



ANNUAL REPORT

2012





Introduction

2012 saw some change of personnel making up the Veterinary Council of Ireland. Of the 19 Council members appointed by the Minister, 9 are elected by veterinary practitioners. A fresh election for four of these places took place which resulted in the return of one former member, Deirdre Campion, and the election of three new members Michael Sadlier, Michael Sheahan and Peadar Ó Scanail. The Minister also replaced one of the Ministerial nominees with a new nominee, Crionna Creagh. The retirement of Paddy Rogan as CVO also resulted in a new nominee that of the incoming CVO, Martin Blake.

The workload of the Council has increased substantially since the enactments of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005 and the Amendment Act 2012. The new Acts have conferred more responsibilities on the Veterinary Council of Ireland.

The Council is since 2008 responsible for recognising and registering veterinary nurses. Unqualified 'veterinary nurses' i.e. those who were practising as veterinary nurses on the 27 October 2004, were accommodated on a provisional register. These veterinary nurses had to be provided with a mechanism to qualify for entry to the veterinary nurses register well before the date on which the provisional register ceased i.e. 31 December 2012. The Council funded the development of a distance learning programme for this purpose and those who have passed this programme have had their names transferred to the main veterinary nurses register.

Entry to both registers is strictly controlled and provision of a registration examination must be available to those who don't qualify.

The Council agreed during 2012 to the setting up of a separate Veterinary Nursing Committee to ensure effective implementation of functions under Part 8 of the Act. Veterinary Nursing Educational Programmes in Athlone Institute of Technology and St John's Central College Cork were subject to re-validation audits during 2012.

Mandatory premises accreditation to comply with the detailed requirements of the legislation is a major development. This not only requires the setting of standards but also the assurance of compliance. During 2012 a review of the Practice Accreditation Scheme (PAS) was carried out and resulted in the introduction of new PAS standards and regulations. Most Certificates of Suitability expire on 31 December 2012 and will have to be renewed by that date in order to comply with the requirements of the legislation.

Implementation of mandatory Continuing Veterinary Education for all registrants requires resources to monitor compliance. In addition, the Council must accredit and re-accredit courses provided in five educational institutions.

The Fitness to Practise Committee is chaired by an independent legal professional as required. Prosecution of those who transgress the Acts requires detailed evidence gathering to build a case. This is both time consuming and costly. All statutory decisions of Council are challengeable through the courts and this requires scrupulous record keeping and detailed standard operating procedures and appropriate allocation of resources.



The Council is subject to Freedom of Information legislation and will from May 2013 be subject to the Office of the Ombudsman. It is also subject to the Ethics in Public Office legislation and must adhere to the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Council in 2012 commenced the development of a strategic plan which will inform the work of the Council over the coming years. The Council is also conscious of the challenge of effective communications with its stakeholders. The introduction of the Council Newsletter in 2012 represents a commitment to continuous improvement of communications.

The Council held bilateral meetings with the RCVS, with Teagasc and Animal Health Ireland during the year.

The Council has during 2012 agreed to support the Veterinary Assistance Programme to the tune of €30,000 annually. The Council believes that the work carried out by the Veterinary Benevolent Fund through this programme is a vitally important support for registered persons and their families to the ultimate benefit of consumers of veterinary services.

The delivery of the complex mandate of Council would not be possible without the commitment of the Executive. In this regard I would like to thank the Registrar and her staff. I would also thank my fellow Council members for their valuable time and commitment during the year.

Seán O Laoide
President



The Council comprises 19 members, 10 of whom are elected from amongst the profession and 9 who are appointed. S Ó Laoide was elected President on 19 January 2012 and L Vaughan was elected Deputy President on 19 January 2012. They hold these positions until 31 December 2013.

Elected Members: Elected Until 31 December

D Champion	2015
J Collins	2013
T Hanley	2013
M O'Donoghue	2013
S Ó Laoide	2013
P Ó Scanaill	2015
M Osborne	2013
M Sadlier	2015
M Sheahan	2015
L Vaughan	2013

Appointed Members: (Period of Appointment Expires on 31 December 2013)

Appointed by the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

B Bent
M Blake
C Creagh*
G Mulcahy (NUI nominee)
F Mulligan (NUI nominee)
J O'Rourke
M O'Sullivan (Food Safety Authority nominee)
S Quinn
F Smith (Minster for Education & Science nominee)

*appointed in August 2012 following resignation of D MacFadden



Statutory Committees of Council:

Veterinary Education and Training Committee (VETC)

M Blake, D Campion, G Mulcahy, F Mulligan, M O'Donoghue, J O'Rourke, and F Smith (Chair)

Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC)

B Bent, D Campion, C Creagh and M Osborne

Fitness to Practise Committee (FTPC)

T Hanley, G Mulcahy, F Mulligan, S Murphy (Independent Chair), M O'Sullivan, S Quinn and M Sheahan

Other Committees:

Finance Committee

J Collins, S Ó Laoide, M Sadlier and L Vaughan (Chair)

Legislation and Ethics Committee (LEC)

B Bent, M Blake, C Creagh, F Mulligan, P Ó Scanaill, M O'Sullivan, and M Osborne (Chair)

Practice Premises Committee (PPC)

T Hanley, J O'Rourke, P Ó Scanaill, M Osborne, S Quinn, M Sadlier and L Vaughan (Chair)

Veterinary Liaison Committee (VLC)

B Bent, T Hanley (Chair), M O'Sullivan and M Sheahan

Veterinary Nursing Committee (VNC)

D Campion, A Finnan P Gillick, M O'Donoghue (Chair), G Self and F Smith

Conjoint Committee

J Collins, S Ó Laoide (Chair), M Sheahan

P Bishton, F Murphy, P Nowlan, D O'Donoghue, F O'Sullivan, A Rossiter – Veterinary Ireland

R Finn – Veterinary Officers Association



The Registers

The Register of Veterinary Practitioners was established on 29 June 2006 pursuant to section 43 (2) of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The Register is published on the Council's website. The total number of registered veterinary practitioners on the Register at 31 December 2012 was 2337. New registrations for the year amounted to 122. 113 voluntary removed their name, 13 were erased and 16 deaths were notified to Council in the year. Restorations following voluntary removal amounted to 29 and 11 names were restored following erasure.

The Register of Veterinary Nurses was established on 1 January 2008 pursuant to section 93 (2) of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The Register is published on the Council's website. The total number of registered veterinary nurses on the Register at 31 December 2012 was 497. New registrations for the year amounted to 63. 35 voluntary removed their name, 15 were erased, restorations following voluntary removal amounted to 6.

The Register of Certificates of Suitability was established on the 1 January 2007 as prescribed under Part 9 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. The Register contains the details of each premises registered under the Council's statutory Premises Accreditation Scheme (PAS). The total number of premises registered under PAS on 31 December 2012 was 696 classified as:-

Registered Veterinary Practice (RVP) - 215

Registered Veterinary Surgery (RVS) - 167

Registered Veterinary Clinic (RVC) - 193

Registered Veterinary Hospital (RVH) Companion Animal (CA) - 112

Registered Veterinary Hospital (RVH) Equine (Eq) - 9

Obituaries

It is with regret that the Council records the deaths of the following registered members notified to it during the year. Council extends the sympathy of its members and of the profession to their families.

Byrne, N

Dromgoole, SP

Ironside, JBR

McErlean, BA

O'Reilly, GT

Tansey, AC

Collins, JD

Gibbons, P

Leahy, TJ

Mulvihill, MCN

Pyne, RW

Devereux, WR

Gubbins, DJ

Lee, RP

Newman, J

Schneider, HB



Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

The Committee met on 4 occasions during the year and in early 2013 to consider the audited accounts for 2012. Apart from considering the audited accounts for 2012 the Committee also:-

- Reviewed the quarterly management accounts prepared for Council;
- Considered funding requests;
- Implemented new reporting requirements under the Code of Practice for the Governance of Non-Commercial State Bodies;
- Ensured that the prompt payments obligations of Council were adhered to and reported;
- Reviewed present and future budgetary requirements including fee income and financial reserves.

The Council is in the process of developing a strategic plan which will identify the future direction and priorities of the Council over the coming years and when agreed will inform the Council's financial policies.

The Veterinary Council's audited accounts for 2012 are appended to this Report. Income in 2012 amounted to €1,229,783 which represents a decrease of approximately €30,000 or 2.4% on the 2011 figure. The operation surplus for the year decreased by just under 2%. Investment income showed an improvement for the first time in a number of years.

Administrative expenditure amounted to €655,850. The key areas of expenditure during the year were in wages and salaries and associated costs, council expenditure, legal expenses and costs associated with the Premises Accreditation Scheme.

The Balance Sheet reflects continued investment in the Council building and IT infrastructure.

The Committee proposed to Council, and it was agreed, that €30,000 would be allocated annually from 2013 to the Veterinary Benevolent Fund to cover the main cost associated with the Veterinary Assistance Programme (VetAP).

The Veterinary Council's Education Trust Fund audited accounts for 2012 are also appended to this Report.



Preliminary Investigation Committee

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

The Council received 31 applications in 2012 for inquiries into fitness to practise under section 76 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. This is a significant increase on 2011, in which 18 applications were received. The Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) met on 25 occasions in 2012 and dealt with 24 of these cases in total. Four cases did not proceed as the initial application for inquiry was not completed correctly and the applicant did not respond to a request for confirmation of details. The three remaining cases are on-going.

The subject of the cases concerned dogs (12), cats (5), horse (1), sheep (1) emergency cover (2), supersession (1) and prescribing (2). More specifically the allegations made by complainants related to misdiagnosis by practitioner (6), post-operative complications (2), nondisclosure of case files (4), harassment (1), emergency cover (1), insufficient overnight monitoring (2), poor practice procedures (4) and supply of medicines/prescriptions (2).

Two cases have been referred to the Fitness to Practise Committee for inquiry. In 22 of the cases considered the Committee concluded that there was insufficient evidence to recommend that the complaints be referred to the Fitness to Practise Committee for inquiry and these recommendations were accepted by Council.

Fitness to Practise Committee

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

Two inquiries were held in front of the Fitness to Practise Committee (FTPC) in 2012. Five members of the FTPC sit to hear an inquiry, the five people are (i) two registered persons who are members of Council, (ii) two non registered persons who are members of Council and (iii) an independent chair who is a practising solicitor and nominated by the Law Society.

Each inquiry lasted one day and both were held in private.

One of the inquiries did not proceed.

The second inquiry related to two veterinary practitioners:-

- Mr Patrick Delaney MVB, Curragh Cottage, Careysville, Clondulane, Fermoy Co Cork. Registration Number 81/94.
- Ms Patricia Sheehan MVB MSc, Curragh Cottage, Careysville, Clondulane, Fermoy, Co Cork. Registration Number 82/99.

Mr Delaney and Ms Sheehan were found guilty of professional misconduct at a Fitness to Practise Inquiry held on 28 September 2012. The basis of the case was that Ms Sheehan had signed in as Mr Delaney at two continuing veterinary education events held in February and November 2011 and that Mr Delaney thereby secured CVE credits.



Pursuant to Section 81 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005, the Veterinary Council imposed a sanction of ‘warning’ in respect of both veterinary practitioners.

The Council gave the following reason for imposing this sanction (quote from transcript):-
“The Council did take and does take a very serious view around veterinary signature and veterinary certification, we see it as the bedrock of the integrity of the veterinary profession. The trade in Irish livestock and produce is dependent on the integrity of the veterinary profession. The reputation of our bloodstock industry is dependent on the quality of veterinary (*sic*) and integrity of veterinary certification. We did take into consideration the recommendation on sanction from the Fitness to Practise Committee, we did take into the consideration the mitigating circumstances and on the scale from advise, warn and censure we have decided on warning, which is at the middle of the sanction scale.”

Legislation and Ethics Committee

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

The Legislation and Ethics Committee (LEC) met on 4 occasions in 2012. Ms M Osborne continued as chair of the Committee. The Committee concentrated on two main topics of importance during the year, namely veterinary ethics and the Code of Professional Conduct. Following a successful ethical seminar held in October 2011 the Committee decided to develop a CVE offering on the topic of veterinary ethics and commissioned UCD to produce two modules which it is hoped will be available by mid-2013. In addition, the committee will be using the Council’s newsletter to discuss ethical dilemmas in an effort to provide support and guidance to the professions.

It has long been the view of the Council that the Code of Professional Conduct is a work in progress and needs to be reviewed frequently to make it relevant to current veterinary practice and the expectations of the users of veterinary services. A small working group has been involved in contributing to a review of the Code and it is hoped that a revised Code will be published before the end of 2013 following a period of consultation with interested stakeholders.

In addition to these two topics the Committee also made a submission to the Department of the Environment regarding the Dog Breeding Establishments Act and has provided some input into the review by the VDS of the Pre-Purchase Certificates for Horses. Following queries concerning the role of the official veterinarian in the context of the EU regulations for certification at slaughter houses the Council engaged with the Department of Agriculture on the issue and a document was produced by the Department, and endorsed by the Council, which will inform the Department’s internal and external discussions on such certification.

The Committee contributed to submissions made to the Department of Agriculture in relation to the Veterinary Practice Amendment Act 2012 particularly in relation to the regulation of non-registered persons and the issue of mandatory indemnity insurance.



Veterinary Education and Training Committee (VETC)

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

The Veterinary Education and Training Committee (VETC) met on 7 occasions in 2012. The two sub-committees which cover Registration and Specialist Register meet between meetings and report to the main committee. The VETC reports to Council where its decisions are ratified.

Continuing Veterinary Education (CVE). Mandatory CVE requirements for renewing the Licence to Practise in 1 January 2013, requires that both veterinary practitioners and veterinary nurses have achieved the requisite number of credits in the credit year 1 August 2011 to 31 July 2012. The number of queries concerning the eligibility of courses or activities for CVE credit continued to increase during the year as a result of registrants seeking to comply with their obligations. Following the first year of mandatory CVE requirements eighty six veterinary practitioners removed their name from the Register, the majority of these were retired but had retained their name on the Register. Forty four veterinary practitioners were erased, for non-compliance and 17 paid the fine and completed their CVE requirements to retain their name on the Register. Two veterinary nurses removed their name from the Register and six were erased. One veterinary nurse paid the fine and completed the outstanding CVE requirement.

Registration. A small number of registration queries from veterinary practitioners and veterinary nurses with qualifications from countries outside the EU were dealt with on a case by case basis. There were no candidates for the registration examination.

Veterinary Nursing. The Council took the decision to set up a Veterinary Nursing committee which meets prior to each Veterinary Education and Training Committee meeting. Athlone IT and St John's Central College veterinary nursing courses were revisited and these courses were revalidated by Council so that graduates may enter the Register of Veterinary Nurses. 65 Provisionally Registered Veterinary Nurses undertook and passed the on-line course approved by Council and delivered by St John's College, Cork.

Practice Premises Committee (PPC)

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

At the end of 2010 the Practice Accreditation Scheme (PAS) had completed a four year cycle. The Certificate of Suitability (COS) issued after this cycle is valid for two years, the COS for most of these premises will expire on 31 December 2012.

The Committee met eight times during the year and its work concentrated on comprehensively reviewing the PAS and in particular the regulations and standards. The new in-house organisation structure, the PAS Management Team, with responsibility for coordinating the Premises Assessors and their work, met on four occasions and reported to the PPC. The administration of PAS is centred in the Council offices.



The draft revised standards were circulated for feedback to stakeholders in May 2012. The review of PAS was concluded in September 2012 with updated PAS Regulations, Classifications and Standards agreed by Council.

The key changes agreed were (a) a reduction in the number of classification from four to three, (b) the introduction of nine core mandatory minimum requirements for all classifications, (c) the introduction of mandatory additional requirements which apply to the clinic and hospital classification and (d) the introduction of scope of practice options which allows practices and clinics to expand the range of veterinary services offered. In addition, a rationale is provided with each standard which explains what is expected to be achieved under each standard.

Applicants for renewal of the Certificate of Suitability can opt to have their certificate renewed for either a two and a half or five year period.

The task of publicising the scheme would provide a focus for 2013 with the objective of launching a publicity programme in 2014.

Conjoint Committee

Membership of Committee – listed in another section of the Report

The Conjoint Committee met on two occasions during the year to discuss the agendas of the two Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) General Assembly meetings and agree positions on the main areas of interest. The Committee includes representatives from Veterinary Ireland and the Veterinary Officers Association.



Appendix One

Audited Accounts
The Veterinary Council 2012



Statement of Internal Financial Control

Section 29 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005 and the Veterinary Practice (Amendment) Act 2012 requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Council and of the income and expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Council will continue in business.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Council which will enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 29 of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005 and the Veterinary Practice (Amendment) Act 2012. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Council and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Veterinary Council of Ireland I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

The following procedures have been put in place by the Council and are designed to provide effective internal financial control:

- a) An appropriate control environment is ensured by clearly defined management responsibilities and procedures to identify and react to control failures;
- b) A formal process to identify and evaluate organisational business risks is in place;
- c) A comprehensive planning and budgetary system is in operation and expenditure trends are reviewed on a quarterly basis;
- d) Procedures for addressing the financial implications of major business risks include financial instructions and notes of procedures, delegation practices such as authorisation limits approved by Council and segregation duties between processing and approval on payments are in place.
- e) The procedure for monitoring the effectiveness of internal financial control include a Finance Committee who report at least quarterly to the Council and the work of our external auditors.

The Council's monitoring and review of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the management team and the Finance Committee within the Veterinary Council who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial management system and are informed by the work of our external auditors in their management letters and reports.

On behalf of the Council

Seán Ó Laoide

Chairperson/President

28 March 2013



**Chairperson's Statement regarding compliance with
The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies**

I wish to confirm that the Veterinary Council is complying with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. In accordance with the Code of Practice I wish to confirm that:-

- All appropriate procedures for financial reporting, travel, procurement and asset disposals are being carried out;
- A statement on the system of internal financial control is included with the financial statements in this report;
- Codes of Conduct for Council members and employees have been put in place and are adhered to;
- Government policy on the pay of the CEO and employees is being complied with;
- The Council reimburses travel expenses in accordance with public sector guidelines;
- There are no significant post balance events to report;
- The Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals are being complied with;
- The Code of Practice in relation to the disposal of assets procedure is being complied with;
- The Council's obligations under taxation laws are being complied with;
- The Council will provide a list of legal disputes involving other State Bodies to the Department of Finance with an estimate of legal costs incurred should such disputes arise.

Signed on behalf of the Veterinary Council of Ireland

Seán Ó Laoide
Chairperson/President

28 March 2013



**Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

		2012	2011
	Notes	€	€
Income	2	1,229,783	1,259,449
Administrative expenses	3	(655,850)	(675,397)
Operating surplus		<u>573,933</u>	<u>584,052</u>
Investment income		82,717	37,058
Increase/(Decrease) in value of investments		12,515	(20,662)
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation		<u>669,165</u>	<u>600,448</u>
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	6	(12,107)	(10,006)
Retained surplus for the year	11	<u>657,058</u>	<u>590,442</u>
Retained surplus brought forward		3,492,445	3,027,003
Retained surplus carried forward		<u><u>4,149,503</u></u>	<u><u>3,617,445</u></u>
Statement of total recognised gains and losses			
Surplus on ordinary activities after taxation		657,058	590,442
Transfer to Contingency Reserve Fund		(125,000)	(125,000)
Total recognised gains relating to the year		<u><u>532,058</u></u>	<u><u>465,442</u></u>

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the board on 28 March 2013 and signed on its behalf by

Seán Ó Laoide
President

Lindy Vaughan
Deputy President



**Balance sheet
as at 31 December 2012**

	Notes	2012		2011	
		€	€	€	€
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		530,566		549,080
Investments	8		2,023,334		1,590,669
			<u>2,553,900</u>		<u>2,139,749</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	9	47,808		1,073	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,523,190		2,052,557	
		<u>2,570,998</u>		<u>2,053,630</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(600,395)		(325,934)	
Net current assets			<u>1,970,603</u>		<u>1,727,696</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>4,524,503</u>		<u>3,867,445</u>
Net assets			<u>4,524,503</u>		<u>3,867,445</u>
Capital and reserves					
Contingency Reserves	11		500,000		375,000
Accumulated surplus	11		4,024,503		3,492,445
			<u>4,524,503</u>		<u>3,867,445</u>

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 28 March 2013 and signed on its behalf by

Seán Ó Laoide
President

Lindy Vaughan
Deputy President



**Cash flow statement
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

	Notes	2012 €	2011 €
Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities			
Operating profit		573,933	584,052
Depreciation		35,983	36,665
(Increase) in debtors		(46,735)	6,132
Increase in creditors		274,461	(99,870)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		<u>837,642</u>	<u>526,979</u>
Cash flow statement			
Net cash inflow from operating activities		837,642	526,979
Returns on investments and servicing of finance		82,717	37,058
Taxation		(12,107)	(10,006)
Capital expenditure and financial investment		(437,619)	(27,927)
Increase in cash in the year		<u>470,633</u>	<u>526,104</u>
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Increase in cash in the year		470,633	526,104
Net funds at 1 January 2012		2,052,557	1,526,453
Net funds at 31 December 2012		<u>2,523,190</u>	<u>2,052,557</u>



**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Accounting Standards generally accepted in Ireland in preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view are those published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

1.2. Income

Registration and licence fees are recognised as income in the year to which they relate.

1.3. Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value. Income from investments together with any related withholding tax is recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year in which it is receivable.

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible Fixed Assets

All tangible fixed assets are initially recorded at historic cost.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less residual value, of each asset systematically over its expected useful life, as follows:

Premises	-	2.5% Straight Line
Fixtures & Fittings	-	15% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	-	15% Straight Line
Website Development	-	15% Straight Line

1.5. Pensions

The Council operates a defined contribution scheme which is funded annually from contributions payable by the Council and from contributions deducted from staff salaries.

2. Income

Income items are made up as follows:

	2012	2011
	€	€
Registration and licence fees	1,079,233	1,114,612
PAS Scheme fees	138,152	140,271
Other income	12,398	4,566
	<u>1,229,783</u>	<u>1,259,449</u>



**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

3. Administrative expenses	2012	2011
	€	€
Wages and salaries	227,672	205,430
Employer's PRSI contributions	20,785	18,249
Staff pension costs	15,930	15,929
Council expenditure	49,039	72,750
Education, training and development	21,725	69,849
Premises costs	20,642	19,469
Office running costs	51,356	37,128
PAS Inspections, training and expenses	68,018	26,733
Legal and professional fees	122,265	152,673
Auditors Remuneration	5,535	5,445
Bank charges	1,019	1,365
Veterinary Assistance Programme	10,000	10,000
Subscriptions	3,820	3,712
Depreciation	35,983	36,665
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	2,061	-
	<u>655,850</u>	<u>675,397</u>
4. Employment costs	2012	2011
	€	€
Wages and salaries	227,672	205,430
Social welfare costs	20,785	18,249
Other pension costs	15,930	15,929
	<u>264,387</u>	<u>239,608</u>

The Registrar receives a salary of €110,922.

5. Pension costs

The full details of the pension scheme are described in note 1.5 on page 18. Pension costs amounted to €15,930 (2011 - €15,929).



**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

6. Taxation

The Veterinary Council is a non-commercial body and, as such, is not liable to tax on its income. However, the Council is not entitled to a repayment of DIRT where this has been deducted from deposit interest. The Council does not charge VAT on its fees and it does not reclaim VAT on its purchases.

7. Tangible assets

	Premises	Fixtures & fittings	Website Development	Computers	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
Cost/revaluation					
At 1 January 2012	579,443	116,179	90,764	33,538	819,924
Additions	7,490	-	-	12,040	19,530
Disposals	-	-	-	(7,576)	(7,576)
At 31 December 2012	<u>586,933</u>	<u>116,179</u>	<u>90,764</u>	<u>38,002</u>	<u>831,878</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2012	119,001	91,989	44,530	15,324	270,844
On disposals	-	-	-	(5,515)	(5,515)
Charge for the year	12,348	6,247	12,173	5,215	35,983
At 31 December 2012	<u>131,349</u>	<u>98,236</u>	<u>56,703</u>	<u>15,024</u>	<u>301,312</u>
Net book values					
At 31 December 2012	<u>455,584</u>	<u>17,943</u>	<u>34,061</u>	<u>22,978</u>	<u>530,566</u>
At 31 December 2011	<u>460,442</u>	<u>24,190</u>	<u>46,234</u>	<u>18,214</u>	<u>549,080</u>



**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

8. Financial assets		Listed investments €
Cost		
At 1 January 2012		1,590,669
Additions		420,150
Increase in value of investments		12,515
At 31 December 2012		<u>2,023,334</u>
9. Debtors	2012	2011
	€	€
Prepayments and accrued income	47,808	1,073
	<u>47,808</u>	<u>1,073</u>
10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2012	2011
	€	€
<i>Other creditors</i>		
Amounts owed to Educational Trust	7,467	3,156
Accruals and deferred income	584,088	312,432
<i>Taxation creditors</i>		
PAYE/PRSI	8,840	10,346
	<u>600,395</u>	<u>325,934</u>



**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

11. Equity Reserves	Accumulated surplus	Contingency reserves	Total
	€	€	€
At 1 January 2012	3,492,445	375,000	3,867,445
Transfer to contingency reserves	(125,000)		(125,000)
Surplus for the year	657,058		657,058
Transfer from accumulated surplus	-	125,000	125,000
At 31 December 2012	<u>4,024,503</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>4,524,503</u>

12. Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997

The Council has always sought to pay suppliers of goods and services promptly and has complied in all material respects with the provisions of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 during the financial year.

13. Approval of financial statements

The Council approved these financial statements for issue on 28 March 2013.



Appendix Two
Council Members' Expenses 2012

Expenses to Council Members are paid in respect of travel to Council related meetings from a member's place of residence or place of work. The majority of meetings in 2012 took place in Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Other than travel expenses, there are no other fees paid to a member of the Council.

Name	Amount €	Number of Meetings relating to expenses paid
Barbara Bent	2,215.02	13
Martin Blake	-	14
Deirdre Campion	-	12
Joe Collins	1,169.00	8
Crionna Creagh*	73.72	2
Tom Hanley	1,942.40	8
Dairine MacFadden**	40.40	1
Grace Mulcahy	-	11
Finbar Mulligan	194.63	5
Seán Ó Laoide	4,543.20	30
P Ó Scanaill	714.99	10
John O'Rourke	6,977.24	24
Melanie O'Donoghue	2,908.80	13
Margaret O'Sullivan	757.28	8
Meta Osborne	881.26	16
Seamus Quinn	2,331.50	7
Michael Sadlier	597.83	8
Michael Sheahan	-	7
Fergus Smith	2,200.50	16
Lindy Vaughan	2,147.40	21

*C Creagh was appointed in August 2012 following resignation of **D MacFadden in May 2012



Appendix Three

Council Attendance 2012

Name	Jan 19th	March 15th	May 3rd	Jun 18th	July 19 th	Sep 13th	Nov 1st	Dec 13th	Total Meetings (8)
Barbara Bent	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
Martin Blake	•	•	•	•			•	•	6
Deirdre Campion	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	7
Joe Collins	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		7
Crionna Creagh*							•	•	2 of (3)
Tom Hanley	•			•	•	•	•	•	6
Dairine Mac Fadden**	•								1 of (3)
Grace Mulcahy	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
Finbar Mulligan	•			•			•		3
Melanie O'Donoghue	•		•		•	•	•	•	6
Sean O Laoide	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
John O'Rourke	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
P O Scanaill	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8
Margaret O'Sullivan	•	•			•	•	•	•	6
Meta Osborne	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	7
Seamus Quinn	•		•		•	•	•	•	6
Michael Sadlier	•		•	•	•		•		5
Michael Sheahan	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	7
Fergus Smith	•		•	•	•		•	•	6
Lindy Vaughan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	8

*C Creagh was appointed in August 2012 following resignation of **D MacFadden in May 2012



Appendix Four

Audited Accounts
The Veterinary Council Education Trust 2012



Veterinary Council Educational Trust

**Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2012**

	Notes	2012 €	2011 €
Income			
Investment income		16,269	11,150
		<u>16,269</u>	<u>11,150</u>
Expenditure			
Diminution of value of shares		(632)	(7,680)
Surplus/(Deficit) before taxation		<u>15,637</u>	<u>3,470</u>
Tax- Current year		(654)	(1,759)
Retained Surplus/(Deficit) after taxation for the year		<u><u>14,983</u></u>	<u><u>1,711</u></u>



Veterinary Council Educational Trust

**Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2012**

	Notes	2012 €	€	2011 €	€
Fixed Assets					
Investments	2		8,748		9,380
Current Assets					
Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	3	17,246		3,156	
Bank Deposit		348,356		346,831	
		<u>365,602</u>		<u>349,987</u>	
Net Current Assets			365,602		349,987
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Net Assets			374,350		359,367
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Financed by:					
Trust Fund					
Balance as at 1st January 2012			44,427		44,427
Transfer to/(from) Reserve Fund			-		-
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Balance as at 31st December 2012			<u>44,427</u>		<u>44,427</u>
Reserve Fund					
Balance at 1st January 2012			314,940		313,229
Transfer (to)/ from Trust Fund			-		-
Surplus			14,983		1,711
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Balance at 31 December 2012			<u>329,923</u>		<u>314,940</u>
			<u>374,350</u>		<u>359,367</u>



**Veterinary Council Educational Trust
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2012**

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Accounting Standards generally accepted in Ireland in preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view are those published by the institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

2. Investments

<u>Nominal</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>2012</u> €	<u>Cost</u> <u>2011</u> €
10,320 Home Retail Group plc Ordinary Stock @ 10p each	2,806	2,806
10,320 Experian Group Limited Ordinary Stock @ 10c each	2,358	2,358
3,660 Burberry Group plc Ordinary Stock @ 5p each	1,922	1,922
33,247 Allied Irish Bank Ordinary Shares @ 25p each	2,294	9,974
	<u>9,380</u>	<u>17,060</u>
	<u>2012</u> €	<u>2011</u> €
Market Value of Investments	<u>195,750</u>	<u>172,687</u>

The market value of Allied Irish Bank shares has declined in value. As at 31 December 2012 the market value of the shares was €1,662.

3. Sundry Debtors & Prepayments

The balance due to Veterinary Council Education Trust from Veterinary Council for the year ended 31 December 2012 amounts to €7,467.



**Veterinary Council Educational Trust
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2012**

4. Statement of The Finance Committee's Responsibilities

The Finance Committee is responsible for the preparation of accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council Education Trust. In preparing those accounts the Committee is required to :

- (i) Select appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (ii) Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.
- (iii) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to do so.

The Finance Committee is also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Council Education Trust. The Finance Committee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Council Education Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

