



# ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

## Minutes

7 October 2021

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Present 18, 3 Apologies, 6 In Attendance

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### 21.55 Declarations of Interest and Quoracy

- .1 The Committee made no declarations of interest.
- .2 The Committee was quorate for the meeting.

### 21.56 Minutes of the Meeting held on 08 July 2021

- .1 The minutes of the meeting held on 08 July 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### 21.57 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

#### .1 Action Log

- .1 The action log from the previous meeting had been presented to AWERB and progress updates provided to members.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that the Home Office would still perform unannounced visits.

#### .2 Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 21.46]

##### .1 Dr AE

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the application had not been progressed by the applicant since the last meeting.

##### .2 Dr AF

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the AWERB recommendations had been addressed and the application had been submitted to the Home Office for consideration.

##### .3 Dr AG

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the AWERB recommendations had been addressed and the application had been submitted to the Home Office for consideration.

##### .4 Dr AH

.1 The Committee NOTED that the AWERB recommendations had been addressed and the application had been submitted to the Home Office for consideration.

## 21.58 Chair's Business

### .1 Commentary from BSU Director

.1 The Committee NOTED that the BSU Director had been in post for two months. The BSU Director presented their initial impressions of the BSU to the Committee.

.2 The Committee NOTED that the BSU Director commended the positive, enthusiastic and committed approach of all BSU personnel and licence holders, named people and animal care personnel.

.3 The Committee NOTED that there were challenges identified by the BSU Director that would require immediate and continued attention.

.4 The Committee NOTED that a new NC3Rs programme manager had been appointed.

## 21.59 Project Licence Applications

### .1 Dr AI (Secondary Availability)

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/79a and AWERB/21/79b presented by Dr AI. The proposed work involved studying the effect of potential new therapeutic approaches used to ameliorate aging.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on clarifying which procedures would be carried out at the BSU, animal usage numbers and the measures in place to ensure animal welfare during and after transit.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that further clarification on the nature of the procedures to be carried out at the BSU was required before the application could be progressed.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>.4</b>	Applicant to be informed of decision and provide clarification of procedures to be carried out at the BSU. Application will then be reviewed by readers, or a request made to resubmit at a future AWERB meeting.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	Dec 2021

## .2 Dr AJ

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/77a and AWERB/21/77b presented by Dr AJ. The proposed work involved providing a service licence for the breeding and maintenance of genetically altered animals.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the phenotypes of the animals and the management of the breeding colonies.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be progressed.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Applicant to be informed of decision and submit application to the Home Office.	HOLC	Dec 2021

## .3 Dr AK

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/76a and AWERB/21/76b presented by Dr AK. The proposed work involved testing potential therapies for and studying the underlying pathological mechanisms of myotonic dystrophy.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the proposed behavioural tests, the number of animals used and the potential side effects of the compounds to be tested.
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application be progressed subject to addressing comments from the AWERB.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Applicant to be informed of decision and once comments had been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	Dec 2021

## .4 Dr AL (Secondary Availability)

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/78a and AWERB/21/78b presented by Dr AL. The proposed work involved developing and testing vaccines and immunotherapy strategies to treat cancer and SARS-Cov-2
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the appropriateness of the aims of the PPL, the clarification of humane endpoints and the overall severity of procedures and their adverse effects
- .3 The Committee AGREED that the application could not be progressed at this time.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.4	Applicant to be informed of decision. When the PPL (submitted by the primary establishment) had been approved by the Home Office the	HOLC	October 2021

	applicant can resubmit the request for secondary availability.		
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### **21.60 Suitability of PPLs for Presentation at AWERB**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/21/70 presented by the NTCO.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that this guidance should assist readers in deciding if a PPL is suitable for presentation to the full AWERB.

### **21.61 PPL Application Processing Time**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that ASRU recommended PPL applications were to be submitted six months before the PPL was required.

<b>ACTIONS:</b>	<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
.2 Update BSU workspace to include details of the ASRU recommended PPL processing time	HOLC	Dec 2021
.3 BSU to track processing time for PPL applications after submission on ASPeL	HOLC	Dec 2021

### **21.62 Summary of PPL Applications and Amendments**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments was available.

### **21.63 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED papers AWERB/21/68, AWERB/21/69, AWERB/21/71, AWERB/21/72 and AWERB/21/73.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that five project licence amendments had been approved by fast-track procedure.

### **21.64 Project Licences Granted since Last Meeting**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that five project licences had been granted by the Home Office.