

In Vivo Research at the University of Brighton

The University of Brighton undertakes research which underpins the development of novel treatments for various illnesses and disabilities which will have an impact on improving the quality of life for patients. Our research also involves the study of wildlife in their natural environment and human wildlife interactions in human dominated landscapes.

The University only supports the use of animals in research programmes of the highest quality, where their use is justified based on scientific, ethical and legal grounds, and where there are no alternative approaches available. The University's use of animals is scrutinised by an Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Board (AWERB) which ensures that all animal research complies fully with the requirements of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and European Directive 2010/63/EU and that all ethical aspects of the proposed research are discussed in detail. Our *in vivo* research is also regulated and monitored by the UK Home Office. Furthermore, publications based on this research follow ARRIVE guidelines.

The University of Brighton's Policy Statement on the use of animals in its scientific research can be viewed via the following link

<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/pdf/research/resource-docs/use-of-animal-in-scientific-procedures.pdf>

The University is fully committed to the principles of reduction, refinement and replacement - known as the 3Rs: Replacement of animals with other experimental methods wherever possible; Reduction of the numbers of animals used and Refinement of our procedures. Among the non-animal techniques developed at the University of Brighton are computer simulation, tissue and cell culture techniques and non-invasive imaging techniques.

The University believes that a high standard of animal welfare is essential to support quality research and is therefore committed to the maintenance of the highest possible standards of laboratory animal housing and to promoting a strong culture of care. All researchers who work with animals are required to be aware of their ethical and legal responsibilities, receive appropriate training and continuous professional development including completion of an accredited training course, and ongoing advice and support from the veterinary advisor and animal care staff.

Figures for the species and numbers of animals used for research, including animals used for breeding, at the University over the last five years are provided in the table below:

Species	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mouse	858	832	573	737	1,182
Rat	24	26	0	35	0
Guinea Pig	47	35	27	34	0
Fox*	11	2	5	0	0
Badger*	0	3	14	0	1
Total	940	898	619	806	1,182

*Foxes and badgers were trapped, tagged and released back into the wild for animal tracking studies.

Further information on the use of animals in research by the University will be made available under the Freedom of Information Act on request. However, all personal details regarding staff undertaking or supporting the use of animal in research at the University will be kept confidential for reasons of security and personal safety.