

Summary of Council Meeting

The Council met on 13 July 2017 from 10.00am to 3.30pm. There were 11 items on the agenda and there were 8 items of correspondence.

The Council considered reports from the Conjoint Committee, the Audit and Finance Committee and the PAS Management Team.

Conjoint Committee

The Conjoint Committee met on 1 June 2017 to discuss the agenda for the FVE meeting scheduled to take place on 7, 8 and 9 June 2017. The minutes of that meeting were noted by the Council.

Audit and Finance Committee (AFC)

The AFC met on 6 July 2017 from 10.30am to 1.30pm. There were 13 items tabled on the agenda and there were no items of correspondence. The three months accounts, April to June 2017, together with the first quarter figures and the budgetary comparisons were reviewed. Internal audit reports on three Standard Operating Procedures were reviewed. The Council achieved 100% compliance with its prompt payments obligations in the second quarter of the year. The minutes of that meeting were noted by the Council.

PAS Management Team

The PAS Management Team met on 10 July 2017 from 5.00pm to 6.00pm to consider six new applications for a certificate of suitability. The minutes of that meeting were noted by the Council.

It was agreed to grant certificates of suitability to four new premises, to propose granting a certificate of suitability with a condition to one new premises and to seek further information on one new premises.

PAS Standards Consultation

The Council approved revisions to the PAS Standards, following consideration of feedback from stakeholders on the PAS Consultation. The new PAS Scheme will commence on 1 January 2018 and run for a time period of four years.

S.I. No. 278 of 2017 Veterinary Practice Act 2005 (Treatment by non-registered person) Regulations 2017

The Council considered new regulations which were signed into law by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine on 27 June 2017 and which provide that a veterinary practitioner may, in respect of an animal under his or her care, request a registered medical practitioner or a registered dentist to carry out a procedure on an animal where (1) the procedure is unusually complex; (2) if that registered medical practitioner or dentist has a high level of expertise in the field of medicine or dentistry related to the procedure; and (3) there is no veterinary practitioner with the requisite skill and experience available to carry out the procedure. The regulations state that such a procedure shall be

carried out in the presence of the veterinary practitioner who requested the procedure. The Council agreed to publish a press release on the new regulations in the newsletter and on the website.

Disciplinary Matters

The Council considered four applications for an Inquiry involving three veterinary practitioners and one veterinary nurse. The Council was notified of one fitness to practise inquiry.

Reports of Authorised Officers

The Council considered two reports from its authorised officers in respect of alleged breaches of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005, as amended by a registered person and a non-registered person.

Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both Registers which had taken place since the last meeting. It was reported that there are 45 new entries to the Register of Veterinary Practitioners and 29 new entries to the Register of Veterinary Nurses.

In its consideration of routine business, the Council noted:

- Correspondence from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine providing ministerial consent, per section 66 (1) of the Veterinary Practice Act 2005, as amended to the proposed amendments to the CVE Regulations.
- Correspondence from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine advising that the Minister and signed and sealed Regulations removing the permission for veterinary nurses to remove dew claws from dogs.
- A report from William Cashman on his attendance at a conference on the 'Scientific, Human Health, Husbandry and Socio-economic aspects of Antimicrobial Resistance: Time to Act' at the European Parliament.
- Correspondence regarding a twinning programme with the Council.
- Correspondence on corporate ownership of veterinary practices.
- Correspondence on concerns re practices and policies of providers of pet insurance.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 14 September 2017 @10.00am.