

# Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body (AWERB)

18/19 A meeting of the Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body (AWERB) was held in Room G10, Edith Morley on Thursday 13 September 2018 at 10.00 am.

Present:

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40]

In attendance:

[Redacted. Sec.40]

Apologies were received from [Redacted. Sec.40]

[Redacted. Sec.40] was welcomed to the meeting.

18/20 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 22 May 2018 were approved subject to a typographical change to 18/12 to reflect number of animals used by external clients.

18/21 Matters Arising

*18/12 18/03 Communications – non technical summaries*

It was noted that the non-technical summaries were available and would be passed to Research Communications for publication on the web pages.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

It was reported that Understanding Animal Research had published a guide on non-technical summaries and that the University's Research Ethics Committee had recently identified a good example summary. It was suggested that the guide and good example could be circulated to staff to help them in preparing the summary for a lay audience. It was also noted that the RSCPA had developed a presentation on NTS that could be shared; [Redacted. Sec.40] agreed to circulate the document.

AWERB agreed that it would be helpful for a lay member to assist in drafting the next NTS with the project licence applicant.

*18/12 18/03 17/21 17/13 17/03 Severity Data*

AWERB received tabled severity data, including:

Trends in the numbers of regulated procedures conducted at the University from 2004 to 2017 by School

Trends in the numbers of project licences held from 20014 to 2017 by School

Trends in animal use by species in regulated research

Trends in regulated procedures by severity rating

Trends in numbers of regulated procedures over time

A number of comments were raised in regard to the presentation of the data, in particular it was noted that:

- It would be helpful to compare the trends in animal use by species and severity data against the national average
- A Red/Amber/Green system could also be used to demonstrate severity alongside the use in animal species
- Pharmacy should be renamed School of Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy
- It would be helpful to set out the proportion of University research that uses animals
- In regard to the trends over time it was felt that a distinction would not be drawn between University and external client figures. Over

time this should be merged into one figure with an explanation given as to the presentation of historic data.

- A blog could possibly accompany the data to set out trends and explain how the University compares with other institutions.

AWERB agreed that the data should now be published; [Redacted. Sec.40] agreed to think about how best to represent the data.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

*18/12 18/03 17/21 17/13 17/09 Work undertaken on non-ASPA Regulated Projects*

[Redacted. Sec.40] informed the Committee that he had now received a majority of the responses. It was noted that the responses had highlighted the use of:

- Petting Zoos
- Assistance Dogs (hearing/guide dogs)
- Therapy animals

AWERB sought assurance that Petting Zoo activities were properly regulated. [Redacted. Sec.40] agreed to contact RUSU to ascertain the due diligence undertaken.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

In regard to therapy animals it was agreed that the University should develop a policy to protect both the animal and other members of staff.

*18/15 Pro-forma for mid-term and end of contract review*

It was noted that the pro-forma had been amended to include a specific section around the experience of the animal and to give more prominence to the section on the 3Rs.

It was suggested that the document could be annotated to add examples, or hints and tips for completing the document.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

## 18/22 Health and Life Sciences Building

[Redacted. Sec.40] provided a verbal update to AWERB in relation to welfare and ethical issues in the BRU and the move to the new Health and Life Sciences Building.

It was reported that:

- A meeting had been held with the [Redacted. Sec.40] in July. [Redacted. Sec.40] was satisfied with the plans in place for the move, staffing levels, move of commercial activities, and plans for the proving period.
- [Redacted. Sec.43]
- The [Redacted. Sec.40] was meeting the cost for rederivation services
- A standard form of wording would be required for amendments to project licences. [Redacted. Sec.40] agreed to inform [Redacted. Sec.40] of the names/numbers of the relevant licences; [Redacted. Sec.40] then agreed to liaise further with [Redacted. Sec.40] on this matter.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

AWERB noted that it was not appropriate to attempt to secure the continued service of the same [Redacted. Sec.40] for the build and commissioning period.

#### 18/23 Progress on the 3Rs

It was noted that [Redacted. Sec.40] had discussed with [Redacted. Sec.40] running a workshop on the 3Rs, particularly around replacement, but to also provide a session on NTS. Initial discussions were being held within the University with key colleagues as to how best to achieve this.

It was suggested that the workshop should be held towards the end of the Spring Term and that academic staff, post-doctoral staff, and postgraduates should be encouraged to attend. A note would be sent to all [Redacted. Sec.40] to encourage staff to attend.

[Redacted. Sec.40] agreed to liaise further with [Redacted. Sec.40] over a suitable date.

**Action:** [Redacted. Sec.40]

#### 18/24 Pro-forma for mid-term and end of contract review

AWERB noted the schedule for presentations in 2019, as follows:

February 2019 ([Redacted. Sec.40])

May 2019 ([Redacted. Sec.40])

September 2019 ([Redacted. Sec.40])

It was agreed that meetings would be extended to allow sufficient time for each presentation, and that [Redacted. Sec.40] would present on all three projects at the September meeting.

#### 18/25 Communications

It was noted that an entry had been submitted for an Understanding Animal Research for a website section; awards were due to be announced in December 2018.

It was also noted that new Research website had now been launched.

18/26 Dates of meetings in the Session 2018-19

Thursday 7 February 2019 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Thursday 23 May 2019 10.00 am to 1.00 pm