

National Committee for the Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes

Report of the Meeting on 16 September 2020

1. Declarations of Interest/Conflicts of Interest
There were no conflicts of interest declared.
2. Minutes
The minutes for the meeting of 17 September 2019 were approved and adopted.
3. Matters Arising
Nothing to report.
4. Training Event 2020
The National Committee noted that the training event that had been scheduled for September 2020 has had to be cancelled due to Covid. A decision was taken to postpone the event until September 2021.
5. Challenges posed by Covid
The National Committee noted that the UK's Laboratory Animal Science Association (LASA) had developed a document to help Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Bodies (AWERBs) review the impact of Covid-19 lockdown on their establishments. The document advises that AWERBs review the processes that were in place during the crisis, and their outcomes, not only in the event of similar future episodes, but also in reference to more general disaster management plans. It also advises that AWERBs should consider sharing the experiences of their establishments more widely and encourages the sharing of the document within establishments and networks. The National Committee considered that the document would also be beneficial to AWBs in Ireland and requested the HPRA to circulate this document to AWBs.
6. Reflection on on-line meeting arrangements
The National Committee considered the arrangements for this virtual meeting and agreed that they were satisfactory and may be used again in the future.
7. Amendment of Directive 2010/63/EU by Regulation 2019/1010 to align reporting obligations
The National Committee noted that the European Commission had recently introduced measures to amend certain reporting obligations laid down in Articles 43, 54 and 57 of Directive 2010/63/EU. The effect of the change will be the centralisation of information in respect of Non-technical Project Summaries centrally. The change will apply from 1 January 2021, with summaries expected to be available in the centralised database from July 2021.

8. Date of next meeting
The proposed date of the next meeting is 27 May 2021.
9. AOB
There was nothing to report.

ENDS.