

Summary of Council Meeting – 15 May 2014

The Council met on 15 May 2014.

Reports from the following committees were considered:

Veterinary Education and Training Committee VETC

The VETC met on 7 May 2014. A number of registration queries were dealt with and the three applications for admission to the Specialist Register would be recommended to the Council for approval. Projects concerning a mentoring programme for recent graduates; a review of day one competencies for veterinary practitioners and a review of the regulations concerning CVE are ongoing.

Audit and Finance Committee AFC

The AFC met on 1 May 2014, the committee is chaired by Ray Finn, Deputy President of the Council. The committee received a comprehensive report on the corporate governance arrangements in place in the Council, in particular, to comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. It was noted that the Annual Report provided comprehensive information on the Council financial and other activities throughout 2013, this document is available on the website. It was reported that there had been 100% compliance with prompt payment requirements in the first three months of the year.

Legislation and Ethics Committee LEC

The LEC met on 9 April 2014 and discussed a number of ongoing projects – indemnity insurance for practitioners; bull fertility soundness examinations; draft regulations concerning the regulation of 'para-professionals' and a review of the Codes of Professional Conduct.

Practice Premises Committee PPC

No meeting had taken place since the last Council meeting however the Council did confirm some new COS applications and renewals of COS following successful assessment reports.

Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both registers which had taken place since the last meeting. It was reported that one registrant had died since the last meeting – Mr Norman MacLaren Patterson 77/59. 4 veterinary practitioners had removed their name from the register, 12 had their names erased for non-payment of their Licence to Practise Fee and 4 had restored their name and there were 13 new entries. In respect of the veterinary nurses' register there were 2 new entries, 5 had their names removed for non-payment of their Licence to Practise Fee and 2 nurses had removed their name.

Reports from Authorised Officers

The Council considered two reports prepared by its authorised officers concerning potential violations of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005. Reports of this nature are the preliminary stage in deciding whether to pursue a prosecution through the courts.

Other Reports

The Council considered a report on the development of a research grant scheme and it is hoped that this scheme will be launched in the very near future. The monthly report on communications from Carr Communications was also reviewed.

The next Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17 June 2014.