

Summary of Council Meeting – 17 June 2014

The Council met on 17 June 2014.

Reports from the following committees were considered:

Practice Premises Committee (PPC)

The PPC met on 5 June 2014. A number of queries regarding the registration of premises were dealt with. A decision was taken to refuse to issue a Certificates of Suitability to one premises which did not adhere fully with the regulations. Twelve new practices were issued COSs and twenty seven premises passed their reassessment.

Conjoint Committee

The Conjoint Committee is a committee at which representatives of the Council, Veterinary Ireland and the Veterinary Officers Association meet to discuss issues of mutual interest and confer on developments at European level. The three organisations represent Ireland at the biannual meetings of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE). Discussion on

The Conjoint committee had met on 15 May during which the agenda of the FVE meeting which was to take place between 22 and 24 May 2014 had been discussed. Ireland's position on the various topics under discussion at the meeting had been agreed.

Legislation and Ethics Committee LEC

The LEC met on 5 June 2014 and discussed a number of ongoing projects – indemnity insurance for practitioners; and the draft regulations concerning the regulation of 'para-professionals'. The Committee also discussed its stance on tail docking and dew claw removal following the passing of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013.

Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC)

The Registrar reported that 28 queries had been received in the first six months of the year from mostly members of the public considering lodging a complaint about a veterinary professional. Eleven applications for inquiry into the fitness to practise of veterinary professionals had been received during the same period, these applications were proceeding through the disciplinary process.

The PIC had referred two veterinary practitioners to inquiry following a complaint and the PIC had determined that there was no case to answer in relation to complaints about 6 veterinary professionals.

Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both registers which had taken place since the last meeting. It was reported that two registrants had died since the last meeting – Mr Richard Gerard Long 22/75 and Mr Thomas Vincent Houlihan 04/55. 4 veterinary practitioners had restored their name and there were 5 new entries. In respect of the veterinary nurses' register there were 7 new entries.

The next Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 17 July 2014.