

Governance

Unrestricted Minutes

Given possible sensitivities it was felt that discussing this matter in person with hub members rather than via email was prudent. However, if it took too long to rearrange the meeting then consideration would be given to garnering views by different means.

20/21 Membership

AWERB received and noted a copy of its membership. Members were asked to comment on the membership, in particular whether there was any representation missing. The following comments were made:

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- > 5 H G D F W H G 6 H F @ worked in small teams to complete all daily husbandry tasks and upkeep of the unit.
- There was a major fault with the boiler that controls the heating to the main mouse holding room. > 5 H G D F W H G 6 H F @ managed to move all the mice out to other areas of the unit while the fix took place over several weeks.
- There were two > 5 H G D F W H G islets and a remote > 5 H G D F W H G 6 H F @ Y inspection during lockdown.
- With the easing of restrictions small numbers of researchers have begun to return to the BRU and restart procedural work. A booking system had been developed for this.

Farm

- Work had carried on largely as normal during the lockdown period and there had been no issues with animal welfare.
- Discussions were in hand with [Redacted. Sec.40] in regard to a COVID study.
- As a number of colleagues lived on site there had been adequate staffing throughout.
- It was noted that a number of colleagues lived in shared accommodation (bedsits with shared kitchen areas). This could pose a risk should a colleague test positive for COVID-19. It was reported that mitigation had been put in place in regard to staggered use of the kitchen. During the day, most colleagues were on spread shifts and nearly all of the work could be undertaken with social distancing. Contingency planning allowed for staff isolation should any positive cases occur.
- The Farm had developed contingency plans in case of an outbreak that would prioritise welfare provision of the animals.

Members of AWERB thanked all those colleagues involved in maintaining animal welfare.

20/24 Update on transition to the BRU

The AWERB noted that the latest handover date for the Health and Life Sciences Building had now been handed over to the School and the job of moving in had begun.

The contractors were finishing off some jobs in the BRU and these were due to be completed by

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familiar and comfortable with the building systems and how these operate; Setting up rooms for use; Training and familiarisation of the unit for users and stakeholders of the facility.

If no issues were discovered or delays happen in this period, then it was thought this process would take 4-6 weeks. At the end of this process the unit would have a deep clean and sterilisation from an outside company. This would take about 1 week. After this the entry and use of the unit would be restricted to those who required access and follow the entry procedure guidelines.

It was noted that it was now time to start thinking about the return of animals from Harwell to be moved straight into the HLS BRU. Discussions were currently happening with them about the process and timelines for this.

[Redacted. Sec.40] enquired whether SOPs had been circulated to users. It was noted that the Implementation Group had received these. It was suggested that as part of the induction that num

[Redacted. Sec.40] informed AWERB that UAR were now offering a kitemark type award around openness in understanding animal research and he enquired whether it would be helpful to produce a plan to apply. AWERB agreed that it wished to see a plan.

Action: [Redacted. Sec.40]

20/27 Dates of meetings in the Session 2020-21

Thursday 4 February 2021 at 10.00 am

Thursday 13 May 2021 at 10.00 am