



## Minutes

**19 May 2022**

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**17 Present, 4 Apologies, 3 In Attendance**

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### **22.24 Declarations of Interest and Quoracy**

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

### **22.25 Minutes of the Meeting held on 05 April 2022**

- .1 The minutes of the meeting held on 05 April 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record

### **22.26 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 Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 22.22]**

##### **.1 Dr AP**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the applicant had worked with the BSU Director to address the AWERB recommendations.

##### **.2 Dr AQ**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that application had been submitted to the Home Office.

##### **.3 Dr AE**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the applicant had been informed of the Committee's recommendations

### **22.27 Chair's Business**

- .1 The newly appointed Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **22.28 Project Licence Applications**

- .1 **Dr AR**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/22/22 presented by Dr AR. The proposed work involved assessing the ability of a biodegradable scaffold to encourage bone regeneration.
- .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 experimental design and the availability of resources to enable the work to be carried out.
- .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 have been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	June 2022

## **.2 Dr AS**

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/22/23 presented by Dr AS The proposed work involved establishing patient-derived xenografts from biopsy samples to generate and cryopreserve tissue for use in other projects.
- .2 A series of comments were made on the application by the NACWO, NVS and Scientific Reader. Questioning primarily focused on the study end points and the method used to measure the tumours.
- .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 have been addressed to the satisfaction of the AWERB, then the application could be submitted to the Home Office.	HOLC/AWERB Readers	June 2022

## **22.29 Facilities Update**

- .1 The BSU Director REPORTED that the investigation into the air flow in a BSU facility had indicated the facilities were not fit for purpose.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that a plan was in place to identify the work required to bring the facilities up to the standard required by the Home Office.
- .3 The BSU Director REPORTED that an external review of another facility had indicated the building and plant were not fit for purpose.
- .4 The BSU Director REPORTED that the Estates department had been asked to assess a small animal facility and prepare a report of their findings.
- .5 The BSU Director REPORTED that all the air handling units at the primary facility needed replacing or upgrading.

- .6 The Committee NOTED that a project team had been put in place to plan the replacement/upgrade of the air handling units.

### **22.30 NC3Rs update**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that an NC3Rs training fellow had started their project.
- .2 The Committee NOTED that there would be a joint NC3rs/MRC webinar on Using both sexes in animal experiments on 21 July 2022.
- .3 The Committee NOTED a new £4 million collaboration between the BBSRC and NC3Rs focused on 'the development of next generation non animal technologies' had been established. Applications forms would be on the NC3Rs website from 23 June 2022.
- .4 The NC3Rs programme manager REPORTED that an NC3Rs EDA workshop was delivered on 25 April 2022. The uptake from Nottingham was good and many researchers had taken advantage of the one-to-one sessions offered.
- .5 The NC3Rs programme manager REPORTED that they had attended the FRAME training school delivered at Nottingham at the end of April 2022.
- .6 The Committee NOTED that the university of Nottingham would host the Midlands 3Rs symposium on the 8 July 2022.

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

- .1 The Committee NOTED that a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of PPL applications and amendments was available.
- .2 The BSU Director REPORTED that the initial assessment of PPL applications by ASRU were taking between 40 - 60 days. This is outside the standard 40-day timeframe given by the ASRU.
- .3 The BSU Director REPORTED that amendments to PPLs were being approved, on average, within two weeks. This is within the standard 40-day timeframe given by ASRU.
- .4 The BSU Director REPORTED that ASRU had allocated additional resources to deal with the delays in processing times.

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

- .1 The Committee RECEIVED paper AWERB/22/25
- .2 The Committee NOTED that one project licence amendment had been approved by fast-track procedure.

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

- .1 The Committee NOTED that no project licences had been granted by the Home Office since the last meeting.

### **22.34 Non-ASPA applications**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that a summary spreadsheet tracking progress of non-ASPA applications was available.

**22.35 Any Other Business**

**.1 NC3Rs/MRC joint webinar: using both sexes in animal experiments**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that this item had been covered in the NC3Rs update earlier in the meeting.

**.2 Home Office Annual Statistics**

- .1 The Committee NOTED that the Home Office Annual Statistics on animal use would be released in July.