The Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations, require employers to protect people and the environment against risks to health, safety or the environment from work involving genetically modified organisms by conducting risk assessments and providing effective containment and controls.

Prior to any work being conducted with genetically modified organisms, the work must be reviewed and authorised by the University. This is achieved via one of two specialised committees that serve the Foresterhill and Old Aberdeen campuses. These are the Foresterhill Biological Safety Committee and the Old Aberdeen Genetic Modification & Biological Safety Committee. For further information on arrangements for submitting applications to the Committee, please contact Dr Heather Wilson (h.m.wilson@abdn.ac.uk) for the Foresterhill site or Dr Dan Macqueen (daniel.macqueen@abdn.ac.uk) for the Old Aberdeen site.

The committees will meet a minimum of three times per year and shall;

- Provide advice and guidance on risk assessments conducted under the Genetically Modified Organisms (Contained Use) Regulations
- Authorise work involving genetically modified organisms and bioagents after consideration of;
  - The corresponding risk assessments
  - Laboratory facilities where work will be conducted
  - Training of staff and students and appropriate supervision
  - Arrangements for testing and maintenance of control and inactivation measures
- Report to the University Health and Safety Committee on significant risks posed to people and the environment by biological hazards at the University
- Review inspection / audit reports
- Review accidents, including accidental release, concerning bioagents and genetically modified organisms