

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BOARD

A meeting of the AWERB was held at 11:00 on Wednesday 10th December 2025

Location:

Online

Summary of actions

| Item | Action | Due |
|------|---|----------|
| 7 | AWERB members to email HoBRF & HOLC any concerns about the government's strategy and their Short, Medium, & Long-term goals and whether this impacts any work being done currently at the university. | Jan 2026 |
| 7 | All AWERB members to complete EU52 module on searching for (existing) non-animal alternatives and e mail certificate to HOLC & NTCO | Jan 2026 |
| 9 | Chair to produce document with individual SWARM hrs | Jan 2026 |

Minutes

| | | Agenda Item | AWERB decision | |
|----|--------------------|---|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | 11:00 (10 mins) | Welcome and apologies Welcome to new Research and Ethics Officer and apologies were noted | | |
| 2. | | Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2025 Approved to publish with small amendment | <i>Approved</i> | AWERB/2526/24 |
| 3. | | Matters Arising/Actions Only ongoing policy actions still open. Animal Policy amendments consultation has taken place and AWERB were updated on meetings that have taken place so far in the education and research space. | | AWERB/2526/25 |
| 4. | 11:10 (20 mins) | General updates <u>Establishment Licence updates</u> None <u>Standard Condition 18 reports</u> One SC18 report regarding a mouse developed ulceration and humanely euthanised. <u>Compliance issues</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential non-compliance report regarding zebrafish genotyping/ phenotyping refinement method involving subsequent single housing is pending.• Event log to note near misses/ events was nearly complete to allow all events to be recorded in the BRF. <u>Updates from Named Persons Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working together to ensure CPD allocation of 35hours was being adhered to.• Rotas/cover were all in place for studies ongoing throughout the break.• Rodent facility was experiencing low humidities during freezing weather and this was being investigated. | | AWERB/2526/26 |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Estates Team on pipework replacements throughout the Aquarium. • Fish facility celebrated the end of a very large long-term study and the outputs and success of this project. The facility is also looking into cryopreservation for zebrafish and other species. • Wildlife NACWO noted an academic was looking to publicise their work on the University website to mitigate any concern after advice from UAR. <p><u>Update from BSU Board meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIL Retention and finance was discussed. • Rodent Quarantine is closing. <p><u>Estates</u> No updates</p> <p><u>NTCO update</u> Updates included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rodent animal care technician completed and passed the People Taking Care of Animals (PTCOA) course conducted by an external provider. • An 'Introduction to ASPA' course was conducted for two new Rodent technicians in post. The introduction covers Awareness of legislation and definitions, required licences, named persons roles, AWERB, 3R's, schedule 1 and schedule 2. • Delegate PELh attended the LASA PEL holders day attended by PELS and PEL delegates. • Various PIL/PPL training and competency assessments completed and upcoming. <p>No further comments received</p> <p><u>HOLC update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you given to everyone involved with PPL and amendments to non ASPA projects. • PPL application slides with more questions on searching for non-animal alternatives which are aligned with the Replacing Animals in Research checklist are included in item7. • HOLC updated members that working with the HoBF the Compliance policy in draft almost completed. • No further updates from Home Office currently. | | |
| 5. | 11:30 (10 mins) | <p>Named Veterinary Surgeon's visit (<i>verbal update</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no vet visit since the last AWERB, but next visit planned. • There have been a few health concerns which have been discussed and dealt with appropriately. • There have been a number of amendments and non-ASPA ethical reviews over the last month. | | |

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| | (5 mins) | will produce a document to look at individual hours allocated. Recent Survey from UKRI regarding facilities and resources, was discussed. Response from BRF to be sent on behalf of the University | | |
| 10. | 13:00 | End | | |

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 20th January 2026 Online