Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 09/11/2022
Time       10:00 AM
To         Sub-Standing Committee
At
Subject    AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref    Doc.UBS.AWERB.09.11.22

Present: (provided written feedback)

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

Apologies: N/A

Minutes:

1. Project Licences
   a) Amendment: (was also in attendance)
      The committee discussed the following:
      • The committee recommended that the amendment is read through again to remove typographical and grammatical errors.
      • Further update of the expected severities section in the Project Harms section.
      • Further explanation required in regards to the use of the adjuvant.
      • Further information required in the genetically altered animals section in regards to potential adverse effects in Protocols 6 and 7.
      • Further information required in regards to Protocol 6, Step 2.
      • The inclusion of definitive humane endpoints for specific adverse effects in regards to Protocol 6, Step 2.
      • Further update of the Protocol Justification section with the higher severity in mind in regards to Protocol 6.
      The committee agreed changes were needed before a draft is submitted to the Home Office.
   b) Amendment:
      The committee discussed the following:
      • Further updating of the Non-Technical Summary required in regards to the change in animal numbers as well as how the number of animals has been calculated.
      • Further detail included in the Project Plan to explain why specific tests are the most appropriate.
      • The inclusion of the species to be used on Protocol 8, Step 12 if it is species specific.
      • Consideration given to whether a separate protocol is required for the ‘smaller male mice’, where they will be coming from, how many times each male will be used and the period of rest between each session.
• Further information in regards to specific procedures planned, defined endpoints and the monitoring that will take place in the Adverse Effects section of Protocol 8.
• The recommendation that the researcher uses the 3Rs enquiries list to find other researchers with specific experience.
• Further information around the cohousing of females in altered caging.

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

c) Amendment: [Redacted]  
The committee discussed the following:  
• Further justification around why scientifically there needs to be an increase in animal numbers included in the Reduction section.
• Further clarification in regards to which part of the new funding relates to the increase in animal numbers.

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

d) Amendment: [Redacted]  
The committee discussed the following:  
• Further clarification around which procedures will be carried out under the authority of the PPL.
• Further information in regards to the procedures that have been carried out before the animals come onto the PPL in regards to various protocols.
• Further information in regards to specific procedures planned in various protocols.
• Clearer justification as to why animals needs to be ‘prepared’ before coming onto the PPL and also further information in regards to animals receiving a Vet check to ensure they are healthy to be transported.
• The recommendation that the researcher discuss whether the health status of the required animals are compatible for importing with the receiving facility.

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting 12/10/22
The minutes were approved

3. Retrospective Reviews [RR]  
a) [Redacted]  
The committee discussed the following:  
• Further information around why animals were returned at a lower severity than expected in Section 2.2.
• Further description needed in regards to an incident that resulted in a SC18 in Section 2.3.
• Further information included in Section 3 to highlight any 3Rs achievements.
• Further information regarding the outcome of the SC18 submitted as well as the version that contains the Home Office inspector comments included in Section 5.2.
• Further information around how the information gained whilst working on the project will be disseminated.

b) [Redacted]
The committee discussed the following:

- The inclusion of the SC18 report with Home Office inspector comments included in Section 2.4.
- The committees commended the use of the egg sharing system mentioned in Section 3.2 and 3.3.
- The inclusion of information in regards to photos used to monitor the health and condition of the animals in Section 3.8.
- The inclusion of information around the poster recently produced by the NACWO on these animals in Section 4.8.

4. Any other business
None

5. Date of next meeting: 14/12/22