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Spec

Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals Northern Ireland 2017



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Prepared pursuant to section 21(7) of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 as adapted by section 29 of that Act

Speaking of Research



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Introductory Notes

Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and key definitions

In the UK the use of animals in scientific procedures is regulated by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, an animal protection measure that requires licensing and oversight of all places, projects and personnel involved in such work. The general system of control under the 1986 Act is explained in detail in the Appendix.

The purpose of this publication is to meet the requirements of the 1986 Act to collect and publish statistical information on the use of protected animals in regulated procedures during the previous calendar year and to lay that information before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Protected animals are defined in the 1986 Act as any living vertebrate other than man and any living cephalopod. Regulated procedures are defined in the 1986 Act as any procedure applied to a protected animal for an experimental or other scientific purpose, or for an educational purpose, that may have the effect of causing an animal pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm equivalent to, or higher than, that caused by the introduction of a needle in accordance with good veterinary practice. As the 1986 Act indicates, the breeding of an animal is a regulated procedure if the animal is bred from, or is the descendant of, an animal whose genes have mutated or been modified. For simplicity, these procedures will be referred to from this point on as the creation/breeding of genetically altered animals.

The number of regulated procedures, which will be simply referred to as procedures from this point on, usually corresponds with the number of animals used. However, animals are sometimes 're-used' when they have fully recovered from a previous procedure and in these instances they are counted as separate, additional, procedures. Overall, the number of procedures is always slightly higher than the number of animals used. The figures in this release focus on the number of procedures, not the number of animals, unless otherwise stated.

Changes to data collection from 2014 onwards

The European Directive 2010/63/EU⁷ sets out a common format for member states of the European Union, which includes the UK – and therefore Northern Ireland – to submit information on the use of animals for scientific purposes. Following the transposition of the directive into UK law in January 2013, through amendment regulations to the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, some changes were made that affect data from 2014 onwards. The key changes are listed below.

- In order to allow for the collection of data on actual severity of procedures (see below), these data are for procedures completed, as opposed to procedures started.
- Details of the actual severity are recorded for all procedures. This is an assessment of the severity that animals experienced as a result of the entire procedure and reflects the peak severity of that procedure.
- The species information was revised in 2013.
- Information on all cephalopods as opposed to only one species (*Octopus vulgaris*) is now collected, as is information on species newly listed in 2013 in Schedule 2 of the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.
- Since 2015 species information is collected to distinguish beagles from other dogs and common quail from other birds.
- Information on free-feeding larval forms (e.g. tadpoles) is now collected, but unborn or un-hatched embryos are not counted.

- Precise information on the number of individual animals re-used is not collected; however, it is still possible to ascertain the number of procedures which involved the re-use of animals.
- Statistics are collected on place of birth rather than on source.
- For genetically altered animals, separate breakdowns on genetically modified animals and animals with a harmful genetic mutation are not collected; instead, separate breakdowns are collected on animals that show a harmful phenotype (i.e. a harmful physical or biochemical defect) and animals which do not show a harmful phenotype.
- Statistics are no longer collected on use of anaesthesia, except where neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBA) are involved.
- Information on target body system is no longer collected for all procedures but similar data are collected for procedures undertaken for basic and translational research purposes.
- Specific information is collected on regulatory (as opposed to non-regulatory) use; some of this information was previously reported as applied studies.

Additional information supplied to the European Commission in 2017

In addition to the data above, once every 5 years, and in accordance with the standard conditions applied to Establishment Licence holders, each holder is required to provide information relating to:

- the number of animals that were bred for scientific procedures and were killed during the target year but not used in procedures and not included in the annual return of procedures
- tissue sampling and its refinements for genotyping of animals.

For any new collection, it is expected that there will be inconsistencies around the reporting of data as establishment holders are unfamiliar with the additional requirements and the collection format. For this reason, the additional statistical data should be interpreted with some caution.

Further information available

This statistical release is available online at the DoH website:
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/>

The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 can be accessed at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consolidated-version-of-aspa-1986>

European Directive 2010/63/EU can be found at:
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010L0063>

<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/36ef2c9c-33b4-11e2-84d0-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Description of Statistical Tables

1. Project holders were asked to answer detailed questions about the procedures completed in 2017. A description of the information gathered is set out below.

Species of animal

2. The majority of the tables refer to experimental procedures with the exception of tables 1a and 2, which refer to animals used for the first time, and tables 8 and 9, which refer to genetically altered animals created/bred in 2017 but not used in further experimental procedures.
3. The list of species of categories of animals is selective to avoid undue complications; where collective terms are used it is because previous experience suggests that the category will contain a relatively small number or because further breakdown is of little interest. In several tables, rows which are completely zero have been omitted and if an animal is not mentioned then it is because the rows pertaining to that species are completely blank.

Genetic status of animal

4. For genetically altered animals, separate breakdowns on genetically modified animals and animals with a harmful genetic mutation are no longer collected. Instead, separate breakdowns are now collected on animals which show a harmful phenotype (i.e. a harmful physical or biochemical defect) and animals which do not show a harmful phenotype.
5. Since 2014, genetic status is shown separately for experimental procedures (Table 4) and those involving the creation/breeding of genetically altered animals that were not used in further experimental procedures (Tables 8 and 9).

Primary purpose

6. Use of animals for regulated procedures is limited by Section 5 (3) of the Act to one of the following primary purposes:
 - a. **basic research:**
 - b. **translational or applied research** with one of the following aims—
 - (i) the avoidance, prevention, diagnosis or treatment of disease, ill-health or other abnormality, or their effects, in man, animals or plants;
 - (ii) the assessment, detection, regulation or modification of physiological conditions in man, animals or plants; or
 - (iii) the improvement of the welfare of animals or of the production conditions for animals reared for agricultural purposes.
 - c. the **development, manufacture or testing** of the quality, effectiveness and safety of drugs, foodstuffs and feed-stuffs or any other substances or products, with one of the aims mentioned in paragraph (b);
 - d. **protection of the natural environment:** research in the interests of the health or welfare of man or animals;
 - e. **preservation of species:** research aimed at preserving the species of animal subjected to regulated procedures as part of the programme of work;

- f. **higher education or training** for the acquisition, maintenance or improvement of vocational skills;
- g. **forensic inquiries:** including tests as part of forensic investigations and the production of materials, for example, antisera, for use in forensic investigations;

Place of Birth (Table 2)

- 7. From 2013, Schedule 2c and 25(e) of the Act require, unless a specific exemption is granted, that certain animals, listed in Schedule 2 to the Act, have to be specifically bred for the use in regulated procedures. The species so listed are: mouse, rat, guinea-pig, hamster, rabbit, dog, cat, primates, quail, ferret, gerbil, frog, zebra fish and pigs and sheep if genetically modified.
- 8. Information is collected on place of birth. Statistics relate to animals used for the first time rather than on the number of procedures. The place of birth of these animals is tabulated according to whether it is within the UK, within the remainder of the EU, or elsewhere.

Stage of Development

- 9. Details of procedures on immature forms were collected but not enumerated because it is impracticable in some cases to count such procedures, e.g. a foetus resorbed during gestation, or fish fry which are very small and fast-moving.

Severity (Tables 3 & Tables 8-9)

- 10. Details of actual severity are recorded for all procedures.
- 11. The severity of procedural harms (i.e. excluding harms caused to animals as a result of non-procedural events such as transport and housing) is assessed as one of five categories as follows.
 - Sub-threshold: When a procedure was authorised under a project licence but did not actually cause suffering above the threshold of regulation (ASPA 2 (1)) i.e. was less than the level of pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm that is caused by inserting a hypodermic needle according to good veterinary practice.
 - Non-recovery (under general anaesthesia): When the entire procedure was carried out under general anaesthesia without recovery.
 - Mild: The key characteristic of mild procedures is that any pain or suffering experienced by an animal is, at worst, only slight or transitory and minor so that the animal returns to its normal state within a short period of time.
 - Moderate: The characteristic of moderate procedures is that they do cause a significant and easily detectable disturbance to an animal's normal state, but this is not life threatening. Most surgical procedures carried out under general anaesthesia and with good post-operative analgesia (i.e. pain relief) would be classed as Moderate.
 - Severe: The characteristics of severe procedures are that they cause a major departure from the animal's usual state of health and well-being. It would usually include long-term disease processes where assistance with normal activities such as feeding and drinking are required or where significant deficits in behaviours/activities persist. It includes animals found dead unless an informed decision can be made that the animal did not suffer severely prior to death.

12. The severity of genetically altered animals is assessed from:

- the phenotype of the animals, e.g. development of congenital disease (i.e. diseases present at birth) or tumours;
- in the case of animals that have no harmful phenotype but that have been biopsied for genotyping, the biopsy procedures will generally be assessed as mild;
- the animals assessed as severe in this category are expected to be largely animals within breeding colonies that were found dead and where the death of the animal was either a result of its phenotype or, more commonly, unexplained (all animals found dead are reported as severe unless an informed decision can be made that the animal did not suffer severely prior to death);
- a small number of the animals used to create new lines of genetically altered animals will have been subjected to surgical or minor procedures such as the injection of drugs or viral vectors (i.e. viruses containing the genes of interest).

13. Full details of severity assessment and classification can be found in Annex 8 of the European Directive 2010/63/EU.

Type of procedure

14. Table 5 provides a breakdown of all experimental procedures undertaken for the primary purpose of basic research, by area of study. These are:

- Oncology
- Cardiovascular blood and lymphatic system
- Nervous system
- Respiratory system
- Gastrointestinal system – including liver
- Musculoskeletal system
- Immune system
- Urogenital/reproductive system
- Sensory organs (skin, eyes and ears)
- Endocrine system/metabolism
- Multi-systemic
- Ethology/animal behaviour/animal biology
- Other

15. Table 6 provides a breakdown of experimental procedures undertaken for the primary purpose of translation/applied research by area of study. These are:

- Human cancer
- Human infectious disorders
- Human cardiovascular disorders
- Human nervous and mental disorders
- Human respiratory disorders
- Human gastrointestinal disorders including liver
- Human musculoskeletal disorders
- Human immune disorders
- Human urogenital/reproductive disorders
- Human sensory disorders (skin, eyes and ears)
- Human endocrine system/metabolism disorders
- Other human disorders
- Animal diseases and disorders
- Animal welfare

- Diagnosis of diseases
- Plant diseases
- Non regulatory toxicology and ecotoxicology

16. Table 7.1 provides a breakdown of experimental procedures undertaken for regulatory purposes. These fall into 4 categories:

- Routine production of blood based products, monoclonal antibodies(ascites) or other products;
- Quality control;
- Other efficacy and tolerance testing;
- Toxicity and other safety testing including pharmacology.

17. Table 7.4 provides a further breakdown on toxicity and other safety testing, by the various testing methods used.

Legislative requirements (Table 7.2 and 7.3)

18. Tables 7.2 provides a breakdown of all regulatory procedures by type of legislative requirement. Table 7.3 documents the origin of the requirement. The following are examples of legislative requirements which may be included:

- Medicines Act 1968;
- Legislation on medicinal products for veterinary use and their severity;
- Workplace safety – e.g. Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978, COSHH Regulations;
- Substances used in agriculture – e.g. Control of Pesticides Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987; EU Pesticides Directives;
- Substances used in foodstuffs – e.g. The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

Projects, project licence holders and licensed establishments (Table 10)

19. The creation/breeding of genetically altered animals includes the use of animals for the creation of new lines of genetically altered animals and the breeding of established lines of genetically altered animals that were not used in further regulated procedures. This category also includes some animals which were bred with the intention of producing genetically altered animals, but resulted in non-genetically altered animals being born.

Project and Personal licence holders and licensed establishments (Table 10)

20. Project licence holders have been classified according to the type of designated place which was their main place of employment at the end of the year, although they could be licensed to carry out procedures at more than one place. Procedures have been classified according to the type of designated place of the project licence holder reporting them.

Additional Statistics collated every 5 years to satisfy EU requirements (Tables 11-12)

21. Every 5 years, establishment holders are required to provide additional statistical information to the European Commission. This requirement is set out in Annex 1 of 'Commission Implementing Decision of 14 November 2012 (2012/707/EU)'.

22. Data is collected on the following areas:

- a. animals bred for scientific procedures which have died or been killed without being used in procedures;
- b. animals subject to tissue sampling for the purposes of genotyping and the refining of genotyping methods.

Commentary

Introduction

Following the transposition of European Directive 2010/63/EU into UK law through amendment regulations to the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, some changes were made to the data collected. The 2017 figures in this release are the fourth year for which these changes apply.

1. The main features of the statistics for 2017 were:
 - a) The number of procedures completed was 24,756. Of these 4,698 (19%) related to the creation/breeding of genetically altered animals that were not used in further procedures and the remaining 20,058 (81%) were experimental procedures (Table 1).
 - b) The number of animals used for the first time was 24,166. This is in comparison to 21,247 in 2016 (Table 1a).
 - c) Of the 20,058 experimental procedures completed in 2017, the majority involved mice (50.2% or 10,076 procedures). Cattle were used in 31.1% of procedures (6,241), rats in 5.5% of procedures (1,105) and Domestic Fowl in 4.6% of procedures (916) (Table 1).
 - d) In 2017, 97.3% of animals used for the first time in experimental procedures were born at establishments within the UK (18,937 animals). The remaining 2.7% (531 animals) were born in the EU (outside the UK) (Table 2).
 - e) The majority of experimental procedures completed in 2017 used animals that had not been genetically modified (77.8% or 15,609 procedures). 18.4% (3,688 procedures) involved genetically modified animals without a harmful phenotype, i.e. a harmful physical or chemical defect and 3.8% (761 procedures) involved genetically modified animals with a harmful phenotype (Table 4).
 - f) Of the severity assessments undertaken for the 20,058 experimental procedures completed in 2017: 1.8% were assessed as sub-threshold; 57.1% were assessed as mild; 37.6% were assessed as moderate; 2% were assessed as severe and 1.4% were assessed as non-recovery (Table 3).
 - g) Of the 24,756 total procedures carried out in 2017: 59.5% (14,719) were undertaken for basic research; 18.5% (4,579) were undertaken for translational/applied research; 1% (249) were undertaken for the purpose of protection of the natural environment; 1.7% (423) were undertaken for regulatory use; and 0.4% (88) were undertaken for forensic enquiries (Table 1).
 - h) In 2017, 14,719 procedures were undertaken for basic research purposes. Of these, 96.8% (14,253 procedures) were undertaken for the study of oncology and specified or multi-organ systems. The remaining 3.2% (466 procedures) were undertaken for the study of animal biology (including ethology/animal behaviour) or other purposes (Table 5).
 - i) In 2017, 4,579 procedures were undertaken for translational/applied research purposes. Of those 65% (2978 procedures) were undertaken for research on humans, 33% (1,511 procedures) were undertaken for animal research and 2% (90 procedures) were undertaken for the diagnosis of diseases (Table 6).
 - j) In 2017, 423 procedures were undertaken for regulatory purposes. Of these 89.6% (379 procedures) were for toxicity and other safety testing, including pharmacology, and 10.4% (44 procedures) were for routine production of blood based products (Table 7.1).

- k) Of the 423 procedures undertaken for regulatory use, 74% (313 procedures) involved legislation on medicinal products for veterinary use (and their residues) and 26% (110 procedures) were for legislation involving food (including food contact material) (Table 7.2). All regulatory procedures satisfied both UK and EU legislation (Table 7.3).
- l) All of the 4,698 genetically altered animals created/bred in 2017 (and not used in further experimental procedures) were for the maintenance of established lines of genetically modified animals. None were created/bred to create new lines of genetically modified animals (Table 9).
- m) The majority of procedures undertaken in 2017 (15,974 or 64.5%) were carried out in universities/medical schools. Government departments carried out 5,430 procedures (21.9%). Non-profit-making organisations carried out 2,428 procedures (9.8%) and commercial organisations carried out 924 procedures (3.7%) (Table 10).
- n) In 2017, 4,268 animals bred for use in scientific procedures, died or were killed without being used in procedures. The majority of these were mice (92.5%). The remaining 7.5% were rats (Table 11).
- o) Tissue sampling for the purpose of genotyping was taken from 4051 rodents during the reporting period. The method used in the majority of cases was ear notching and almost all sampling was rated as sub-threshold to mild in severity (Table 12).

In order to refine the process of tissue sampling and minimise stress to animals, establishments advised that one sample might be used for multiple purposes to reduce the number of procedures required.
- p) Returns were completed in respect of 116 project licences in 2017 (5 less than 2016). Some project holders would have made 2 returns for 2017, one relating to the expiring licence and one relating to the successor licence. A total of 71 licences carried out countable procedures in 2017 (Table 10).
- q) During 2017, the number of personal licences which were operational and authorised to carry out regulated procedures under the act was 669. (Table 14).

Table 1 Number of procedures by species of animal and purpose of the procedure

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Experimental purpose of procedure (excluding creation & breeding)						Creation & breeding of GA animals not used in experimental procedures	Total procedures	% of total procedures
	Basic Research	Translational/ Applied research	Protection of the natural environment	Preservation of species	Higher education or training	Forensic enquiries			
Mammal									
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	7,550	2,515	0	0	0	0	11	10,076	59.7
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	723	382	0	0	0	0	0	1,105	4.5
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	222	0	0	0	0	0	222	0	0.0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	46	0	0	0	0	0	36	82	0.3
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	90	0.4
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	75	0	0	0	0	27	102	0.4
Other dog (other Canis)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	236	0	0	0	0	21	257	1.0
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	10	0	0	0	0	48	48	0.2
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	121	131	0	0	0	0	88	107	1.8
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	5,968	100	0	0	0	0	173	6,241	25.2
Primate									
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	3	12	44	0	0	0	59	0	0.2
Bird									
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	86	830	0	0	0	0	916	0	3.7
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)									
Amphibian									
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rana (<i>temporalia</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	0	0.0
Fish									
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	197	205	0	0	0	402	0	1.6
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	197	205	0	0	0	402	0	0.0
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)									
Total	14,719	4,579	249	0	0	88	4,23	20,058	24,756
% of total	59.5	18.5	1.0	0.0	0.4	1.7	81.0	19.0	100.0

Table 1a Number of animals used for the first time in procedures by species of animal and purpose of the procedure

Species of animal	Experimental purpose of procedure (excluding creation & breeding)					Creation & breeding of GA animals not used in experimental procedures	Total animals used for the first time in procedures	% of total animals used for the first time in procedures	
	Basic Research	Translational/ Applied research	Protection of the natural environment	Preservation of species	Higher education or training	Forensic enquiries	Regulatory	Total animals used for the first time in experimental procedures	
Mammal									
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	7,539	2,515	0	0	0	0	0	11	10,065
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	723	382	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,105
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	220	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	220
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	82
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Other dog (other Canis)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	236	0	0	0	0	0	0	257
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	107
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	5,665	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	384
									5,929
Primate									
New World monkey									
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old World monkey									
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	3	12	44	0	0	0	0	0	59
Bird									
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	86	830	0	0	0	0	0	0	916
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reptile (Reptilia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amphibian									
Rana (<i>temporalia and pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xenopus (<i>laevis and tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish									
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	197	205	0	0	0	0	0	402
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14,346	4,416	249	0	0	88	369	19,468	4,698
% of total	59.4	18.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.5	19.4	100.0

Table 2 Place of birth of animals used for the first time in experimental procedures by species of animal

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Animals born in the UK at a licensed establishment	Place of birth			Total	% of total
		Animals born in the UK but not at a licensed establishment	Animals born elsewhere in the EU at a registered breeder	Animals born elsewhere in the EU but not at a registered breeder		
Mammal						
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)*	9,721	0	344	0	0	51.7
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)*	1,074	0	31	0	0	5.7
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	86	0	134	0	0	1.1
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	82	0	0	0	0	0.4
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	3	0	0	0	0	0.0
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0	22	0	0	0.0
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	257	0	0	0	0	257
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	24	0	0	0	1.3
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	52	332	0	0	0	0.1
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	551	5,378	0	0	0	2.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	59	0	0	0	30.5
Bird						
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	916	0	0	0	4.7
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Amphibian						
Rana (<i>temporaria</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fish						
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)*	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	402	0	0	402	2.1
Cephalopod (<i>Cephalopoda</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	11,826	7,111	531	0	0	19,468
% of total	60.7	36.5	2.7	0.0	0.0	100.0

* Denotes species listed in Schedule 2; pigs and sheep are only listed in Schedule 2 if they are genetically altered.

Table 3 Experimental procedures by species of animal, severity and purpose of the procedure

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal ¹	Actual Severity	Experimental purpose of procedure						Total	% of species total
		Basic Research	Translational/ Applied research	Protection of the natural environment	Preservation of species	Higher education or training	Forensic enquiries		
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	Sub threshold	221	138	0	0	0	0	359	3.6
	Non – recovery	50	15	0	0	0	0	65	0.6
	Mild	2,406	548	0	0	0	0	2,956	29.3
	Moderate	4,625	1,701	0	0	0	0	6,326	62.8
	Severe	248	113	0	0	0	0	370	3.7
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	Total	7,550	2,515	0	0	0	0	10,076	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	60	0	0	0	0	0	60	5.4
	Mild	403	214	0	0	0	0	617	55.8
	Moderate	257	168	0	0	0	0	425	38.5
Other rodent ²	Severe	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.3
	Total	723	382	0	0	0	0	1,105	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	220	0	0	0	0	0	220	99.1
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	Moderate	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.9
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	222	0	0	0	0	0	222	100.0
	Sub threshold	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	6.1
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	Mild	18	0	0	0	0	0	54	65.9
	Moderate	23	0	0	0	0	0	23	28.0
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	46	0	0	0	0	0	82	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dog ³	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	0	75	0	0	0	0	90	100.0
	Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	0	75	0	0	0	0	102	100.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	0	70	0	0	0	0	70	27.2
	Mild	0	136	0	0	0	0	157	61.1
	Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Severe	0	30	0	0	0	0	30	11.7
Other ungulate ⁴	Total	0	236	0	0	0	0	257	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	6,089	164	0	0	88	328	6,669	99.0
	Moderate	0	67	0	0	0	0	67	1.0
Other mammal (other <i>Mammalia</i>)	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	6,089	231	0	0	88	328	6,736	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	3	12	44	0	0	0	59	100.0
Bird	Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	3	12	44	0	0	0	59	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Non – recovery	86	0	0	0	0	0	86	9.4
Amphibian	Mild	0	320	0	0	0	0	320	34.9
	Moderate	0	510	0	0	0	0	510	55.7
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	86	830	0	0	0	0	916	100.0
	Sub threshold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fish	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	100.0
	Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Total	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	100.0
All species	Sub threshold	226	138	0	0	0	0	364	1.8
	Non – recovery	196	85	0	0	0	0	281	1.4
	Mild	9,139	1,570	249	0	0	88	11,460	57.1
	Moderate	4,907	2,643	0	0	0	0	7,550	37.6
	Severe	251	143	0	0	0	0	403	2.0
All species	Total	14,719	4,579	249	0	0	88	423	100.0

1. Some species were not displayed on these tables as they were not used in any relevant procedures in 2017.

2. "Other rodent" includes Syrian hamster (*Mesocricetus auratus*), Chinese hamster (*Cricetulus griseus*), Mongolian gerbil (*Meriones unguiculatus*), and other rodents (other *Rodentia*).3. "Dog" includes beagles (*Canis lupus familiaris*) and other dogs (other *Canis*).4. "Other ungulate" includes goat (*Capra aegagrus hircus*), sheep (*Ovis aries*), and cattle (*Bos primigenius*).

Table 4 Experimental procedures by species of animal and genetic status

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Genetic status			Total	% of total
	Not genetically altered	Genetically altered without a harmful phenotype	Genetically altered with a harmful phenotype		
Mammal					
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	5,983	3,332	761	10,076	50.2
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	749	356	0	1,105	5.5
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	222	0	0	222	1.1
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	82	0	0	82	0.4
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	90	0	0	90	0.4
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	102	0	0	102	0.5
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	257	0	0	257	1.3
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	48	0	0	48	0.2
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	447	0	0	447	2.2
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	6,241	0	0	6,241	31.1
Primate					
New World monkey					
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey					
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other <i>Mammalia</i>)	59	0	0	59	0.3
Bird					
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	916	0	0	916	4.6
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other <i>Aves</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)					
Amphibian					
<i>Rana (temporaria and pipiens)</i>	0	0	0	0	0.0
<i>Xenopus (laevis and tropicalis)</i>	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other amphibian (other <i>Amphibia</i>)	11	0	0	11	0.1
Fish					
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other fish (other <i>Pisces</i>)	402	0	0	402	2.0
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)					
Total	15,609	3,688	761	20,058	100.0
% of total	77.8	18.4	3.8	100.0	

Table 5 Experimental procedures (non-regulatory) by species of animal: basic research

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Basic Research						Total	% of total					
	Oncology	Cardio-vascular Blood and Lymphatic System	Nervous System	Respiratory System	Musculo-skeletal System including Liver	Immune System	Urogenital/ Reproductive System	Sensory Organs (skin, eyes and ears)	Endocrine System/ Metabolism	Multisystemic	Ethology / Animal Behaviour / Other Biology		
Mammal													
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	3,379	294	876	166	12	0	737	0	961	1,118	0	7	7,550
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	53	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	563	82	0	13	723
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	220	0	0	0	0	2	222
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	46
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other dog (other Canis)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,152	0	582	0	234	0	5,968
Primate													
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old World monkeys	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Bird													
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	86
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reptile (Reptilia)													
Amphibian													
Rana (<i>temporalia</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish													
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)													
Total	3,432	294	876	166	12	0	6,121	0	1,570	1,200	582	117	349
% of total	23.3	2.0	6.0	1.1	0.1	0.0	41.6	0.0	10.7	8.2	4.0	2.4	100.0

Table 6 Experimental procedures (non-regulatory) by species of animal: translational/applied research, page 1 of 2

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Translational/applied research						Human Urogenital/ Reproductive Disorders
	Human Cancer	Human Infectious Disorders	Human Cardiovascular Disorders	Human Nervous and Mental Disorders	Human Respiratory Disorders	Human Gastrointestinal Disorders including Liver	
Mammal							
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)							
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	747	0	0	16	1,228	56	0
Guinea pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	214
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Primate							
New World monkey							
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old World monkey							
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bird							
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reptile (Reptilia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amphibian							
Rana (<i>temporalia</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish							
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cephalopod (<i>Cephalopoda</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	747	0	70	16	1,228	56	0
% of total	16.3	0.0	1.5	1.2	26.8	1.2	0.5
						214	21
						0.0	0.5

Table 6 Experimental procedures (non-regulatory) by species of animal: Translational/applied research, page 2 of 2

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Translational/applied research						Total	% of total
	Human Sensory Organ Disorders (skin, eyes and ears)	Human Endocrine/ Metabolism Disorders	Other Human Disorders	Animal Diseases and Disorders	Animal Welfare	Diagnosis of diseases		
Mammal								
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	411	0	36	0	0	0	0	54.9
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	168	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.3
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.0
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.6
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.36
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.2
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.9
Primate								
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Squirrel Monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other New World Monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Verets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Baboons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Apes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other Old World Monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.3
Bird								
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18.1
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)							0	0.0
Amphibian								
Rana (<i>temporaria</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.3
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0.2
Fish								
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	0	0	0	0	0	197	197
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)							0	0.0
Total	579	0	47	545	966	90	0	4,579
	12.6	0.0	1.0	11.9	21.1	2.0	0.0	100.0
								% of total

Table 7.1 Experimental procedures by species of animal: regulatory use

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Routine Production			Quality control			Toxicity and other safety testing including pharmacology	Total	% of total
	Blood based products	Monoclonal antibody production	Other	Batch safety testing	Pyrogenicity testing	Batch potency testing			
Mammal									
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	2.6
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other Rodentia)	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	8.5
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	6.4
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	5.0
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	11.3
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	25.3
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	173	40.9
Primate									
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bird									
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other Aves)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)									
Amphibian									
Rana (<i>temporalis</i> and <i>pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Xenopus (<i>laevis</i> and <i>tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other amphibian (other Amphibia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fish									
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other fish (other Pisces)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	379	423
% of total	10.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	89.6	100.0

Table 7.2 Experimental procedures by species of animal: regulatory use by legislative requirement

Species of animal	Testing by legislation						Total	% of total
	Legislation on medicinal products for veterinary use and their residues	Medical devices legislation	Industrial chemicals legislation	Plant protection product legislation	Biocides legislation	Food legislation including food contact material		
Mammal								
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	2.6
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
All other rodent ¹	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	36	0	0	0	0	36	8.5
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dog	0	27	0	0	0	0	27	6.4
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (Other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	21	0	0	0	0	21	5.0
Other ungulate ²	0	229	0	0	99	0	328	77.5
Primate								
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bird								
Reptile, amphibian								
Fish								
Cephalopod								
Total	0	313	0	0	0	110	0	0
% of total	0.0	74.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.0	0.0	0.0

1. "All other rodent" includes guinea pig (*Cavia porcellus*), Syrian hamster (*Mesocricetus auratus*), Chinese hamster (*Cricetulus griseus*), Mongolian gerbil (*Meriones unguiculatus*), and other rodents (other Rodentia).

2. "Other ungulate" includes goat (*Capra aegagrus hircus*), sheep (*Ovis aries*), and cattle (*Bos primigenius*).

Table 7.3 Experimental procedures by species of animal: regulatory use by origin of legislative requirement

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Legislative requirement			Total	% of total
	Legislation satisfying EU requirements	Legislation satisfying only UK requirements	Legislation satisfying Non-EU requirements only		
Mammal					
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	11	0	0	11	2.6
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Guinea-pig (<i>Cavia porcellus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Syrian) (<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamster (Chinese) (<i>Cricetulus griseus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mongolian Gerbil (<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other rodent (other <i>Rodentia</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	36	0	0	36	8.5
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Beagle (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	27	0	0	27	6.4
Other dog (other <i>Canis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other <i>Carnivora</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (<i>Equidae</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	21	0	0	21	5.0
Goat (<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>)	48	0	0	48	11.3
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	107	0	0	107	25.3
Cattle (<i>Bos primigenius</i>)	173	0	0	173	40.9
Primate					
New World monkey					
Marmoset and tamarin	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey					
Prosimians	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cynomolgus monkey (<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rhesus monkey (<i>Macaca mulatta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other <i>Mammalia</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bird					
Domestic fowl (<i>Gallus domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other bird (other <i>Aves</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile (Reptilia)					
Amphibian					
Rana (<i>temporalia and pipiens</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Xenopus (<i>laevis and tropicalis</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other amphibian (other <i>Amphibia</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fish					
Zebrafish (<i>Danio rerio</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other fish (other <i>Pisces</i>)	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cephalopod (Cephalopoda)					
Total	423	—	—	423	100.0
% of total	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0

**Table 7.4 Experimental procedures by species of animal: regulatory use by type of test – toxicity and other safety testing including pharmacology,
page 1 of 2**

Northern Ireland 2017		Acute and sub-acute toxicity testing methods		Other type of regulatory test or procedure									
Species of animal		LD ₅₀ and LC ₅₀	Other lethal methods	Skin irritation/ corrosion	Skin sensitisation	Eye irritation/ corrosion	Repeated dose toxicity	Carcinogenicity	Genotoxicity	Reproductive toxicity	Developmental toxicity	Safety testing in food and feed area	Target animal safety
Mammal													
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other rodent ¹		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dog		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other carnivore (other <i>Carnivora</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horse and other equid (<i>Equidae</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Other ungulate ²		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	117	0
Primate													
New World monkey		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old World monkey		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other mammal (other <i>Mammalia</i>)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bird													
Reptile, amphibian													
Fish													
Cephalopod													
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	0
% of total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.3	0.0

Table 7.4 Experimental procedures by species of animal: regulatory use by type of test – toxicity and other safety testing including pharmacology,
page 2 of 2

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal	Other type of regulatory test or procedure			Ecotoxicity				Other type of toxicity or safety test	Total	% of total
	Neurotoxicity	Kinetics	Pharmo-dynamics	Acute toxicity	Chronic toxicity	Reproductive toxicity	Endocrine activity			
Mammal										
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.9
Rat (<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
All other rodent ¹	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dog	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	7.1
Ferret (<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other carnivore (other Carnivora)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Horse and other equid (Equidae)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa domesticus</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other ungulate ²	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Primate										
New World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Old World monkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other mammal (other Mammalia)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bird										
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Reptile, amphibian										
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fish										
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Cephalopod										
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	0	27	203	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0
% of total	0.0	7.1	53.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

1. "All other rodent" includes guinea pig (*Carica porcellus*), Syrian hamster (*Mesocricetus auratus*), Chinese hamster (*Cricetulus griseus*), Mongolian gerbil (*Meriones unguiculatus*), and other rodents (other Rodentia).

2. "Other ungulate" includes goat (*Capra aegagrus hircus*), sheep (*Ovis aries*), and cattle (*Bos primigenius*).

Table 8 Creation of new lines and maintenance of established lines of genetically altered animals (not used in experimental procedures) by species of animal, severity and genetic status

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal ¹	Actual severity	Genetic status			Total	% of total
		Not genetically altered	Genetically altered without a harmful phenotype	Genetically altered with a harmful phenotype		
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	Sub threshold	23	1,454	0	1,477	31.4
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	167	1,749	286	2,202	46.9
	Moderate	0	31	920	951	20.2
	Severe	2	42	24	68	1.4
	Total	192	3,276	1,230	4,698	100.0
All species	Sub threshold	23	1,454	0	1,477	31.4
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	167	1,749	286	2,202	46.9
	Moderate	0	31	920	951	20.2
	Severe	2	42	24	68	1.4
	Total	192	3,276	1,230	4,698	100.0

1. Some species were not displayed on this table as they were not used in any relevant procedures in 2017.

Table 9 Maintenance of established lines of genetically altered animals (not used in experimental procedures) by species of animal, severity and genetic status

Northern Ireland 2017

Species of animal ¹	Actual severity	Genetic status			Total	% of species total
		Not genetically altered	Genetically altered without a harmful phenotype	Genetically altered with a harmful phenotype		
Mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	Sub threshold	23	1,454	0	1,477	31.4
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	167	1,749	286	2,202	46.9
	Moderate	0	31	920	951	20.2
	Severe	2	42	24	68	1.4
	Total	192	3,276	1,230	4,698	100.0
All species	Sub threshold	23	1,454	0	1,477	31.4
	Non – recovery	0	0	0	0	0.0
	Mild	167	1,749	286	2,202	46.9
	Moderate	0	31	920	951	20.2
	Severe	2	42	24	68	1.4
	Total	192	3,276	1,230	4,698	100.0

1. Some species were not displayed on this table as they were not used in any relevant procedures in 2017.

Table 10 Procedures and project licences by type of licensed establishment

Northern Ireland 2017	Number of project licences where countable ¹ procedures were completed in 2017 by number of procedures										Number of procedures		
	Number of project procedures			Number of project procedures			Number of project procedures			Total	% of total		
Type of licensed establishment	1 to 50	51 to 100	101 to 200	201 to 400	401 to 600	601 to 800	801 to 1,000	More than 1,000	Total	Number of project licences where only non-countable ¹ procedures were completed in 2017	Number of project licences where no procedures were completed in 2017		
Public health laboratories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Universities, medical schools	15	3	1	8	9	1	0	5	42	1	23	66	64.5
Government departments	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	21.9
Other public bodies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Non-profit-making organisations	12	3	3	3	1	0	0	22	2	17	41	2,428	9.8
Commercial organisations	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	6	3.7
Total	28	6	5	15	10	1	0	6	71	3	42	116	24,756
													100.0

1. Procedures on adult or free-living animals (including neonatal and juvenile mammals, and newly hatched birds) are counted.
 Details of procedures on immature forms (e.g. larvae, embryos, fish fry) are not counted unless they have reached the free-feeding stage (e.g. zebrafish fry from 5 days post-fertilisation and tadpoles).
 Animals in the wild involved in rodenticide trials are also not counted. However, information is collected on the number of project licences which undertook rodenticide trials (or returns in 2017).

Table 11 Animals bred in 2017 for scientific procedures that were killed/died without being used in procedures

Animals killed/died as a result of:	Mice	Rats	Total
Creation of new lines of GA animals	35	0	35
Maintenance of established lines GA animals	2410	0	2410
Other	1504	319	1823
Total	3949	319	4268

Table 12 Tissue sampling for the purpose of genotyping

Species	Previously Sampled			Genotyping method			Severity		
	Yes	No	Ear notching	Other	NA*	Sub-Threshold	Mild	Moderate	
Mice	8	3925	3869	64	1234	338	2360	1	
Rats	0	118	118	0	118	0	0	0	
Total	8	4043	3987	64	1352	338	2360	1	

*Tissue used for genotyping is surplus following a non-regulated procedure e.g. ear notching used to identify mice.

Table 13 Designated establishments: 2007-2017
Number of designated places at 31 December 2017

Northern Ireland	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Scientific procedure establishments	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
Scientific procedure and breeding establishments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scientific procedure breeding and supplying establishments	5	5	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5
Scientific procedure and supplying establishments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding and supplying establishments	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total designated places	11	11	9	10							

Table 14 Personal Licensees:2007-2017
Number of personal licences at 31 December 2017

Northern Ireland	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
523	561	565	585	582	590	480	480	548	548	630	669

APPENDIX

General system of control under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986

Introduction

1. The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 put in place a rigorous system of controls on scientific work on living animals, including the need for both the researcher and the project to be separately licensed; stringent safeguards on animal pain and suffering; and general requirements to ensure the care and welfare of animals.

Scope of the Act

2. The Act controls any experimental or other scientific procedure applied to a 'protected animal' which may have the effect of causing that animal pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm. Such work is referred to in the Act as a 'regulated procedure'. 'Protected animals' are defined as all living vertebrate animals, except man, plus cephalopods. The definition extends to foetal, larval or embryonic forms that have reached specified stages in their development. Under the Act an animal is regarded as 'living' until "the permanent cessation of circulation or complete destruction of its brain". Procedures carried out on decerebrate animals are also subject to the controls of the Act.
3. The definition of a regulated procedure encompasses most breeding of animals with genetic defects; production of antisera and other blood products; the maintenance and passage of tumours and parasites; and the administration for a scientific purpose of an anaesthetic, analgesic, tranquilliser or other drug to dull perception. Killing an animal requires licence authority in certain circumstances.
4. The controls of the 1986 Act do not extend to procedures applied to animals in the course of recognised veterinary, agricultural or animal husbandry practice; procedures for identification of animals for scientific purposes, if this causes no more than momentary pain or distress and no lasting harm; or clinical tests on animals for evaluating a veterinary product under authority of an Animal Test Certificate (issued under the Medicines Act 1968).

Project and Personal Licences

5. Two kinds of licence are required for all scientific work controlled by the Act. The procedures must be part of a programme of work authorised by a project licence and the person applying the regulated procedures must hold a personal licence. No work may be done unless the procedure, the animals used and the place where the work is to be done are specifically authorised in both project and personal licences.
6. A project licence is granted when the Department of Health (hereinafter referred to as the Department) considers that the use of living animals in a programme of work, for a purpose permitted by the Act, is justified and the methods proposed appropriate.
7. In deciding whether and on what terms to authorise the project, the likely adverse effects on the animals used must be weighed against the benefit (to humans, other animals or the environment) which is likely to accrue from the work. Adequate consideration must also have been given to the feasibility of using alternative methods not involving living animals. The holder of a project licence undertakes overall responsibility for the scientific direction and control of the work and is responsible for making the statistical returns on

which this publication is based. New project licence applicants are required to complete an accredited training course.

8. A personal licence is the Department's endorsement that the holder is a suitable and competent person to carry out specified procedures on specified animals, under supervision where necessary. Applicants must be over 18 and are required to give details of their qualifications, training and experience. Those who have not previously held a licence need the endorsement of the named training and competency officer. Satisfactory completion of an accredited training course is also required before a personal licence is issued.

Establishment Licences

9. Except where otherwise authorised in a project licence (for example, for field work at a specified place and time), any place where work is carried out under the Act must be licensed. Establishments that breed certain types of animal listed in Schedule 2 of the Act for use in scientific procedures ('breeding establishments'), and establishments that obtain such animals from elsewhere and supply them to laboratories ('supplying establishments') must hold an appropriate licence to do so. Animals listed in Schedule 2 are: mice; rats; guinea pigs; hamsters; gerbils; rabbits; cats; dogs; primates; ferrets; pigs (if genetically modified); sheep (if genetically modified); common quail (*Coturnix coturnix*); amphibians (of the species *Xenopus Laevis*, *Xenopus Tropicalis*, *Rana Temporaria* and *Rana Pipiens*); and zebrafish.
10. Licensed establishments are required to appoint the following named persons:
 - Named Animal Care and Welfare Office (NACWO)
 - Named Veterinary Surgeon (NVS)
 - Named Training and Competence Officer (NTCO)
 - Named Information Officer (NIO)
 - Named Compliance Officer (NCO)

The Inspectorate

11. The Act gives statutory recognition to the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Inspectorate and describes the Inspectors' duties. Inspectors hold either medical or veterinary qualifications. Inspectors assess all applications for new licences or amendments to existing licences in detail and advise the Department on how to ensure that only properly justified work is licensed. When assessing research proposals, the Inspectorate ensures that full consideration is given to alternatives, not only the **replacement** of procedures with others which do not use animals, but also the **reduction** of the number of animals used and the **refinement** of procedures to minimise pain and suffering. These are known as the **3Rs**. Inspectors carry out visits, mainly without notice, to establishments designated under the Act to inspect the premises and to ensure that the establishment's controls are adequate and that the terms and conditions of the licences issued under it are being observed.
12. Inspectors also advise the Department on policy matters connected with the operation of the Act and they are available to give advice and assistance to licensees and other personnel working under the Act.
13. During 2017 the Inspectorate made 113 visits to establishments.

The Animals in Science Committee (ASC)

14. The Animals in Science Committee is an advisory non-departmental public body of the Home Office. The Animals in Science Committee was established by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 as amended to comply with Directive EU 2010/63/EU which came into force on the 1st January 2013. Article 49 of this Directive requires each EU country to set up a National Committee for the Protection of Animals used for Scientific Purposes. In the UK the committee is known as the Animals in Science Committee and has superseded the Animal Procedures Committee.

The Animals in Science Committee is responsible for providing impartial, balanced and objective advice to the Home Office, the Department of Health to animal welfare bodies and within the European Union on issues relating to the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 as amended.

Guidance, Codes of Practice and Statistics

15. In addition to these annual statistics, the Act requires that there be published and laid before Parliament guidance on the operation of the controls of the Act and codes of practice as to the care and accommodation of animals and their use in regulated procedures. Current Home Office publications include:

- Guidance on the operation of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (2014);
- Working to reduce the use of animals in research (February 2014);
- Code of practice for the housing and care of animals bred, supplied or used in scientific procedures (December 2014)
- Household Products testing ban advice note (October 2015)
- Use, keeping alive and reuse advice note (October 2015)
- Rehoming and setting free of animals (October 2015)
- Identification and Management of patterns of low level concerns at licensed establishments (December 2015)
- The Harm-Benefit Analysis Process (December 2015)
- Guidance on the use of Human Materials in Animals (January 2016)
- Working with animals taken from the wild (July 2016)

Education and training

16. The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 imposes clear responsibilities on persons with specific roles in relation to the care and use of animals in scientific procedures. These are elaborated further in the Home Office guidance on the operation of the Act published in March 2014 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/operation-of-aspa>. As the roles differ, it follows that the education and training required before assuming these responsibilities will differ:

- personal licence holders are responsible for the welfare of animals on which they carry out regulated procedures; applicants will be granted licences only if adequately trained to take on this responsibility and they will usually be required to work under supervision initially;

- project licences will be issued only to persons with appropriate qualifications to direct a programme of work which is well-justified and takes account of all reasonable possibilities for reducing the number of animals used, refining the procedures to reduce suffering and replacing animal procedures with alternatives which do not involve protected animals;
- holders of establishment licences have responsibility not only for ensuring that the fabric and staffing of designated places are maintained to appropriate standards but also for ensuring that reasonable steps are taken to prevent unauthorised procedures being carried out and that adequate training facilities are available for all animal users.

17. European Directive 2010/63/EU requires that staff are adequately trained to carry out procedures on animals; design procedures and projects; take care of or kill animals. All training programmes are accredited under a scheme recognised by the Department. Accreditation seeks to achieve common and high standards for licensee training.

Performance against code of practice standards

18. The licensing team works to specific targets set out in the draft Code of Practice. The Code of Practice requires new personal licences, certificates and amendments to be issued within 20 working days. Project licences will be considered and issued/refused within 40 working days from receipt of application, unless the application involves a complex or multidisciplinary programme in which case the process may be extended by a further 15 working days (3 weeks). In 2017, all personal and project licences were processed within the targets prescribed within the Code of Practice.

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