

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Tuesday, 11th July 2017

Present: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

By invitation: [REDACTED]

Apologies: [REDACTED],

In attendance: [REDACTED]

Before the commencement of business the Chair welcomed [REDACTED], who would succeed him in the Chair in 2017-18.

1. Minutes

Confirmed: The minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2017,

2. Matters arising

2.1 [REDACTED]: *Cell Therapy for Diseases of Striated Muscle*

Reported: That the revisions requested by AWERB have been accepted and project had been approved.

2.2 [REDACTED]: *Maintenance of Barrier Immunity in Health & Disease*

Reported: That the revisions requested by AWERB have been accepted and project had been approved.

2.3 [REDACTED]: *The role of inflammation in cerebrovascular disease.*

Reported: That the revisions requested by AWERB have been accepted and project had been approved.

3. North West Regional AWERB Hub

Reported: That the inaugural meeting of the North West Regional Hub had been held at Alderley Park, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Manchester had

been represented by the Chair, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The following topics had been discussed:

- AWERBs as a discussion forum for ethics
- Putting ethics on the ground, as the basis of research
- How to gain institutional commitment to the 3Rs

The next meeting would be held in late November or early December and would be hosted by the University of Manchester. It was noted that [REDACTED] was to become chair of the Astra Zeneca AWERB.

4. Report from the NC3Rs Regional Programme Manager

The NC3Rs Regional Programme Manager reported that she was:

- Looking at the topic of the role of analgesics in procedures involving animals
- Considering best practice on animal welfare and easy access to information
- Organising a 3Rs Symposium in the University of Manchester on 30th October 2017 and would be circulating details to members of AWERB in due course. The Symposium would be followed by a series of topic workshops.

5. Forum for discussing ethical issues

After discussion it was agreed that:

- It was important to find an important forum for discussing ethical issues in relation work with animals, but the AWERB meeting already had a heavy business load and was not the appropriate body for more extensive discussions
- It was important to key into the 3Rs and co-ordinate the work being done across the University.
- It was also important to gain traction with researchers and have an input to undergraduate courses.

6. Reviewing continuing and completed project licences

Until recently AWERB had regularly undertaken a mid-term review of continuing project licences on a time basis (30 months after commencement for moderate band projects and 18 and 36 months after commencement for the substantial/severe band). However, the Home Office now banded each protocol rather than the overall project and the database no longer recorded the trigger points for review. This was an opportunity, therefore, to review the purpose and scope of continuing review.

After discussion it was agreed:

- That a continuing review should be undertaken at a time to be determined when AWERB approved the project
- That a post-completion review should be undertaken six months after completion (or three months after completion if a protocol fell within the severe band).

- That the main purpose of the final review was to consider:
 - The main accomplishments
 - What had not been achieved
 - Any tips for good or less successful practices
 - Opportunities that had emerged for animal welfare, care and experimentation.
- That a route for disseminating significant findings on welfare matters needed to be put in place.

7. Report on licences processed 22.05.16 to 20.06.17

Reported: (a) That the following amendments to project licences had been approved by the executive group:

[REDACTED] *Embryo development and implantation.*
[REDACTED] *Metabolic regulation in health and disease*

(b) [REDACTED], *Generation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered animals:*

None

(c) [REDACTED], *Creation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered rodents:*

None

(d) Applications for secondary availability for new or current project licences

None

(d) That for Personal Licences there were 11 new licences, 5 amendments, 1 surrendered and 0 renewed.

8. Application for new Research Project Licence

8.1 [REDACTED]: *Neural basis of tactile behaviour*

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, and NTS.

Interviewed: [REDACTED]

Noted: (1) That the application was similar to the current licence but with 3 new protocols, one of which was for breeding.

(2) One member suggested a re-wording of the final paragraphs of the NTS (Reduction and Refinement) to make the meaning more lay friendly.

- (3) The use and level of fluid reduction needed to be stated clearly and consistently. Although the licence application, which had not been circulated to AWERB, was clear on this issue, this was not consistently reflected in the AWERB1 form and NTS.
- (4) The meeting discussed the ethics of causing animals distress (ie fluid deprivation) to encourage certain behaviours which would help data collection, as opposed to distress being incidental to the data collections itself. It was agreed (a) that this was a broader ethical issue that could be debated outside an AWERB meeting, and (b) that in this case the methodology was widely used with no harm done to rodents if monitored properly.

Resolved: To recommend approval, subject to the Chairman checking the Home Office licence application for consistency with the AWERB1 form, asking the applicant to ensure clarity and consistency on the level of fluid deprivation and making amendments to the NTS as proposed by the AWERB lay member.