Summary for scientific words and symbols.
- Information included in the applicant's presentation in regards to mouse models could usefully be included in the Non-Technical Summary of the application.
- Specific wording requires amending in the Project Harms section.
- Further review of protocols that will be carried out at the additional establishment in the Project Location section to ensure they match the details in each protocol section.
- Consideration given to whether controls will be needed in the experiments and if necessary included in the steps where required.
- Further information required in regards to the body condition scoring system and consideration given as to whether an example of the check sheet planned for use can be included.

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



**(c) Amendment:** [REDACTED] was also in attendance)

The committee discussed the following:

- Consideration given to whether refinements listed in the protocols can usefully be included in the Non-Technical Summary section.
- Further explanation required in regards to how the new work planned will be optimised by pilot studies and that end points will be refined as the researcher learns more about the disease stages.
- The recommendation that the researcher includes a diagrammatic time line in the Animal Experience section for the different types of experiments to help animal technicians understand the progression of the animals through an entire experimental protocol.

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

## **2. Retrospective Reviews**

**(a) None**

## **3. Minutes of last meeting 23/08/23**

The minutes were approved

## **4. Minutes of the AWERB sub-standing committee 12/07/23 & 09/08/23**

The minutes were noted

## **5. Minutes of the AWERB Operations Committee 21/07/23**

The minutes were noted

## **6. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB**

Microchipping adverse effects report – The committee reviewed this and look forward to seeing future reports.

Non-Regulated Procedure Request: [REDACTED]x2 – The committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request (44) and had no comments for the researcher to address. They agreed this would receive ethical approval. The committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request (45) and asked for the inclusion of information in regards to whether this work is translatable to have a benefit to humans. The committee agreed the request would need to be updated with this information before it could receive ethical approval.

Overseas Research Request: [REDACTED] – The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and had no comments for the researcher to address. They agreed this request would receive ethical approval.



Overseas Research Request: [REDACTED] – The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and asked if there was a virtual tour they could take of the facilities as the committee members are different to those reviewing the work previously.

Overseas Research Request: [REDACTED] – The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and asked for clarification in regards to where specific animals are from as they are not mentioned in the species, number, sex and strain section. They agreed the request would need to be updated before it could receive ethical approval.

Overseas Research Request: [REDACTED] – The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and had several comments:

- Further justification required in regards to anaesthetic regimes and the most refined methods.
- Further information in regards to the analgesia the researcher intends to provide post specific procedures.
- Further justification in regards to why specific animals are the appropriate species for this research.
- The AWERB committee requested to see some footage of the animals after specific procedures have taken place, the housing provided and any enrichment they are provided within their daily lives.

The committee agreed this request would need to be updated with the information requested before it could receive ethical approval.

## 7. List items of note

**Date of next meeting:** 25/10/23