

Unrestricted Information

Animal Welfare and Health (AW/EDP)

23/01 A meeting of the
February 2023

Present

[Redacted list of attendees]

NACWO = Named Animal Care Officer

NVS = Named Veterinary Surgeon

Apologies were received from [Redacted]

The [Redacted]

23/02 Minutes of the [Redacted]

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 10/01/23 were approved.

23/03 Matters Arising

22/22 Input around animal tree innovations

It was noted that a section [Redacted] included in the [Redacted] 2023/24.

22/23 Mid-Term Review and animal lived experience

In regard to commercial lettings the AWERB noted that, other than _____, there were currently no other commercial lettings on University property that would require inclusion on the Establishment Licence.

- The document was quite internally focussed. There was value in looking externally at other examples of good practice.
- The 3R's group would be reinstated with the aim of developing a working plan.
- Positive examples from the Farm included:
 - The NIRD Trust had funded equipment that would replace animal procedures in some measures.
 - A project was in hand to develop in vivo systems to reduce the number of animals required for the development of novel vaccines.
- It was important to capture these examples which demonstrated engagement with the 3R's strategy.
- Following implementation of the strategy it would be important to repeat the self-assessment exercise again to see progress.

Named person Job Description

One action required the University to ensure that the Named roles of employees holding these be formally recognised in job descriptions and formally reviewed in the course of annual Performance Development Reviews. The AWERB noted that the line managers of all Named roles had been written to that effect; agreed to chase up responses.

Action:

The AWERB discussed whether an NTCO should be appointed for the Farm. It was noted that discussions were taking place with colleagues working at the Farm to ascertain if some of the NACWO duties could be moved to free up capacity for the NTCO responsibilities. An update on progress would be given to a future meeting.

Action:

Refresher Training

Further discussion was required on this item and would be brought back to a future meeting.

Action:

It was noted that the Farm kept a spreadsheet detailing training/procedures undertaken by colleagues. The spreadsheet provider alerts as and when colleagues needed retraining. The frequency of training for some procedures would be discussed with the NVS.

AWERB's Statutory Function

23/06 Communications

The AWERB received the Animals in Science newsletter for January 2023. It was noted that the RSPCA had published a link to their new 'AWERB members' microsite.

The item on the Communications Strategy was deferred to the next meeting.

23/07 Items for future meetings

It was suggested that the AWERB visit the Farm and BRU, alternating each year, so that they had an appreciation of activity on the ground.

The AWERB were asked for their thoughts on the format of the meetings and how

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