Minutes

Date       Wednesday, 31/01/2018
Time       2pm
To         Standing Committee
At
Subject    AWERB Standing Committee
Our Ref

In attendance:

Scientists in attendance for 1a)

Apologies:

1. Project Licences       (a) New licence:
   The committee discussed the following:
   
   • The size and scope of the licence and whether it is possible for it to be split down into several licences.
   • The recommendation that specific phrases used throughout the licence are removed.
   • Further information in the Benefits section and the Non-Technical Summary in regards to the main health conditions the application will look at and how this may expand as the work progresses to include other conditions.
   • Further information included in Part D: Project Plan.
   • Inclusion of the likely proportions of animals that will reach the different severity categories in each of the Adverse Effects sections.
   • The exclusive use of male animals and whether a statement could be added to reflect the applicant’s intention of exploring the possibility of conducting mixed sex group experiments.
   • The revision of specific protocols in a way that reduces the number required.
   • The recommendation that a statement be included within Part D: Project Plan around minimum ages of animals in regards to invasive procedures.
   • The inclusion of specific experiments and whether these are necessary for the work.
   • Strains of animals used in regards to specific procedures and the anticipated adverse effects.
   • Further clarity around end points and whether they reflect the actual severity the animals will experience.
   • Further information required in the Non-Technical Summary giving examples of the types of procedures that animals will undergo as well as the animals ‘typical experience’.

   The committee agreed changes needed to be made.

2. Retrospective Assessments  
   (a)  
   The committee discussed the following:
• The recommendations received from the 3Rs Committee where this Retrospective Assessment has already been discussed.
• Of note and commendation the use of human studies which had replaced need for some animal experiments.
• Section 3.4 and whether reassessment and/or re-training are required for specific procedures.
• Copy and pasting between Standard Condition 18 reports.
• The removal of any jargon from the Non-Technical Summary.
• Consistency between the Non-Technical Summary and the Retrospective Assessment.
• The recommendation that the PPL holder submits a revised Non-Technical Summary to the Home Office when submitting their Retrospective Assessment.

The committee agreed changed needed to be made.

(b)  The committee discussed the following:
• The recommendations received from the 3Rs Committee where this Retrospective Assessment has already been discussed.
• Revision of the heading in Section 2.5.
• Further clarity to reflect the benefits to animals in specific paragraphs of Section 2.7.
• References in Section 2.8.
• Formatting of the table and correct numbers added to the ‘total’ boxes in Section 3.1.
• Clarification required in regards to Protocol 7.
• Typographical errors in Section 4.4 that require amending.
• Examples of actual reduction numbers in regards to glucose testing.
• Reassurance or justification for specific techniques used in reference to the PPL Holder’s new licence.
• The removal of questions in Section 4.5.
• Further information around observations made when animals are checked and how this information is recorded.
• The codification of clinical signs for incorporation and use in scoring sheets to help ensure consistency in the new licence.
• Further information requested around primary brain cultures and whether every attempted replacement could be disseminated.
• The recommendation that the PPL holder submits a revised Non-Technical Summary to the Home Office when submitting their Retrospective Assessment.

The committee agreed changed needed to be made.

3. Minutes of last meeting (20/12/2017)
Minutes were approved

4. Minutes of the AWERB Sub-Standing committee (20/01/2018)
Minutes were approved

5. Minutes of the AWERB 3Rs Committee (03/01/2018)
Minutes were not available

6. Minutes of the AWERB Named Persons Committee (19/01/2018)
Minutes were not available

7. Matters arising from the minutes and AOB
The AWERB Minutes (3Rs, AWERB Sub & AWERB Standing) for 2017 have been redacted and are now available to the general public on the UBS website.
Thank you to [Name] for chairing the AWERB meetings while committee chair [Name] was away.

8. List items of note
None

Date of next meeting: AWERB Sub-Standing Committee Meeting: 09/02/2018
AWERB Standing Committee Meeting: 28/02/2018