

**3Rs subgroup for the
ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY**

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2021

Present:



Apologies:



1. Apologies and membership

The meeting was recorded for [REDACTED] benefit. Meetings won't be recorded as a matter of routine.

2. Aims and objectives of the group

[REDACTED] showed slides about the aims of the groups and these will be circulated. [REDACTED] discussed that small improvements might get missed in the main AWERB meetings and ideally these should be disseminated to all researchers in a similar field of work. [REDACTED] would like to engage junior researchers and animal care staff with the group.

3. Mid-term and end of licence reviews

The current forms were provided to the group and discussed.

[REDACTED] outlined how Retrospective Assessments and Retrospective Reviews are described by the Home Office.

The process going forward was discussed. Given the large number of licences at the University of Manchester [REDACTED] suggested that the group would maybe prioritise meeting with PPL holders who have developed new models or hold licences with large amount of animals.

AWERB decided to do mid-term to assess how work has progressed and have any 3Rs been identified which could be disseminated to other groups?

[REDACTED] proposed that 3 groups could be invited to discuss their review in person per meeting and that it is proposed to have 4 meetings of the 3Rs subgroup a year.

Any forms completed by the licence holders would be circulated prior to the meetings.

Private and Confidential

█ asked if someone should sit on the committee that holds a PPL and has to complete the form.

A discussion took place regarding the requirement for licence holders to provide publications on any form they need to complete. The people present thought that this would be important.

█ was tasked with updating the form and thinks that it could work to have one form split into mid-term review and end of licence review. The Secretariat would ask that any updates be included in the section for end-of-licence review. Having one form reduces the paperwork for licence holders.

█ to set up meeting with the AWERB Chair █ to discuss the process for the 3Rs subgroup and if what we plan will satisfy the Home Office/ Animals in Science Regulation Unit (ASRU).

█ will provide the information that is currently sent to licence holder regarding the requirement for them to do presentations for reviews at the main AWERB meeting. This information can be amended if the subgroup decides that presentations would be a good way for licence holders to discuss any 3Rs changes since the licence was granted.

4. Routes of dissemination / canvassing information

█ list should include █ because he's a PIL. █ will check.

A discussion took place regarding if people ignored generic emails.

█ discussed the BSF intranet and the possibility of creating a 3Rs section on it.

█ explained that he was looking at redesigning the intranet but then lockdown happened. █ thinks that there needs to be some thought given about how to disseminate information. █ also highlighted that there is an external facing website about work involving animals.

<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/environment/governance/ethics/animals/>

5. Manchester 3Rs symposium

█ discussed the planned 3Rs symposium. This will take place in May or June this year and will be online. The plan is to hold two 2-hour slots, 10am-12pm then 2pm-4pm to break the day up.

█ explained that the symposium usually has a poster session but maybe attendees who submit a poster would also do a 2 or 3 minute flash presentation to help increase engagement for the poster presenters.