Minutes

Date  Friday, 12/01/2018
Time  10:00 AM
To    Sub-Standing Committee
At
Subject AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref

Present: 

Scientists in attendance for 1a) 

Apologies: 

MINUTES

1. Project Licences
   a) New: 

The committee discussed the following:
   - Further clarification required in Part D: Project Plan around the methodology outlined to prove germline integration as well as estimated animal numbers.
   - Whether there is sufficient time within the tenure of the licence to address all the key questions within the application.
   - Clarification required around the use of specific words within the application.
   - The recommendation that the applicant provides more information about the antibiotic regimen used and further explanation as to why this regimen is most likely to deliver satisfactory results.
   - The review of references quoted in support of Part C: Background.
   - The inclusion of additional 3Rs information that was contained within the applicant’s presentation to the committee but not included within the application itself.
   - Explanation about the procedure used for administration by the intracerebral route to be added in Part D: Project Plan.
   - The inclusion of the age at which animals will undergo certain procedures in the relevant protocols.
   - Further information required around the monitoring of animals after specific procedures.
   - The recommendation that the steps within Protocols 6 and 8 are checked to ensure they cover the authorities required.
   - Further information included in Protocols 6, 8, 9 and 10 around the administration of substances.
   - Further clarity provided within each of the protocols around the aging of animals and maximum age required.
   - Further information added to the adverse effects section of Protocol 6.
   - The re-wording of specific adverse effects within the relevant protocols to provide clarification.
   - Several typographical errors that require amending.
• The removal of abbreviations within the Non-Technical Summary unless provided in full with the abbreviation in brackets.
• The removal of technical words not easily understood by members of the general public from the Non-Technical Summary.
• With respect to the Non-Technical Summary, the recommendation that the applicant reviews the annotated Home Office project licence template to guide further information around what they intend to do and the fate of animals at the end of the proposed work.

The committee agreed changes needed to be made.

b) Amendment (additional availability at University of Cambridge):

The committee discussed the following:
• The University of Cambridge AWERB committee confining their comments to the work within the application that would be undertaken at the University only.
• Whether the expectations around the work proposed to be undertaken at the University before the licence expires this year are realistic.
• Clarification around the transferring of breeding colonies and that, experiments will only be undertaken under Protocol's 5 and 6 at the University.
• The removal of references to specific experiments and text added in the adverse effects sections of Protocols 5 and 6.
• Further information required in Protocol 6.
• The recommendation that the applicant reviews the clinical end points in the adverse effects section of Protocol 6.
• The recommendation that when drafting the new licence further information is added in regards to the administration of substances as primary availability will be at the University of Cambridge.

The applicant agreed for these comments to be made available to the AWERB.

2. Minutes of AWERB Committee (20/12/2018)
Minutes were approved

3. Retrospective Reviews [RR]
None

4. Any other business

thanked AWERB Committee lay members and for their feedback regarding the Non-Technical Summaries as requested by the Home Office. suggested that feedback was requested from NACWOs as well. A deadline will be set for all comments and feedback after the NPC meeting on 19th January. explained that the Non-Technical Summary format is likely to be revised by the Home Office in the next version of the licence application form.

5. Date of next meeting: AWERB Standing Committee meeting: 31/01/2018
AWERB Sub-Standing Committee meeting: 09/02/2018