Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 30/03/2022
Time       1pm
To         Standing Committee
At         Virtual, MS Teams
Subject    AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref    Doc.UBS.AWERB.30.03.22

In attendance:

Scientists in attendance for 1a) and 1b)

Apologies:

Minutes:

1. Project Licences
   (a) New licence:

The committee discussed the following:

- Further detail and justification in regards to the animal numbers included in the Reduction section.
- Further information around how the procedures have been refined to minimise the welfare costs for the animals in the Refinement section.
- Information given during the applicant’s presentation could usefully be included in the application itself.

- The recommendation that the applicant discuss with the NVS and NACWO a more appropriate treatment plan and humane end points in regards to specific adverse effects in Protocol 1, step 1.

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

(b) New Licence:

The committee discussed the following:

- Typographical and grammatical errors that require amending.
- Specific references need revising in the Non-Technical Summary.
- Re-wording required in regards to the expected impacts and/or adverse effects during the project in the Project Harms section.
- The inclusion of a brief summary in regards to relevant work from other research that has contributed to the current knowledge in this field would be helpful in the Scientific background section.

Further clarity around how each of the objectives relate to each other and how they help to achieve the overall aim in the Action plan by including the diagram from the applicant’s presentation in the application itself.
The revision of the title of Protocols 6, 7 and 8.
Further clarity around the life stages used in Protocol’s 6, 7, 8 and 9.
Further information around the likely adverse effects and humane end points in Protocol 6, Step 1.
The recommendation that the applicant develops a scoring system if they regularly see specific adverse effects.
Further updating required in regards to highest achieved bodyweight in regards to Protocol 6, Step 1.
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 23/03/22
The minutes were approved.

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB
Non-Regulated Procedure request: The committee reviewed the Non-Regulated Procedure request and asked for the researcher to report back in regards to the animals having access to additional food and the potential impact of this. The committee agreed this request could be signed off by the committee.

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

Overseas Request: The committee reviewed the Overseas Research request and had no comments for the researcher to address. They agreed this request could be signed off by the committee.

IV Training Poster: The committee reviewed the IV Training poster and requested that routes be re-numbered a, b, c and d for clarity and recommended that the same terminology is used throughout. The committee asked if the use of isoflurane would aid the training as this is known to lower the blood pressure. They also requested that specific references were removed as they are not relevant. The committee agreed further drafting was needed.

8. List items of note

Date of next meeting: 27/04/22