

Summary of Council Meeting – 5 February 2015

The Council met on 5 February 2015 from 10.30am to 5.30pm. There were 11 items tabled on the Agenda and 19 pieces of correspondence were considered.

The Council considered reports from the Audit and Finance Committee, the Veterinary Nursing Committee, the Veterinary Education and Training Committee, the Legislation and Ethics Committee, the Preliminary Investigation Committee and the Fitness to Practise Committee.

Audit and Finance Committee (AFC)

The AFC met on 9 January 2015 from 10.00am to 12.45pm. There were 5 items tabled on the Agenda and there were no items of correspondence for consideration.

The Committee proposed, and the Council agreed, to invest with Bank of Ireland Private Banking.

The Veterinary Education and Training Committee

The VETC met on 14 January 2015 from 11.00am to 12.30pm. There were 12 items tabled on the Agenda and there were no items of correspondence for consideration.

The Committee considered three registration applications consisting of one veterinary practitioner and two veterinary nurses. The Committee also reviewed the CVE non-compliance statistics and discussed drafting a policy for CVE non-compliant repeat offenders.

The Veterinary Nursing Committee

The VNC met on 14 January 2015 from 9.30am to 11.30am. There were 14 items tabled on the Agenda and there were two items of correspondence for consideration.

Mr. Larry Ryan from Behaviour and Attitudes gave a presentation to the Committee setting out its approach to the Veterinary Nursing Survey.

The Legislation and Ethics Committee

The LEC met on 6 November 2014 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. There were 10 items tabled on the Agenda and it considered 5 pieces of correspondence and 4 matters referred to it by Council.

One of the key issues discussed was whether lay people are permitted to perform endoscopic examinations on horses. The Committee considered that as this procedure involves making a diagnosis, it amounts to an act of veterinary medicine under section 53 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005 and therefore, can only be carried out by a veterinary practitioner.

The Committee also considered the issue of product endorsement and it agreed that as a registrant should at all times remain independent and give an unbiased opinion on animal health and welfare matters, it follows that he or she is not permitted to endorse a veterinary product or service.

Disciplinary Matters

Three applications for an Inquiry involving three practitioners were considered. One Fitness to Practise Committee Report was considered.

Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both Registers which had taken place since the last meeting.

Register of Veterinary Practitioners - It was reported that there are 4 new entries to the Register under section 42 of the Act, 9 new entries under section 43 of the Act, and 5 names restored to the Register under section 49(2) of the Act. It was agreed to remove from the Register the names of the 37 veterinary practitioners who had made application to do so under section 49 of the Act. It was agreed to remove from the Register the names of the 3 veterinary practitioners who were CVE non-compliant under section 66(4) of the Act.

Register of Veterinary Nurses – It was reported that there are 11 new entries to the Register under section 95 of the Act and 2 names restored to the Register under section 49(2) of the Act. It was agreed to remove from the Register the names of the 11 veterinary nurses who had made application to do so under section 49 of the Act. It was agreed to remove from the Register the name of the 1 veterinary nurse who was CVE non-compliant under section 66(4) of the Act.

It was reported that the death of 3 veterinary practitioners had occurred since the last Council meeting – Mr CT Domegan (34/61), Mr PJ Mangan (32/56) and Mr JP O'Connor (54/66). A minutes silence was observed in their honour.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 16 April 2015 @ 11.30am.