

Summary of Council Meeting - 12 December 2013

The Council met on 12 December 2013. Reports from the following committees were considered:

Veterinary Education and Training Committee (VETC)

The VETC had met on 27 November 2013. An applicant to sit the Council's registration examination next year was confirmed. Compliance statistics with CVE requirements for re-registration in 2014 shows that 36 veterinary practitioners and 15 veterinary nurses have not attained the requisite number of credits to enable their registration to be renewed in 2014. The committee is reviewing the list of day one competencies and a group to carry out this work and report back is being formed.

Practice Premises Committee (PPC)

The PPC had met on 14 November 2013. The text of a piece to be printed in the Council's newsletter regarding 24-hour service and 24-hour care obligations was agreed. Guidelines for the keeping of clinical notes were also agreed and will be provided with the Codes of Professional Conduct. Thirteen premises had successfully completed the assessment process, 7 COS renewals and 8 new applications were agreed.

Legislation and Ethics Committee (LEC)

The LEC had met on 25 November 2013. The Committee dealt with a number of ethical queries where clarification had been sought. The review of the Codes of Professional Conduct has been completed and work has commenced on the design of the publication. Work is ongoing in relation to drafting regulations concerning the indemnity insurance obligations of the profession.

Finance Committee (FC)

The Finance Committee had met on 2 December 2013. The budget for 2014 was reviewed and agreed.

Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both registers which had taken place since the last meeting. It was reported that three registrants had died since the last meeting – Mr M Fenlon 31/63 who had been Council Registrar from 1995 to 2004; Mr JT Tyrell 20/44 who had been one of two practitioners who had received a gold medal in 2011 in recognition of his long service as a vet and Mr P Dargan 31/56 who had been a member of Council and served as its President between 1976 and 1978. Four veterinary practitioners had removed their name from the register, 5 had restored their name and there were 5 new entries. In respect of the veterinary nurses' register there were 19 new entries and 3 nurses had removed their name.

Fitness to Practise

The Registrar reported that between the 1 July and 5 December 2013 27 applications for inquiries had been received bringing the total for the year to date to 40, an unprecedented

number. Twenty nine queries had also been received during the same period, some of these queries lead to applications for inquiries.

Reports from Authorised Officers

The Council considered a report from one of its authorised officers in respect of allegations concerning a non-registered person administering sedation to dogs prior to grooming. Insufficient evidence had been found to take this matter any further.

All but four members of the Council go out of office on 31 December 2013. The next Council meeting will be scheduled when the Minister has appointed the 15 new members.