

## Summary of Council Meeting - 6 March 2014

The Council met on 6 March 2014. Reports from the following committees were considered:

This was the first meeting of the Council following the appointment by the Minister of 17 out of the 19 members. The Registrar provided an induction session before the meeting officially commenced, this session covered the corporate governance responsibilities of the Council and its members.

### Election of President and Deputy President

William Cashman 14/78 was elected unopposed as President and Raymond Finn 19/77 was elected unopposed as Deputy President. Both officers will serve in these positions until 31 December 2015.

### Animal Health and Welfare Act (AHWA)

The Statutory Instruments relating to the operation of the AHWA and the tail docking of dogs were discussed. It was noted that the tail docking regulations have gone some way in addressing concerns. It was noted the regulations are proposed as an interim measure and the issues are being referred to the SACAHW chaired by C Gaynor. The Council will maintain its ethical stance that tail docking and dew claw removal are unethical unless the procedures are carried out for therapeutic reasons. Should further scientific research show that these procedures have merit in preventing avoidable injuries then the Council will consider such evidence in the context of ethical veterinary practice.

### Changes to the Registers

The Council confirmed the changes to both registers which had taken place since the last meeting. It was reported that four registrants had died since the last meeting – Mr JA Casey 06/88; Mr B Farrelly 10/45, past Council President; Mr D McKeever 32/80 and Mr DBR Poole 10/55. 30 veterinary practitioners had removed their name from the register, 15 had restored their name and there were 19 new entries. In respect of the veterinary nurses' register there were 21 new entries, 10 nurses had removed their name and 4 restored their name to the register.

### Chairs of Committee

The following Council members were appointed to chair the various committees of Council – F Smith, Veterinary Education and Training Committee; P Ó Scanail, Practice Premises Committee; M Sadlier, Legislation and Ethics Committee; M Lyons, Conjoint Committee; S Walton, Veterinary Nursing Committee; R Finn, Audit & Finance Committee.

### Disciplinary Matters

Four applications for inquiry involving 6 veterinary practitioners were considered.

### New PAS Applications

The Council agreed to issue Certificates of Suitability to five newly registered practices.

### Revocation of Warrant of Appointment

Mr S McGettrick 60/01 who is an authorised officer of Council has had his warrant of appointment revoked. Mr McGettrick is taking up a full time position with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

### Audited Accounts 2013 and Annual Report

The Council confirmed the audited accounts and annual report for 2013. Both documents will be available on the Council's website in early April.

### Council Meetings 2014

Council meetings for 2014 will take place on 3 April; 15 May; 17 June; 17 July; 11 September; 30 October and 11 December 2014.