ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2020

Present:

Apologies:

1. Minutes

   Agreed: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2019 were approved subject to correction of the dates for future meetings.

2. Update on applications outstanding from previous meetings

   2.1. [Redacted], Melanoma Formation, Immune Responses & Evaluating Novel Therapeutic Approaches & Agents.

       To report: Revisions submitted.

   2.2. [Redacted], Mechanistic Insight Into/Assessment of Novel Therapies for Preeclampsia & Fetal Growth Restriction.

       To report: The Home Office requested minor changes.

   2.3. [Redacted], Breeding & Maintenance of Genetically Altered Zebrafish
To report: Revisions still to be submitted for Establishment Licence Holder approval

2.4. **The Role of Inflammation in Cerebrovascular Disease.**
   To report: Amendment submitted to the Home Office and granted.

2.5. **Defining Critical Regulatory Pathways Controlling Local & Distal Immune Responses During Health & Inflammation of Barrier Surfaces.**
   To report: Home Office has fed back on the submitted draft and needs to make changes and submit these back to the executive committee.

2.6. **Mechanisms of Diabetes-Associated Heart Disease.**
   To report: will be submitting a revised application for consideration at a future AWERB meeting.

2.7. **The Aetiology of Diabetic Neuropathy.**
   To report: Revisions still to be submitted for Establishment Licence Holder approval.

3. **Mid-term review - not requiring licence holder attendance at meeting**

3.1. **Preclinical evaluation of cancer therapeutics.**
   **Considered:** A completed AWERB review form.
   **Discussed:**
   - The Project Licence holder had completed the form to a high standard which allowed the committee to fully consider the current status of the work on the licence.
   - The Committee were reassured that the earlier deaths on the licence were no longer happening due to an improvement in the method for assessing the occurrence and severity of pain.
   - The Committee were reassured that the severity classification of Protocol 1 (Severe) was justified and it did not require an amendment submitting to the Home Office to change it to Moderate.
   **Actions:** The AWERB Secretary should feedback to the licence holder on the points discussed above.
   **Outcome:** The AWERB support the ongoing work under this licence.

4. **Report on licences processed from 25/10/2019 to 10/01/2020**

The following amendments were approved by the executive committee.

4.1. **Amendments to Project Licences**
   **Cardiac Conduction System in Health & Disease.**
   **Noted:** was impressed with how the animals are nurtured and trained in this licence.
   **Action:** will approach the licence holder to ask if there are pictures that can be circulated to the AWERB members.

**Understanding Vision & Developing Therapies for Blindness.**
4.2. Amendments to Project Licence: Generation, Breeding and Maintenance of Genetically Altered Rodents, Generation of a chil3KO-BALB/c Mouse Line Using CRISPR.

4.3. Applications for Category B work, To Support Student’s Work Placement at University of Melbourne, Australia.

5. Any other business

5.1. RSPCA Lay Members Forum
RSPCA Lay Members Forum spoke about the presentations at the RSPCA Lay Members Forum in December 2019. The Panel noted that the presentation by Katherine Knight on ‘How effective is your AWERB?’ reflected the practices of the University of Manchester AWERB. The Chairman thanked for attending the Lay Members Forum.

5.2. Scheduling of future meetings and remit of AWERB regarding BSF compliance
Following a meeting between the Home Office Inspector and the Establishment Licence Holder, AWERB meetings will be held approximately every 6 weeks instead of 8 weeks. The increase in the number of meetings will allow for a more formal monitoring of compliance of risk within the BSF.

5.3. Updated mid-term and retrospective review forms
The forms were circulated to ask for final comments. The forms should be updated to cover any Standard Conditions 18 reported to the Home Office and for those licences allowing breeding, a question should be included to ask how they have controlled the breeding numbers. A question should also be asked regarding the impact the findings have made on basic or translational research.

5.4. Updated Operational Processes document
Agreed process for reviews to be updated in the document by the AWERB Secretary.

5.5. Website for research involving animals
Spoke about the current work to update the internal website to ensure that all the information that researchers need regarding research involving animals is in one place, clear and accessible.

The next meeting will be on , in .