

Licence Committee - minutes

Centre 0338 (Reproductive Health Group) Additional Inspection Report & Executive Update

Thursday, 06 September 2018

HFEA, 10 Spring Gardens, London, SW1A 2BU

Committee members	Kate Brian (Chair) Anita Bharucha Ruth Wilde	
Members of the Executive	Catherine Burwood Dee Knoyle	Committee Secretary Committee Secretary (Observer)
Legal Adviser	Ros Foster	Browne Jacobson LLP
Specialist Adviser		
Observers	Jonathan Herring (New Authority Member Induction)	

Declarations of interest:

- Members of the committee declared that they had no conflicts of interest in relation to this item.

The committee had before it:

- 8th edition of the HFEA Code of Practice
- Standard licensing and approvals pack for committee members

The following papers were considered by the committee:

- Executive Update
- Licence Committee minutes 12 July 2018 – additional inspection report and Executive Update
- Full paper set considered by Licence Committee 12 July 2018

1. Background

- 1.1.** The Reproductive Health Group, centre 0338, is located in Warrington and has held a treatment and storage licence with the HFEA since April 2014. The centre provides a full range of fertility services, including embryo testing.
 - 1.2.** The HFEA undertook an unannounced interim inspection of the centre in November 2017, following which an additional inspection was recommended by the Executive and endorsed by the committee at its meeting in January 2018.
 - 1.3.** In July 2018 the committee was presented with an additional inspection report which focussed on reviewing all actions taken by the centre in response to the findings of the inspection in November 2017 and in consideration of further issues that emerged following audits of practice undertaken by the centre since that inspection.
 - 1.4.** In light of the findings in the inspection and the centre's performance, the Executive held a management review in accordance with the HFEA's Compliance and Enforcement Policy on 7 and 12 June 2018. Another management review was held following the submission of the Person Responsible's (PR) response to the report and the additional information provided on 28 June 2018.
 - 1.5.** In July 2018, the committee adjourned consideration of the inspection report and related papers, without making any findings, to enable a meeting to take place between the PR and centre staff and the HFEA Executive, as requested in submissions on behalf of the centre.
 - 1.6.** In view of the serious nature of the concerns raised, the committee required that the meeting should take place as soon as possible and that an update be provided for consideration by the committee at its September meeting.
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2. Consideration

- 2.1.** The committee noted that the required meeting has yet to take place and also noted the reasons for this delay, which had been explained by the Executive. These included the release of the July 2018 Licence Committee minutes coinciding with the PR's vacation and difficulties in finding a suitable date thereafter.
 - 2.2.** The committee noted that the PR will meet with the centre's Inspector and the Chief Inspector on 10 September 2018.
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3. Decision

- 3.1.** The committee noted the Executive Update provided.
- 3.2.** Whilst the committee was disappointed that the required meeting had not yet taken place, it acknowledged that a date had been set and looked forward to receiving an update on the outcome of the meeting at the Licence Committee meeting in November 2018.

4. Chair's Signature

4.1. I confirm this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Brian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and 'B'.

Name

Kate Brian

Date

3 October 2018

**Executive update for Licence Committee
6 September 2018**

Centre number	0338
Centre name	Reproductive Health Group
Person Responsible (PR)	Mr Luciano Nardo

Update on recommended actions

Background

1. A report of an additional focussed inspection of centre 0338 undertaken in June 2018 was considered by the Licence Committee on 12 July 2018.
2. The Licence Committee minutes of 12 July 2018 stated:

'3. Decision

3.1. The committee decided to adjourn consideration of the additional inspection report and related papers, without making any findings, to enable a meeting to take place between the PR and centre staff and the HFEA Executive, as requested in the submissions on behalf of the centre.

3.2. The committee was satisfied as to the appropriate and proportionate nature of this approach. However, in view of the serious nature of the concerns raised, the committee require that such a meeting takes place as soon as possible and that an update be provided for consideration by the committee at its next meeting in September 2018.'

3. This is the requested update.
4. On 14 August the centre's inspector contacted the PR to follow up on the Licence Committee's recommendations. On 16 August, the PR advised the inspector that he had just returned from leave and read the minutes of the Licence Committee meeting in July.
5. The centre's inspector invited the PR to a meeting on 29 August. However, the PR advised the inspector that he was not available that day. Following further correspondence, the next available date suitable for all attendees was agreed.
6. The executive will meet with the PR on 10 September 2018 and an update on the outcome of that meeting will be provided to the Licence Committee at its next meeting in November 2018.

Karen Conyers
Inspector