**UNIVERSITY OF ROEHAMPTON**

**Animal Experimentation: Guide to Research and Ethics**

Any researcher seeking to conduct experiments on/with animals will need to ensure that the proposed research complies with the conditions set out in the *Home Office Guidance: Guidance on the Operation of Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986*. This includes the need to explain the scientific case for the research, the nature of experimental procedures, the welfare conditions and requirements of the experimental animals. These are set out in the following documents:

**Home Office Guidance: Research and Testing Using Animals:**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/research-and-testing-using-animals>

**Home Office Guidance: Guidance on the Operation of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/operation-of-aspa>

The Research Integrity and Ethics Committee also directs researchers to the following websites where there are detailed documents of guidance:

**A useful guide from the University of Oxford can be found at:**

<http://www.ox.ac.uk/news-and-events/animal-research/university-policy-on-the-use-of-animals-in-scientific-research>

**Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Bioscience Research: Expectations of the Major Research Council and Charity Funding Bodies:**

<http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=14&ved=0ahUKEwjBvOe85brTAhXDIsAKHfslBlE4ChAWCDQwAw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ubs.admin.cam.ac.uk%2Ffiles%2Fanimals_in_research.pdf&usg=AFQjCNEPbCyoZ4Vi9Sh9fL8GE39so2GcPg&sig2=XBNWq8V8MBVFIJMQYUNdrw>

In the main, Home Office guidance relate to intrusive experiments and testing on live animals. It also covers lethal practices. Not all possible research with/using animals is covered in these documents and some animals, particularly invertebrates, are not subject to Home Office scrutiny. For example, observational studies of wild animals, animals in zoos, and domesticated animals do not require Home Office approval.

However, in order to ensure that at Roehampton we maintain the highest ethical standards in research with animals, all researchers are required to make a clear statement about their proposed research on their Ethics Application forms. This should give information about the nature of the research, how the animals will be used/ engaged with, welfare issues and any ethical considerations. All such applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis rather than having to respond to blanket requirements. Studies involving animal interventions and experiments (studies focusing on animals asresearch subjects – i.e., testing the animal's responses or reactions in some way) will be referred to the Animal Research Regulatory Compliance Advisor. Studies focusing on humans, but involving some contact with animals as part of that, do not require referral.

**Version 2 - Approved by the University of Roehampton Research Integrity and Ethics Committee on 05.10.21, meeting 3 and approved by Senate on 17.11.21, meeting 132**

**(Version 1 was approved by the University of Roehampton Ethics Committee on 06.02.18, meeting 23 and approved by Senate on 07.03.18, meeting 105)**