

Report of a meeting of the Animal Welfare & Ethical Review Body (AWERB) held on 17th February 2022.

Item	Issue Discussed	Action Agreed	By	Target Date
1.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	NONE	N/A	N/A
2.	REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETING - The Minutes, Reports and project updates were circulated prior to meeting and Minutes agreed- no changes.	NONE	N/A	N/A
3.	MATTERS ARISING - Introduction of AWERB's new Lay Chair - ELH welcoming the new Lay Chair and the Lay Chair introducing themselves and providing a short history of experience.	NONE	N/A	N/A
4.	DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING RECEIVED – Verbal update given by ELH on the Home Office's 'Change Programme'. Key points to note are that: - There are challenges for inspectors reviewing licences and there are delays with licences reviews being carried out with some taking 6	NOTED	N/A	N/A

	months' or more. In view of this, ELH advises submitting licence applications by end of February, if at all possible. - The Home Office is effectively pausing audit focus for the time being in order to focus on and develop 'Policy function'.			
(b)	■ providing update regarding compliance for the last reporting period, brief update on projects, and consideration of key risks going forward and contingency planning.	NOTED	N/A	N/A
(c)	Update with photographs received from researcher and technician on Flight Project.	NOTED	N/A	N/A
(d)	Update email received from Project Licence Holder on the Salmonoid project.	NOTED	N/A	N/A
5.	NACWO report RECEIVED reporting on: PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND UPTAKE OF THE 3 Rs;	NOTED - Updates on number of personal licences and Project licences (both the two approved and those in draft), ASPA/other relevant training, amendments to establishment Licence and the CoS Ethics Committee.	N/A	N/A

6.	CSAR; and	NOTED - HO and FHI inspections – none in reporting period; - FOI requests – none in reporting period, and external interest matters; - current research; - systems infrastructure and refurbishments and technical matters.	N/A	N/A
7.	CARE, ACCOMMODATION AND TREATMENT	NOTED - updates on stock, accommodation and treatment matters; - care regimes in CSAR, - species-specific matters and facilities; - that there were no major issues of concern to be brought to the attention of the Group.	N/A	N/A
(a)	OTHER The NACWO reported on an incident regarding an AWERB Approved Project IP-2021-07 (unlicensed work). - The incident occurred due to a deviation which the NACWO discussed with the researcher and the NACWO is fully satisfied that this will not happen again. It became apparent that the deviation occurred because the researcher	AGREED - There are no welfare concerns with the on-going project IP-2021-07. - ELH to consider whether there is merit in referring the publication issue/matter arising for independent review by the Universities' Research Ethics Sub Committee. - ELH advising that there is perhaps a 'Research Culture Piece' here.	ELH/NACWO	28/04/22

	was following the methodology of a previous AWERB approved project (IP-1516-07). This methodology was included in a paper published in 2020 and deviated from the AWERB approved application.			
8.	SPECIALIST REPORTS RECEIVED – a report from the NVS.	NOTED - that husbandry standards were felt to be good and that no issues of veterinary concern had been identified.	N/A	N/A
9.	NVS Review - ■■■ updating that ‘NVS Review’ is listed for the April meeting each year and the purpose of the review was to confirm the scope of the role and the ongoing requirement for the University to have the role.	AGREED - That the scope of the role is as set out in the NVS job description and there is an absolute requirement for the University to keep and maintain the role.	N/A	N/A
10.	DATES OF MEETINGS CONSIDERED – the date & time of next meeting	AGREED - that the AWERB meeting for the next session will take place via Zoom on the 28 th April 2022 at 2.30pm	N/A	N/A

11.	OTHER BUSINESS (a) CONSIDERED - ■■■ raised query regarding write up/ reports of previous Home Office inspections (b) CONSIDERED - ■■■ raised a point regarding raising the awareness of the AWERB and how the wider University can best contact relevant AWERB representatives. This is particularly pertinent in view of changes of personnel.	NOTED - ■■■ will review hard copy records and update NVS and AWERB. AGREED - This would be an opportunity for the AWERB to raise its' visibility and ensure that communication is received (consistently) by the correct person/s. A visibility piece is to be considered here and ■■■ will take this forward.	■■■ ■■■	N/A N/A
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