



Compliance issues

Potential non-compliance report submitted:

- One mouse was found deceased behind a food hopper. The animal had been checked the previous afternoon Incident attributed to improper placement of the food hopper.

There have been on-going discussion on zebrafish genotyping refinement method involving single housing, which has been used on several ZF colonies. There will be the coordination of multiple minor amendments to the affected PPLs.

Updates from Named Persons Meeting

Rodent facilities

- GM line imports and preparing for surgery studies.
- Awaiting clean/ refurbishing from BSU Fire in July.
- Booklice infestation reported in LSI BSU.

Fish facility

- Regulations preventing zebrafish imports this year, another establishment may offer quarantine services.

Wildlife

- Exploring strategic UoE NE license for wildlife work.
- Wildlife NACWO involved with bird flu communications.

Update from BSU Board meeting

None

Estates

None

NTCO update

AWERB were updated via the training report, all training updates since the last meeting, which included:

- NTCO had a mock PIL practical session with NACWO.
- Wildlife NACWO attended and passed a 3-day wildlife PIL course.

		<p><u>HOLC update</u></p> <p>HOLC updated members that a PPL application in review has been withdrawn due to no funding available currently. Some fish will be cryopreserved before current PPL expires.</p> <p>HOLC recently attended the HOLTIF and highlighted the following to members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment aims to be finalised end of Dec/early Jan and training inspectors is ongoing with experienced inspectors supporting this.</li> <li>• There will be a broader range of audit types. AWERB is now included in the core component of the audit programme, alongside meeting with the PEL holder. This is a reflection of the outcomes in the RAWLE report, which highlighted AWERBs role in promoting the 3Rs and strategic focus on replacement. As part of the licensing reform, they are focusing on better service and improved compliance – shorter, more compact licences and licences will be right first-time approach, eliminating poor application through improved guidance</li> </ul> <p>HOLC recently circulated the Government’s Replacing Animals in Science Strategy to members. Its focus is on areas of regulated research such as pharmaceutical and toxicity testing. Including an item on this in December meeting, will also feed into discussion on Home Office focus on AWERB and the 3Rs, specifically replacement of animals.</p>		
5.	11:25 (10 mins)	<p><b>Named Veterinary Surgeon’s visit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trial has begun maintaining wildtype Arabian Killifish fry in freshwater rather than saltwater</li> <li>• Zebrafish feeding trial being run</li> <li>• GAA zebrafish were single housed following pairing to produce embryos which would be genotyped</li> <li>• Shrimp mortalities have been seen since the study began, discussed between NACWO, PIL and NVS. Samples sent for analysis, results are still pending.</li> <li>• Group of guppies elastomer tagged before NVS visit. Behaviour appeared normal when checked</li> <li>• NVS recommended considering routine health screening of all facilities</li> <li>• NVS discussed whether cryopreservation of the guppy populations would be useful.</li> </ul>		AWERB/2526/20

6.	11:35 (10 mins)	<p><b>End of PPL review</b>  <u>AWERB 2526 20 PPL end form was reviewed by AWERB.</u></p> <p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around incident that occurred and the changes that have been made to mitigate risk of reoccurrence in future projects</li> <li>• Discussion of gaps in standard operating procedure. To be discussed in future AWERB meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Endorsed</p>	<i>endorsed</i>	AWERB/2526/21
7.	11:55 (20 mins)	<p><b>PPL mid-term review</b>  <u>AWERB 2526 22 PPL mid-term form was reviewed by AWERB.</u></p> <p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The list of benefits were mentioned. They appear as a list of experimental outcomes instead of benefits</li> <li>• NVS highlighted that the review stated that there was no advice or input from NVS which is likely inaccurate</li> <li>• Lay member praised the document and highlighted how accessible it was</li> </ul> <p>Endorsed with condition that minor changes to be addressed</p> <p><u>AWERB 2526 23 PPL mid-term form was reviewed by AWERB.</u></p> <p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around grammar, spelling and accessibility of document. Adjustments needed.</li> <li>• NVS highlighted concerns around lack of detail on prospective severities. HOLC raised that the template wording has been revised recently to help with understanding the requirements for this section.</li> </ul> <p>Revisions needed before it can be endorsed</p>	<p><i>endorsed subject to minor revisions</i></p> <p><i>Revisions required</i></p>	<p>AWERB/2526/22  AWERB/2526/23</p>
8.	12:15 (5 mins)	<p><b>3Rs initiatives/updates</b></p> <p><u>Named persons meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Named persons meeting has been pushed back.</li> </ul> <p><u>3Rs subgroup updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subgroup meeting has been pushed back.</li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questionnaire distribution lists have been drafted.</li> </ul> <p><u>Obtaining and sharing best practice on 3Rs nationwide (other establishments/AWERBs)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3R's Strategy Group with other institutions being set-up and meeting set for December.</li> <li>• Seabass study coming to an end this week. Exceptional number of samples carried out which should have significant output and create opportunities for grants.</li> <li>• Discussions and research being carried out into cryopreservation options. To be discussed with rodent facilities.</li> </ul> <p>Attended meeting with RAR on non-animal alternatives. Key takeaways were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the RAR alternatives checklist both at AWERB and before projects get to AWERB e.g pre-award stage</li> <li>• Using the EU module training on searching for non-animal alternatives. This will be covered at the next meeting.</li> </ul>		
9.	12:20 (5 mins)	<p><b>Update on Chair's Action</b></p> <p><u>ASPA regulated</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous mid-term reviews with minor revisions completed.</li> <li>• Several amendments in review currently.</li> </ul> <p><u>Non-ASPA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One application in review currently with AWERB sub-group for teaching module overseas</li> </ul>		
10.	12:25 (5 mins)	<b>Any Other Business</b>		
11.	12:30	<b>End</b>		

**Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Online