
Summary Minutes: AWERB: PPL Review meeting

Status: FINAL

Meeting held: 17 January 2024 at 2.30pm via MS Teams and F17 Camden

Present: 16 plus 1 in attendance, 3 by invitation and 9 apologies

1 WELCOME

A new AWERB scientific member was welcomed to his first meeting and an external lay panel member was welcomed back as he had rejoined AWERB for 2024.

2 AMENDMENT TO PPL APPLICATION

A project licence holder and two colleagues were welcomed to the meeting to discuss a proposed amendment to a project licence. This consisted of adding a new protocol to the licence to allow an imaging probe to be used during a laparoscopy of liver surgery, so enabling cancer cells to be removed without taking too much tissue away (reducing the risk of potentially causing liver failure). The capability of this imaging modality and the probe were to be tested. As the surgery needed to replicate what currently happened in human surgery, neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBAs) would be used throughout the surgery.

AWERB queried why food might be withdrawn from animals for a period of up to 24 hours, as this was much longer than what was generally recommended. After discussion it was agreed that this time period would be reduced to a maximum of 18 hours.

The project licence holder was thanked for attending the meeting and providing a background to the amendment. A revised version of the amendment would be provided and recirculated for a final review.

3 RETROSPECTIVE ASSESSMENT FOR REVIEW BEFORE SUBMITTING TO THE HOME OFFICE

AWERB reviewed an amended retrospective assessment for a project licence that had expired and needed submitting to the Home Office. The consensus was that this was now much improved and approval was given for it to be submitted to the Home Office.

4 UPDATES

- **Ferrets:** it was reported that one of the ferrets had experienced swelling around the head after surgery. It did not seem to have impacted the ferret's behaviour who was very active, running around and playing and eating well. It was thought that the swelling was due to fluid build up under the skin.

5 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2023 were confirmed as an accurate record.

6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was scheduled for 06 February 2024.

7

PRESENTATION ON CURRENT PROJECTS

AWERB received a presentation on some current projects taking place at the RVC.

Secretary

19 March 2024