



Institute of
Animal Technology

RSPCA/LASA/LAVA/IAT AWERB-UK 2021 Maintaining an effective AWERB in the age of Covid-19

8 February 2021, online ([Google Meet](#))

11.25 – 14.20

Objective: to discuss how AWERBs are operating online, and to help them operate effectively in the short, medium and long term. The meeting will not cover running animal units, or contingency plans for this, as these topics have been addressed by others.

Participants: all those involved with a UK AWERB including scientists, animal technologists, lay/independent members, named persons, vets and AWERB chairs.

Registration: free, although donations to support the work of the RSPCA Animals in Science Department can be made at this new [JustGiving](#) page. Registration form at tinyurl.com/AWERBmeet21

11.25	Introduction (Maggy Jennings, RSPCA)
11.30	Snapshot of current practice (Penny Hawkins, RSPCA)
11.45	A scientist's viewpoint Experiences of remote AWERB meetings - advantages and disadvantages – Matthew Allen, Queen Elizabeth Animal Hospital, Cambridge
11.55	Views from animal technologists Outcome of a survey of Institute of Animal Technology members – Kally Booth (IAT; University of Dundee)
12.05	An independent member's viewpoint Experiences of remote AWERB meetings - advantages and disadvantages – Bentley Crudgington (member of AstraZeneca AWERB; Animal Research Nexus)
12.15	Views from laboratory animal veterinary surgeons Outcome of a survey of Laboratory Animals Veterinary Association members – Ngaire Dennison (LAVA; University of Dundee)
12.25	An AWERB Chair's viewpoint Positive and challenging aspects of meeting online – Cathy Abbott (University of Edinburgh)
12.30	Lunch break
13.15	Panel discussion of questions submitted by participants Panel: Katherine Knight (Animals in Science Regulation Unit), Sally Robinson (Animals in Science Committee), Ben Acton (Agenda Life Sciences), Janet Watson (Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute), Cathy Abbott (University of Edinburgh)
14.00	Action points from all participants, captured with Padlet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your key take home message from the meeting today; what do you plan to do differently? • Are there any approaches that people would like to incorporate into the future running of the AWERB, regardless of whether there are restrictions?
14.15	Closing comments and feedback forms
14.20	End

Output: uploads of the presentations and a short summary document for AWERBs to use as a source of ideas, to review how they are doing, or in the event of future restrictions.

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