

Summary	
Meeting	Council
Date	7 November 2024
Title	RVN Preliminary Investigation Committee Report to Council
Summary	This report sets out the work of the Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN) Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC)
Decisions required	None
Attachments	None
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Classifications		
Document	Classification¹	Rationales²
Paper	Unclassified	n/a

¹Classifications explained

Unclassified	Papers will be published on the internet and recipients may share them and discuss them freely with anyone. This may include papers marked 'Draft'.
Confidential	Temporarily available only to Council Members, non-Council members of the relevant committee, sub-committee, working party or Board and not for dissemination outside that group unless and until the relevant committee or Council has given approval for public discussion, consultation or publication.
Private	The paper includes personal data which should not be disclosed at any time or for any reason, unless the data subject has agreed otherwise. The Chair may, however, indicate after discussion that there are general issues which can be disclosed, for example in reports to committees and Council.

²Classification rationales

Confidential	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To allow the Committee or Council to come to a view itself, before presenting to and/or consulting with others 2. To maintain the confidence of another organisation 3. To protect commercially sensitive information 4. To maintain public confidence in and/or uphold the reputation of the veterinary professions and/or the RCVS
Private	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To protect information which may contain personal data, special category data, and/or criminal offence data, as listed under the General Data Protection Regulation

Registered Veterinary Nurses Preliminary Investigation Committee

Report to Council

Introduction

1. Since the last Report to Council, there has been four meetings of the Stage 2 VN PIC, which took place on 28 May, 9 July, 20 August and 1 October. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 12 November 2024.

RVN Concerns received / registered

2. In the period 24 May to 25 October, there were 31 new Concerns relating to RVNs. Of these 31 new Concerns:
 - 9 cases closed at Stage 1 VNPIC;
 - 19 cases are currently under investigation by a Case Manager, Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary surgeon, and a lay member (Stage 1 VNPIC);
 - 3 cases have been referred to Stage 2 VNPIC.

RVN Preliminary Investigation Committee

3. Six new cases have been considered by the Stage 2 VNPIC between 24 May and 25 October. One case was closed. Three cases were closed with advice. One case was referred to external solicitors for formal statements to be taken. One case was referred to the RVN Disciplinary Committee.

Ongoing Investigations

4. Eleven concerns are currently under investigation by the Stage 2 VN PIC, and these will be returned to the Committee for a decision in due course.

Health Concerns

5. There are currently no RVNs being managed in the context of the RCVS Health Protocol.

Performance Concerns

6. There are currently no RVNs being managed in the context of the RCVS Performance Protocol.

Referral to Disciplinary Committee

7. Since the last report, two cases have been referred to the RVN Disciplinary Committee.

Disciplinary Hearings

8. Since the last report, one disciplinary hearing has taken place in relation to a veterinary nurse. At the outset of the hearing the Respondent made an application to adjourn the hearing while undertaking to voluntarily remove herself from the Register, to never seek to reapply to join the Register and to supply a witness statement in respect of a separate RCVS investigation into the conduct of a veterinary surgeon. The Disciplinary Committee decided to accede to the application and accept the Respondent's undertakings.

Operational matters

9. In July 2024, a new veterinary nurse (Arlene Connor) joined the VNPIC, and a new Chair was appointed to VNPIC (Mark Stobbs) after an application process.