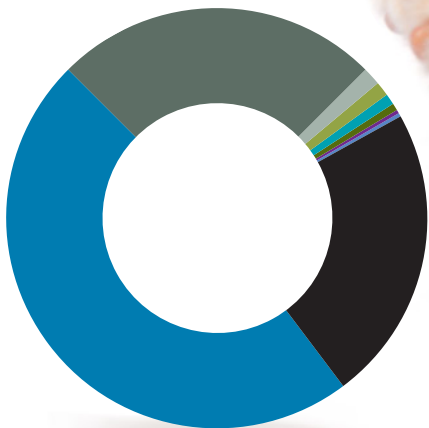


RCVS FACTS

FACTS AND FIGURES FROM THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

2023

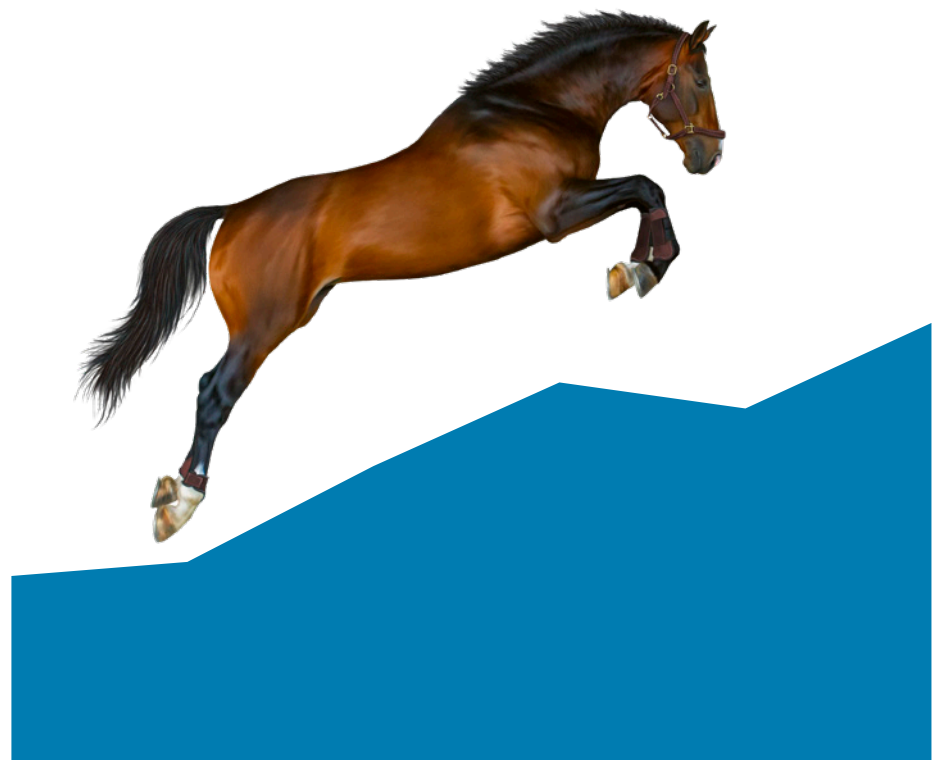


Welcome to *RCVS Facts 2023*.

This document provides an overview of all data related to the professions. It first presents a profile of the professions including the distribution of veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses across the UK, then highlights key educational data such as the number of UK veterinary students, before summarising the number of concerns and disciplinary hearings we have dealt with and finally providing data related to councils, committees, and staff.

For a review of our financial activities, you can download our Annual Report 2023 from www.rcvs.org.uk/publications.

Year in review is: 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, unless otherwise stated.



Profile of the professions

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Table 1. Numbers and distribution of RCVS members

Names entered on	31/3/22	Totals	31/3/23	Totals
General List I	22,772		23,560	
General List II	10,331		10,584	
Commonwealth List	2,037		2,094	
Foreign List	611		641	
Temporary List	93		121	
Supplementary Veterinary Register	4		1	
Total number of members		35,848		37,001
UK-practising		27,743		28,823
Overseas-practising		3,366		3,398
Non-practising				
United Kingdom	3,297		3,330	
Overseas	767		776	
		4,064		4,106
Republic of Ireland¹		578		552
Total number of members		35,848		37,001

¹ Veterinary surgeons resident in the Republic of Ireland who qualified before 1 June 1988 and remain RCVS members (and who must also register with the Veterinary Council of Ireland)

Notes

General List I – members who have a recognised UK qualification.

General List II – members who have a scheduled EU qualification.

Commonwealth List – members who have an accepted Commonwealth qualification, or who have a Commonwealth qualification and have passed the RCVS Statutory Examination for Membership.

Foreign List – members who have an accepted overseas qualification, or who have an overseas qualification and have passed the RCVS Statutory Examination for Membership.

Temporary List – temporary members or visiting European veterinary surgeons.

Supplementary Veterinary Register – members who were, or were entitled to be, Registered Veterinary Practitioners prior to the introduction of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966.

Figure 1. Breakdown of members by category of registerable qualification

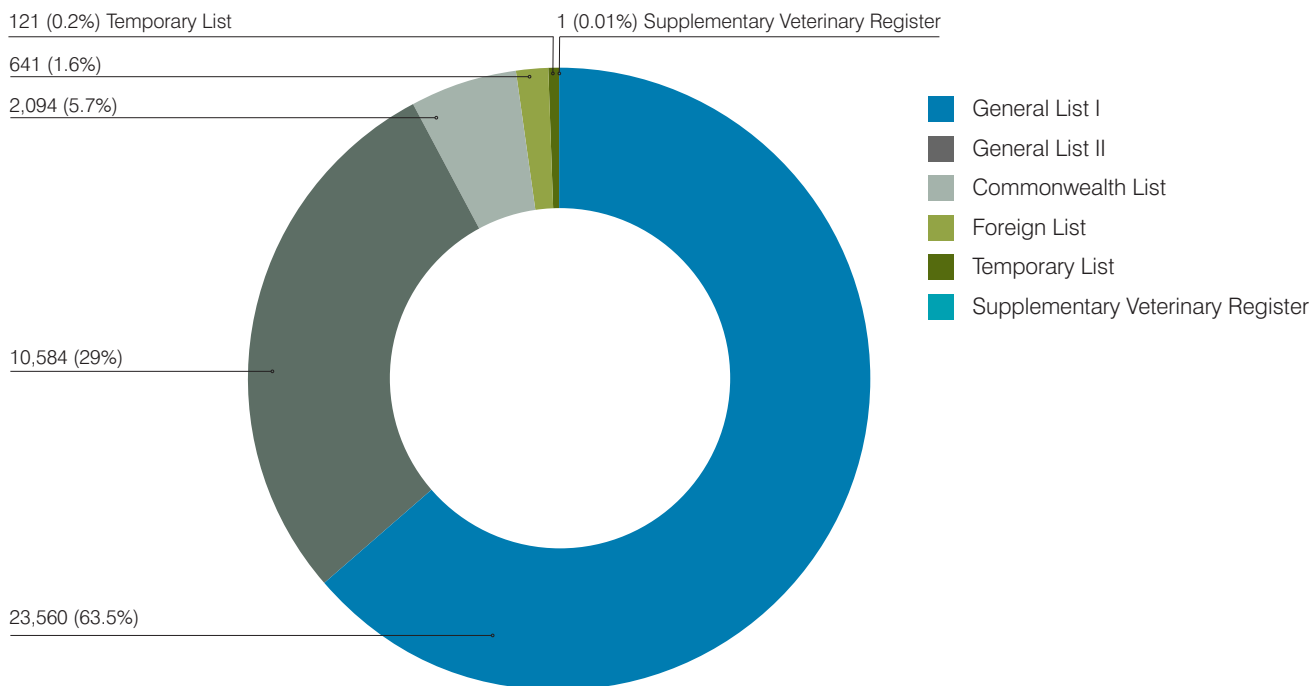


Figure 2. Breakdown of principal RCVS membership categories

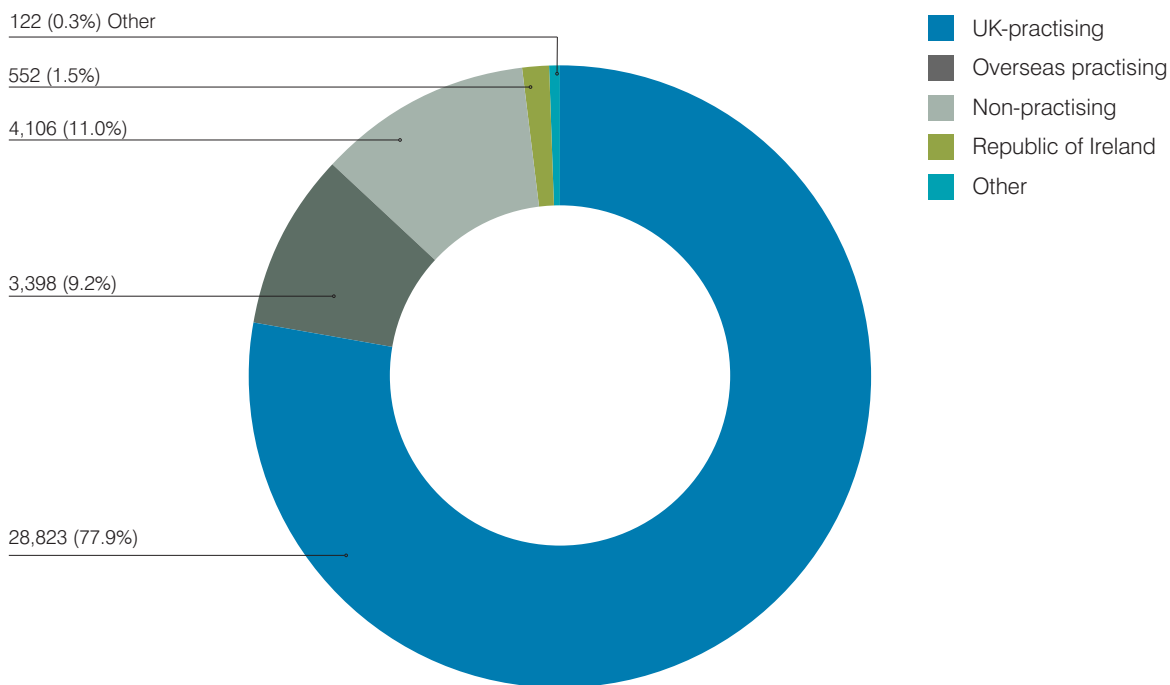


Figure 3. UK-practising veterinary surgeons by age and gender

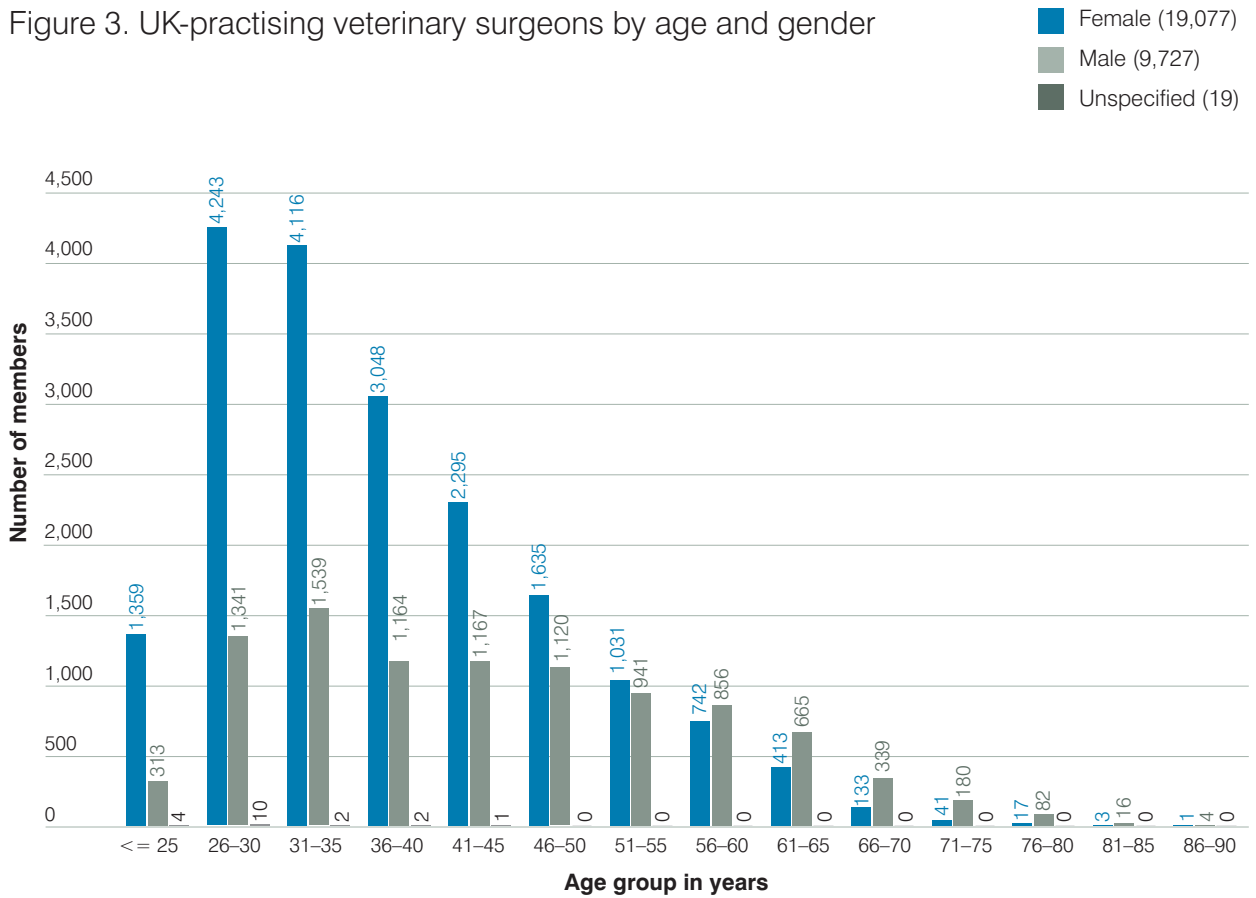


Figure 4. UK-practising members by stated ethnic group

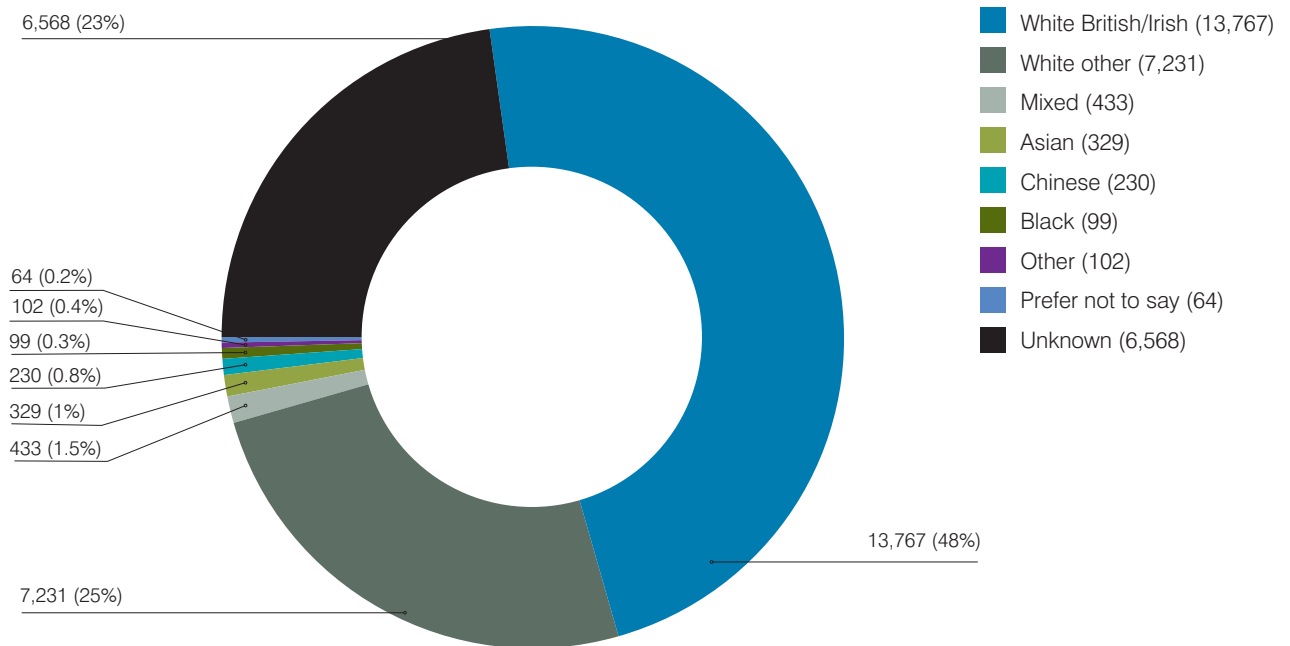


Figure 5. Registered veterinary nurses by age and gender

Female (21,651)
 Male (604)
 Unspecified (51)

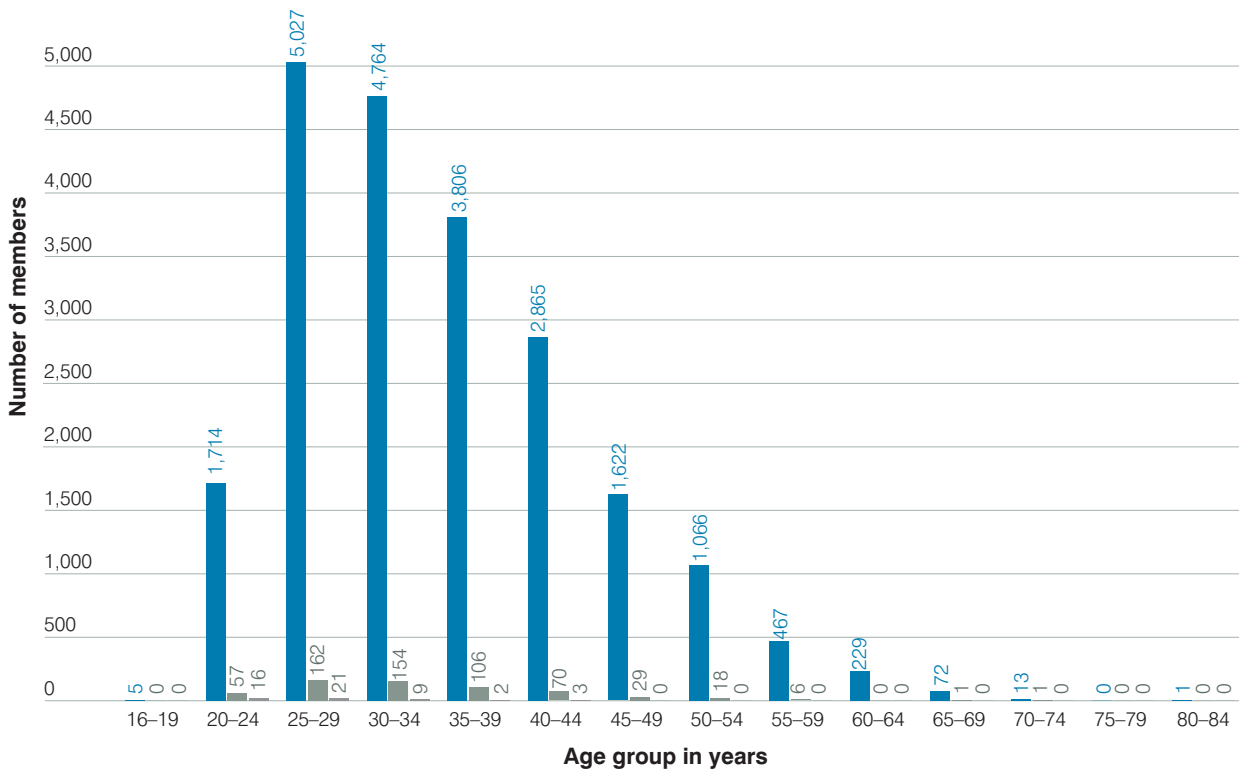


Figure 6. Registered veterinary nurses by stated ethnic group

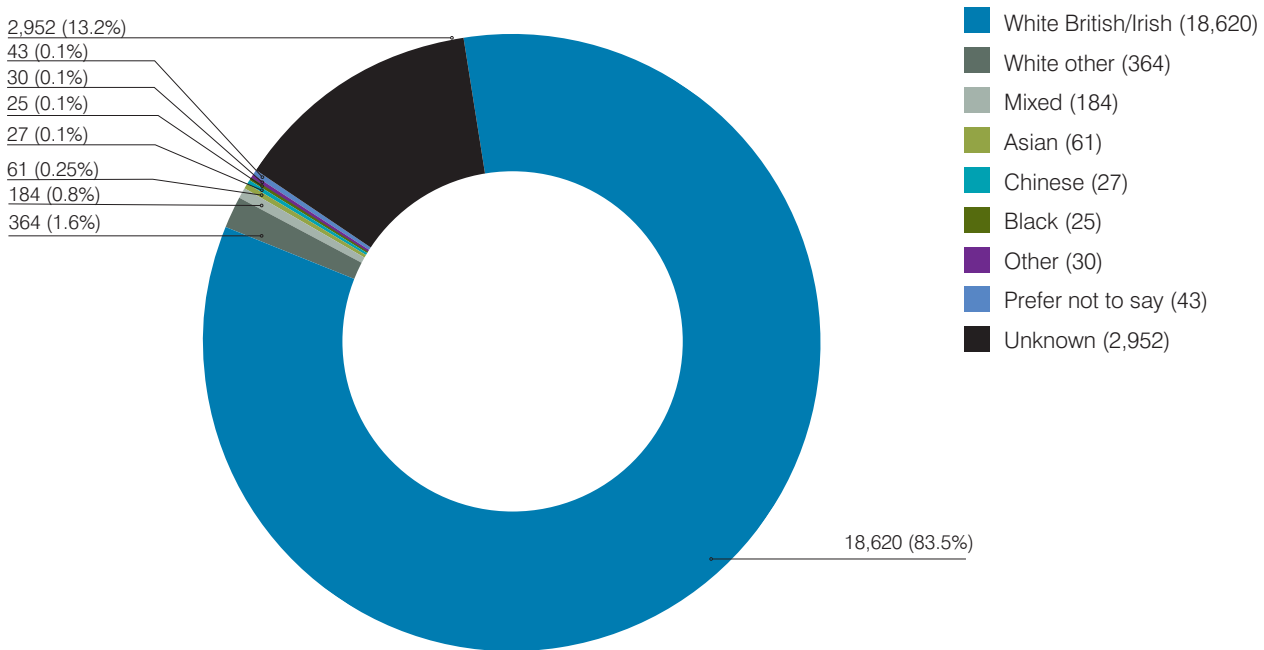
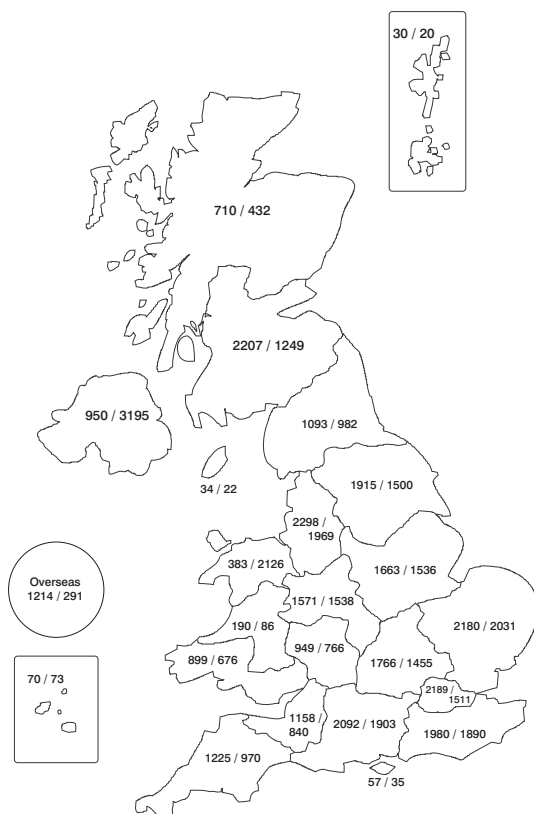
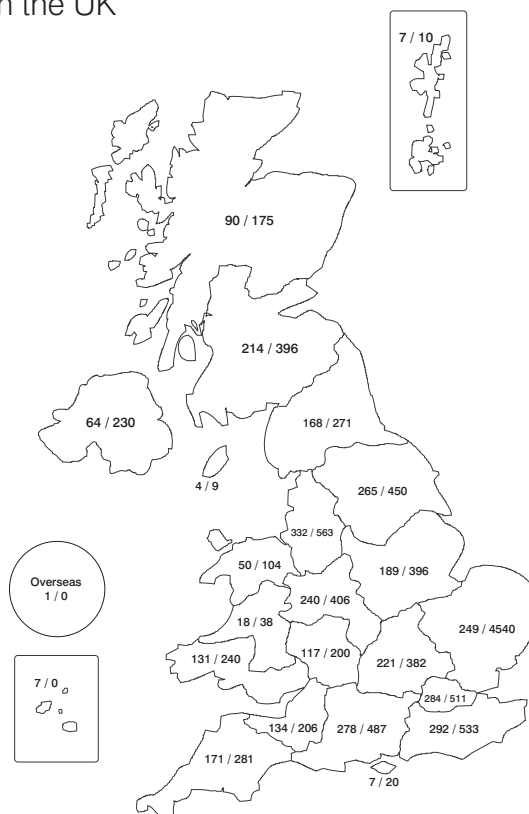


Figure 7. Numbers of practising veterinary surgeons / registered veterinary nurses in the UK



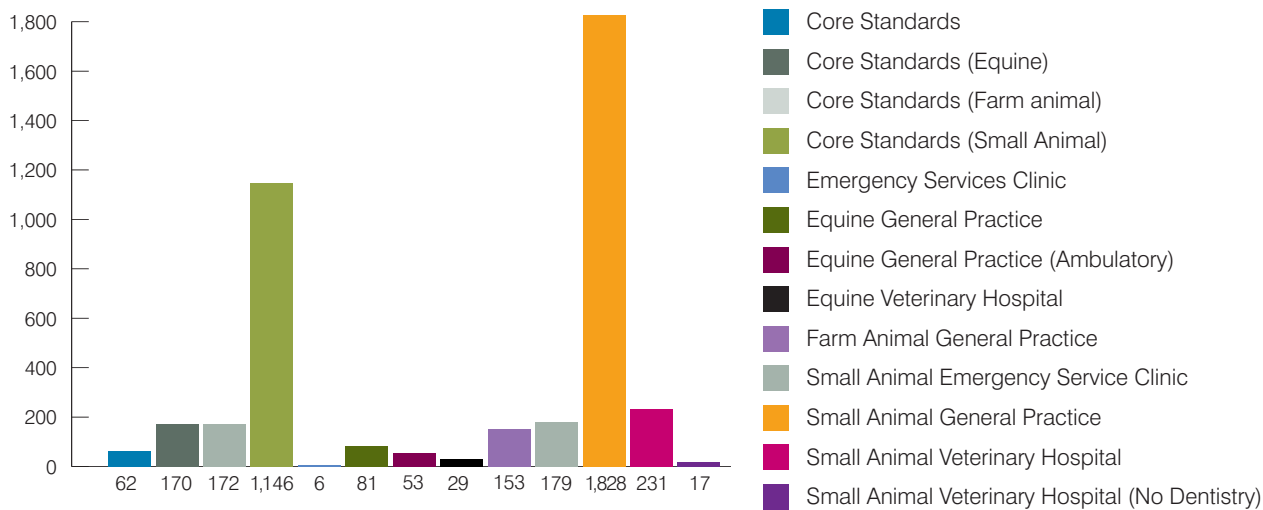
NB: 27,609 of the 28,823 UK-practising veterinary surgeons and 22,015 of the 22,306 registered veterinary nurses have UK addresses recorded as their registered address.

Figure 8. Numbers of RCVS-accredited practices in the Practice Standards Scheme / registered veterinary premises in the UK



NB: 98/167 = of the 167 registered veterinary premises in the region, 98 are under the ambit of the RCVS Practice Standards Scheme (PSS). Totals = 3,523/6,362. Veterinary practice premises in the Channel Islands are not required to be registered on the Register of Veterinary Practice Premises.

Figure 9. Breakdown of PSS veterinary premises by accreditation type



NB: includes 4,127 accreditation types awarded across 3,523 veterinary practice premises accredited by the RCVS Practice Standards Scheme. Some premises have multiple accreditation types. Note that accreditation levels are only held by accredited premises, and not candidate premises.

Table 2. Registration of veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses

Numbers are as at 31 March for each year.

	2021	2022	2023
Veterinary surgeons			
Total on Register	35,176	35,848	37,001
New registrations ¹	1,862	1,483	1,915
Removals	1,209	1,267	1,085
Restorations	223	380	309
Veterinary nurses			
Total on Register	19,335	20,876	22,306
New registrations	1,237	1,913	1,790
Removals	609	618	653
Restorations	221	245	297

¹ New registrations can include individuals who have been removed and subsequently restored within the year period.

Table 3. Fees for veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses

	01/04/22 (£)	01/04/23 (£)
Veterinary surgeons		
Registration fees		
Registration (between 1 April & 30 September)	364	379
Registration (between 1 October & 31 March)	182	189
New graduates	182	189
Temporary	364	379
Temporary restricted to 6 months or less	182	189
Annual retention fees		
UK-practising	364	379
Overseas practising	182	189
Non-practising	60	62
Non-practising (70+)	Free	Free
Supplementary Veterinary Register	Free	Free
Restoration fees		
Restoration fees following voluntary removal ¹	91	118
Restoration fees following non-payment removal ²	364	379
Veterinary nurses		
VN registration fee	136	150
VN annual retention fee	74	77
VN restoration fee ³	62	64

¹ Plus the proportion of the annual retention fee for the remaining year

² Plus full retention fee for membership category type at time of removal

³ Plus relevant annual retention fee, full fee in first 6 months half in second

Table 4. Number of new registrations 2018–2023 based on registrant's country of graduation / qualification recognition

Names entered on	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Non EU/EEA					
Australia	112	95	26	23	66
Canada	7	6	3	4	7
Grenada	0	0	0	0	1
New Zealand	26	23	3	6	28
South Africa	28	58	54	52	47
United States of America	28	17	14	11	28
EU/EEA/CH/EAEVE					
Austria	7	6	8	3	3
Belgium	42	33	19	14	15
Bulgaria	27	14	8	1	4
Croatia	18	12	12	3	12
Czechia	21	28	9	4	16
Denmark	2	10	6	5	3
Estonia	7	0	4	3	1
Finland	1	2	0	1	0
France	21	21	13	4	4
Germany	20	19	5	7	13
Greece	73	52	32	23	27
Hungary	63	39	38	31	27
Ireland	55	34	37	29	41
Italy	150	126	63	22	26
Latvia	4	3	3	0	0
Lithuania	13	12	3	4	16
The Netherlands	10	5	2	5	7
Norway	2	4	0	0	1
Poland	115	93	43	34	69
Portugal	126	76	55	30	43
Romania	209	121	75	25	48
Slovakia	33	42	32	16	20
Slovenia	1	8	0	2	3
Spain	292	227	203	46	95
Sweden	2	1	1	0	1
Switzerland [CH]	0	0	0	0	3
Turkey	0	0	0	13	85
RCVS Statutory Examination for membership	19	18	13	10	14
England	643	742	851	820	877
Scotland	241	245	226	229	264

Figure 10. Trends in registration of veterinary surgeons

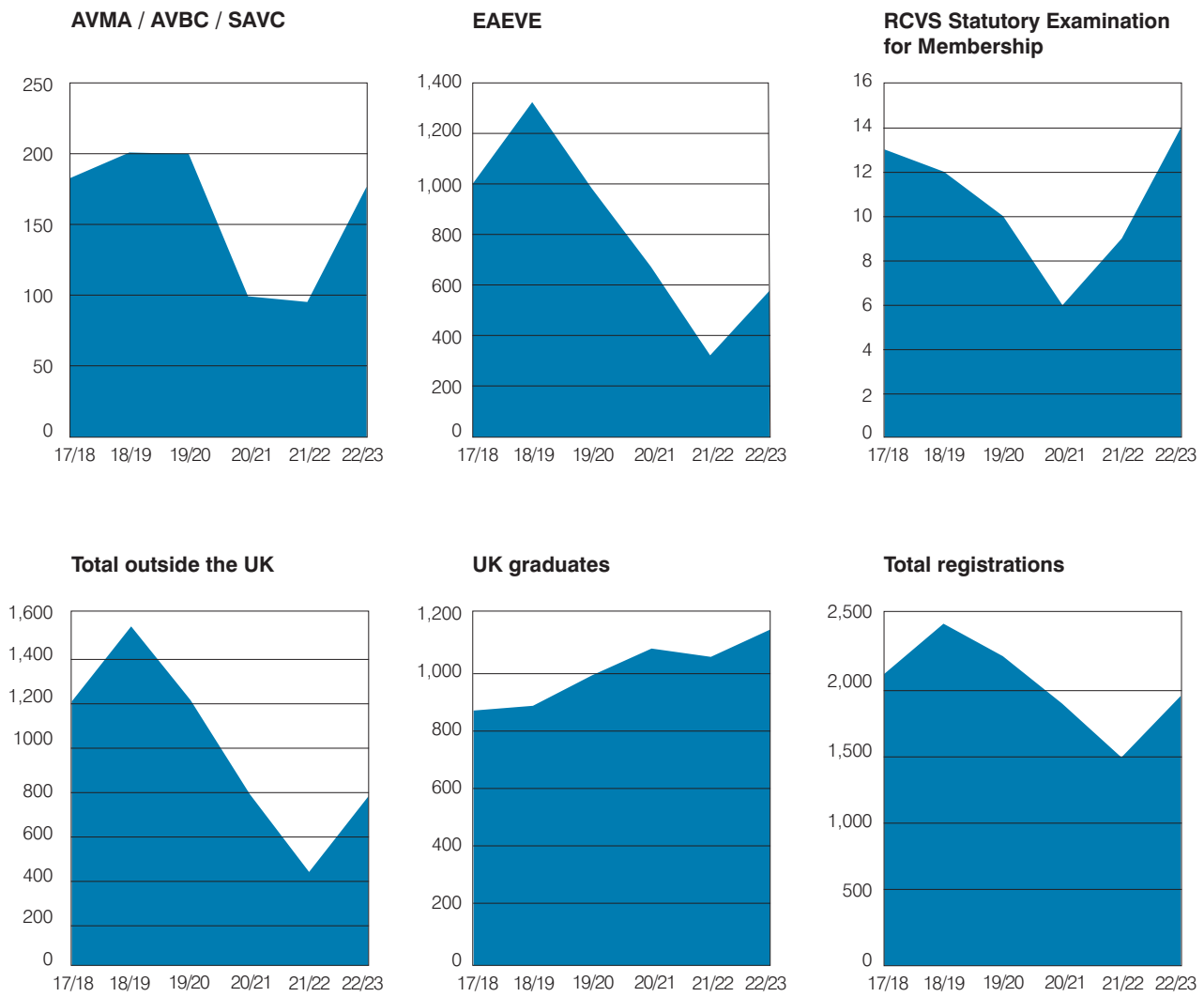


Table 5. Number of new nurse registrations 1 April 2022–31 March 2023 based on registrant's country of graduation / qualification recognition

Names entered on	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Non-EU/EEA					
Australia	15	18	14	6	15
Canada	0	1	2	1	1
New Zealand	7	6	5	1	6
South Africa	2	2	1	7	10
United States of America	4	2	3	3	9
Hong Kong	3	0	0	0	5
Serbia	0	0	0	0	0
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	1	1
Sub-total (Non-EU/EEA)	31	29	25	19	47
EU/EEA					
Belgium	1	2	1	2	0
Denmark	0	0	2	0	0
Finland	0	1	0	0	0
France	1	0	0	0	1
Germany	0	0	0	2	0
Ireland	24	21	15	11	37
Italy	3	3	0	2	0
Lithuania	1	1	5	0	0
Netherlands	2	3	0	0	3
Poland	2	2	0	0	0
Portugal	16	11	14	5	2
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	1
Spain	1	0	0	0	0
Sub-total (EU/EEA)	51	44	37	22	44
Total outside UK	82	73	62	41	91
UK qualified veterinary nurses	1,305	1,639	1,581	1,872	1,699
Overall total	1,387	1,712	1,643	1,913	1,790

Figure 11. Trends in registration of veterinary nurses

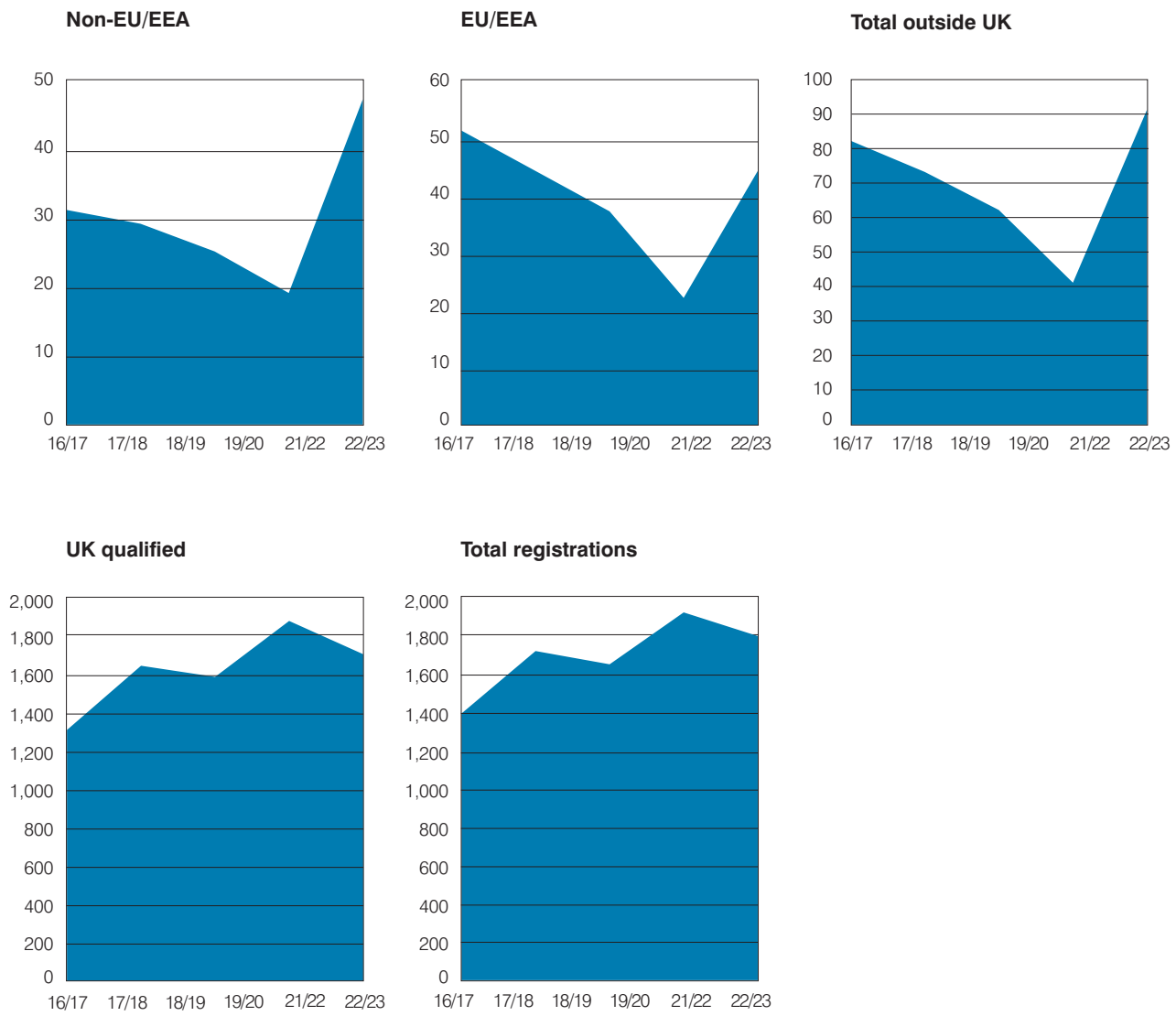


Table 6. Undergraduate student numbers 2022 to 2023

UK veterinary school students		Admissions to the first year of the veterinary course in 2022/2023				Admissions to the second or later year of the veterinary course in 2022/2023				Students admitted with a degree				Total the cou
		M	F	P	Total	M	F	P	Total	M	F	P	Total	
Bristol	UK	32	151	0	202	7	38	0	49	5	28	0	44	170
	EU	0	5	0		0	1	0		1	2	0		5
	Overseas	3	11	0		1	2	0		1	7	0		20
Cambridge	UK	10	52	0	68	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	62
	EU	1	3	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		1
	Overseas	1	1	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		5
Edinburgh	UK	11	70	0	132	1	7	0	66	1	4	0	58	51
	EU	0	8	0		1	0	0		0	0	0		10
	Overseas	5	38	0		5	52	0		6	47	0		42
Glasgow	UK	9	47	0	139	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	62
	EU	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		
	Overseas	18	65	0		0	0	0		14	34	0		69
Liverpool	UK	25	147	0	176	0	0	0	0	12	4	0	16	157
	EU	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		3
	Overseas	0	4	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		2
London	UK	12	96	0	211	2	9	0	109	40	145	0	695	161
	EU	1	2	0		1	2	0		4	13	0		13
	Overseas	18	82	0		11	84	0		66	427	0		39
Nottingham	UK	44	236	0	298	0	0	0	0	7	28	0	37	213
	EU	0	11	0		0	0	0		0	2	0		6
	Overseas	1	6	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		1
Surrey	UK	31	160	0	200	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	17	120
	EU	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	1	0		0
	Overseas	0	7	2		0	0	0		0	0	0		0
TOTALS		222	1,202	2	1,426	29	195	0	224	165	753	0	918	1,212

Key:

M = Male

F = Female

P = Prefer not to say

Total numbers attending veterinary degree course			Veterinary students taking an intercalated science course in 2022/2023				Numbers of intercalated degree holders				Number of applications received for current academic year				Numbers of students obtaining a veterinary degree in 2022				
F	P	Total	M	F		Total	M	F	P	Total	M	F	P	Total	M	F	P	Total	
764	0	1,047	4	10	1	16	4	24	0	29	300	1,401	0	2,064	30	104	0	143	
37	0		0	1	0		0	1	0		0	13	78		0	0	7		0
51	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		0	58	214		0	1	1		0
293	1	386	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	180	0	333	8	40	0	52	
14	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		5	30	0		0	3	0		
10	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		11	48	0		0	1	0		
313	2	776	2	8	0	11	0	22	0	25	209	895	0	1,940	5	69	0	181	
30	0		0	1	0		0	3	0		3	35	0		2	15	0		
328	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		125	670	3		15	75	0		
240	0	682	1	2	0	4	1	2	0	3	94	424	0	1,433	11	55	0	121	
7	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		22	118	0		2	2	0		
303	1		1	0	0		0	0	0		128	642	5		7	44	0		
701	0	889	1	6	0	8	8	3	0	11	221	894	0	1,256	33	122	0	158	
22	0		0	1	0		0	0	0		3	30	0		1	2	0		
4	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		28	80	0		0	0	0		
639	0	1,515	4	16	0	22	3	27	0	37	212	11,55	0	2,331	40	149	0	289	
26	0		2	0	0		0	0	0		24	100	0		1	5	0		
579	0		0	0	0		0	7	0		134	703	3		21	73	0		
948	0	1,225	1	4	0	5	0	0	0	5	460	14,86	0	2,209	24	116	0	142	
40	0		0	0	0		0	5	0		23	32	0		0	1	0		
17	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		67	141	0		0	1	0		
582	3	767	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	3	182	831	0	1,172	22	93	0	125	
43	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		2	5	0		
17	2		0	0	0		0	0	0		32	127	0		0	3	0		
6,008	9	7,287	17	49	1	67	16	97	0	113	2,403	10,314	11	12,738	225	986	0	1,211	

Table 7. Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice:
number of module components as at 31 March 2023

Module code	Module title	Components passed
A-FAVP.1	Foundations of Advanced Veterinary Practice	3,600
A-PKS.1	Professional key skills	667
B-CKS.0	Clinical Key Skills	687
B-EP.3	Equine Practice	992
B-GVM.5	Global Veterinary Medicine	4
B-LAS.4	Laboratory Animal Science	4
B-PAP.2	Production Animal Practice	307
B-SAP.1	Small Animal Practice	2,310
B-ZM.6	Zoological Medicine	102
C-AWSEL.1	AWSE&L – Introduction & Theory	7
C-AWSEL.2	AWSE&L – Applying the Theory	3
C-C.1	Management and Diseases of Beef Cattle	12
C-C.2	Dairy Nutrition and Production	10
C-C.3	Dairy Health and Fertility	12
C-C.4	Bovine Nutrition, Husbandry and Lactogenesis	125
C-C.5	Bovine Reproduction	143
C-C.6	Bovine Mastitis and Lameness	136
C-C.7	Youngstock Rearing and infectious Diseases	154
C-CAM.3	Clinical Camelid Practice B	10
C-E.1	Equine Gastrointestinal Disease & Intensive Care	334
C-E.10	Stallion Reproduction & Breeding Management	98
C-E.11	Equine – Foal, Yearling, Study, Herd Health	145
C-E.12	Equine Dentistry – Equine Dental Anatomy and Physiology	91
C-E.13	Equine Dentistry – Equine Dental Care, Diagnosis & Treatment	107
C-E.14	Equine Dentistry – Equine Dental Surgery	95
C-E.15	Basic Equine Practice Part 1	104
C-E.16	Basic Equine Practice Part 2	108
C-E.17	Basic Equine Practice Part 3	125
C-E.2	Equine Cardiovascular & Respiratory Diseases	285
C-E.3	Equine General Medicine	317
C-E.4	Equine Neuromuscular, Behaviour & Special Senses	147
C-E.5	Basic Equine Surgery	206
C-E.6	Lameness (A)	266
C-E.7	Lameness (B)	227
C-E.9	Mare Reproduction & Breeding Management	133
C-EBVM.1	Evidence-based Veterinary Medicine	88
C-ECC.1	Critical Care	29
C-ECC.2	Emergency Care A	237
C-ECC.3	Emergency Care B	235
C-LAS.1	Laboratory Animals – Anaesthesia & Analgesia	2
C-LAS.2	Animal Models, Human Endpoints & Study Design	2
C-LAS.3	Laboratory Animals – Genetically Modified Animals	1
C-LAS.4	Diseases of Laboratory Animals	2
C-S.1	Sheep – Diseases of Adult Sheep	61
C-S.2	Sheep Reproduction, Pregnancy & Parturition	58
C-S.3	Sheep – Diseases of Lambs & Parasitic Diseases	63
C-SAACP.1	Small Animal Advanced Clinical Practice – Core Medicine	24
C-SAACP.2	Small Animal Advanced Clinical Practice – Core Surgery	24
C-SAACP.3	Small Animal Advanced Clinical Practice – ECC	21
C-SAM.1	Canine - Cardiovascular Disorders...	4
C-SAM.10	Small Animal Medicine C – Mixed	577
C-SAM.2	Canine-gastrointestinal Disorders...	5

Module code	Module title	Components passed
C-SAM.3	Canine-endocrine and Metabolic Disorders...	4
C-SAM.4	Feline-Cartiovascular Disorders...	99
C-SAM.5	Feline-gastrointestinal Disorders	86
C-SAM.6	Feline-endocrine and Metabolic Disorders	73
C-SAM.7	Small Animal Neurology	2
C-SAM.8	Small Animal Medicine A – Mixed	664
C-SAM.9	Small Animal Medicine B – Mixed	619
C-SAS.1	Small Animal Surgery	503
C-SAS.2	Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery (A)	238
C-SAS.3	Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery (B)	278
C-SAS.6	Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery (A)	193
C-SAS.7	Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery (B)	219
C-VA.1	Small Animal Anaesthesia & Analgesia	171
C-VA.2	Equine Anaesthesia & Analgesia	85
C-VA.3	Veterinary Anaesthesia Critical Care Analgesia	300
C-VBM.1	Veterinary Business Management: Marketing	101
C-VBM.2	Veterinary Business Management: Financial Accounting	91
C-VBM.3	Veterinary Business Management: Human Resources	101
C-VBM.4	Veterinary Business Management: Business Strategy	111
C-VC.1	Cardiovascular Anatomy, Physiology & Pathology	163
C-VC.2	Cardiovascular Diagnostics	127
C-VC.3	Cardiovascular Therapeutics	112
C-VCG.1	Clinical Governance in Veterinary Practice	3
C-VCM.1	Principles of Coaching & Mentoring Development in Vet Practice	1
C-VCR.1	Veterinary Clinical Research	2
C-VD.1	Veterinary Dermatology – Core Material	182
C-VD.2	Veterinary Dermatology – Small Animal (A)	136
C-VD.3	Veterinary Dermatology – Small Animal (B)	122
C-VD.4	Veterinary Dermatology – Equine	56
C-VDI.1	Diagnostic Imaging in Practice	206
C-VDI.2	Diagnostic Imaging – Small Animal Orthopaedics	109
C-VDI.3	Diagnostic Imaging – Small Animal Soft Tissue	147
C-VDI.4	Diagnostic Imaging – Large Animal (A)	161
C-VDI.5	Diagnostic Imaging – Large Animal (B)	62
C-VEPI.1	Veterinary Epidemiology: Methods in Surveillance and Field Investigation	1
C-VEPI.3	Veterinary Epidemiology: Quantitative Methods	2
C-VGP1	Veterinary General Practice – Clinical Audit	43
C-VGP2	Veterinary General Practice – Consultation Skills	16
C-VGP3	VGP – Professional Responsibility & Practice	12
C-VML.1	Veterinary Management and Leadership	6
C-VP1	Basic Tissue Pathology, Necropsy & Biopsy	4
C-VP2	Clinical pathology – Laboratory Diagnostics	6
C-VPH.1	Animal Welfare in the Food Chain	3
C-VPH.2	Hygienic Production of Food	2
C-VPH.3	Zoonoses And Infectious Diseases	4
C-VWT.1	Veterinary Workplace Teaching	1
C-ZM.1	Zoological Medicine – Wildlife	33
C-ZM.2	Zoological Medicine – Zoo Animals	31
C-ZM.3	Zoological Medicine – Small Pet Mammals	71
C-ZM.4	Zoological Medicine – Exotic Avian Species	69
C-ZM.5	Zoological Medicine – Reptiles	77
Total		19,414

Table 8. Number of Certificates in Advanced Veterinary Practice awarded as at 31 March 2023

Certificate subject	Designation	Total number of certificates awarded since inception of the modular certificate scheme
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice	CertAVP	1009
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law)	CertAVP(AWSEL)	2
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Camelid Practice)	CertAVP(Cattle)	5
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Cattle)	CertAVP(CP)	51
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Emergency and Critical Care)	CertAVP(ECC)	66
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Dentistry)	CertAVP(ED)	44
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Lameness, Diagnosis and Therapeutics)	CertAVP(EL)	28
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Medicine)	CertAVP(EM)	116
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Practice)	CertAVP(EP)	51
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Soft Tissue Surgery)	CertAVP(ESTS)	1
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Stud Medicine)	CertAVP(ESM)	35
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Surgery – Orthopaedics)	CertAVP(ESO)	62
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Equine Surgery – Soft Tissue)	CertAVP(ESST)	25
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (General Small Animal Surgery)	CertAVP(GSAS)	135
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Sheep)	CertAVP(Sheep)	14
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Small Animal Medicine – Feline)	CertAVP(SAM)	7
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Small Animal Medicine)	CertAVP(SAM)	160
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Small Animal Practice)	CertAVP(SAP)	3
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Anaesthesia)	CertAVP(VA)	16
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Cardiology)	CertAVP(VC)	50
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Dermatology)	CertAVP(VD)	40
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging)	CertAVP(VDI)	42
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Veterinary General Practice)	CertAVP(VetGP)	14
Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Zoological Medicine)	CertAVP(ZM)	53
Total		2,029

Table 9. New Fellows welcomed to the Fellowship in 2023, with breakdown by pathway

Fellowship by Meritorious Contributions to Clinical Practice
Miss Chiara Adami PhD DipECVAA DipACVAA PGCert Vet Ed FRCVS
Miss Priya Bapodra BVetMed MSc DipACZM FRCVS
Dr David Bardell BVSc CertVA DipECVAA PhD FRCVS
Dr Kieran Borgeat BVSc CertVC DipACVIM DipECVIM-CA FHEA FRCVS
Dr Nicolette Hayward BVM&S DVR DipECVDI FRCVS
Dr Anna Hollis BVetMed DipACVIM DipECEIM MSc(Clin Onc) SFHEA FRCVS
Mr Fernando Malalana Martinez DipECEIM PhD FHEA FRCVS
Ms Christina Maunder BVM&S CertSAM DipECVIM-ca FHEA FRCVS
Dr Luca Motta DipECVN FRCVS
Dr Emma O'Neill BVSc BSc PhD DipECVIM-CA DSAM FRCVS
Dr Matthew Oxford BVM&S FRCVS
Dr Aoife Reid MVB CertAVP(ECC) FHEA MSc FRCVS
Dr Sheilah Robertson BVMS PhD CertVA DipECVAA DipACVAA DipECAWBM(AWSEL) FRCVS
Miss Eleanor West MA VetMB DipECVAA CertVA FRCVS
Fellowship by Meritorious Contributions to Knowledge
Prof Philippa Beard BVSc PhD FRCVS
Dr Andrew Catley BVetMed MSc PhD DipECVPH FRCVS
Prof Jonathan Heeney DVM DVSc PhD DSc FRCPATH FRCVS
Prof Christopher Loughrey BVMS PhD FRSB FRCVS FRCVS
Prof Carmel Mooney PhD MVB MPhil DipECVIM-CA FRCVS
Dr Georgios Oikonomou PhD FRCVS
Fellowship by Meritorious Contributions to the Profession
Dr Elizabeth Mullineaux BVM&S CertSHP DVM&S FRCVS
Dr Dorina Carter-Timofte PhD DipECVIM FRCVS
Prof Jonathan Elliott MA VetMB PhD CertSAC DipECVPT FHEA FRCVS
Dr Tiffany Hemming BVMS MBA MSc CertWEL PhD DipACVPM DipACVPM (Epidemiology) MA FRCVS
Mr Paul Higgs VetMB BA CertSAM DipECVIM FRCVS
Mr Ian Mawhinney BVSc FRCVS
Dr Alessandro Seguino CertVPH (FH) DipECVPH FRCVS

Figure 12. Current holders of RCVS postgraduate statuses, qualifications and awards

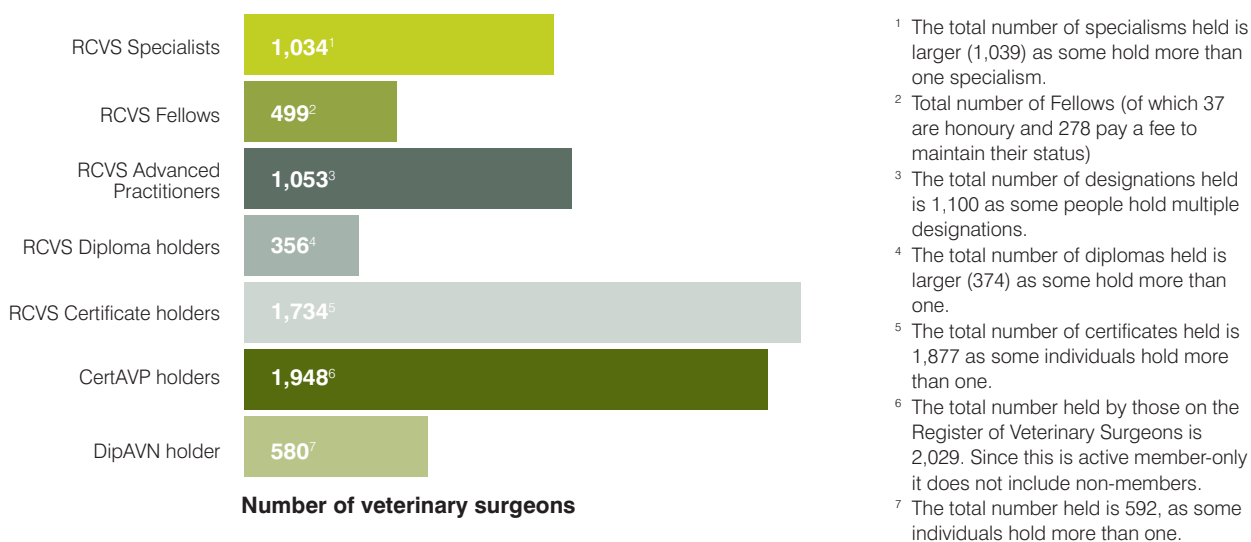


Table 10. Number of Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (DipAVN) and Certificates in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (CertAVN) awarded

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
DipAVN(Small Animal)	34	35	34	33	29	49	19	19	1
DipAVN(Equine)	-	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-
CertAVN	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	62	79

In 2015 and 2016, the Diplomas were awarded during the year under review, although published in April. The DipAVN has now been replaced by the CertAVN. The first Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Nursing was awarded in 2021. The number of CertAVNs for 2022 has been updated from 58 to 62.

Table 11. Number of veterinary nursing training practices, Awarding Organisations and Higher Education Institutions

	01/01/2018	01/01/2019	01/01/2020	01/01/2021	01/01/2022	01/01/2023
Training practices	2,620	2,777	2,856	2,891	2,935	3,038
Awarding organisations	2	3	3	3	3	4
Higher education institutions	19	20	21	22	22	21

Table 12 RCVS CPD requirements for vets (calendar year 2023)

Reflected hours	Count	%
0	4,263	17%
0.25 – 5.75	375	1%
6 – 14.75	392	2%
15 – 25.75	476	2%
26 – 34.75	472	2%
35+	19,334	76%
Total	25,312	100%

Vets must record 35 hours of CPD per calendar year using 1CPD and reflect on that learning.

The data presented here show reflected CPD hours for those vet surgeons who were in the UK practising category on the Register for the full calendar year.

On 1 January 2024 there were 30,155 UK Practising veterinary surgeons on the Register. The data presented here exclude any that first registered, changed category or were restored to the Register in 2023, any that had an approved pause request in 2023, and any who had an active enrolment on VetGDP in 2023.

Table 13 RCVS CPD requirements for vet nurses (calendar year 2023)

Reflected hours	Count	%
0	3,343	16%
0.25 – 5.75	652	3%
6 – 14.75	1,055	5%
15 – 25.75	13,475	63%
26 – 34.75	1,166	5%
35+	1,560	7%
Total	21,251	100%

Vet nurses must record 15 hours of CPD per calendar year using 1CPD and reflect on that learning.

The data presented here shows reflected CPD hours for those vet nurses who were on the Register for the full calendar year.

On 1 January 2024 there were 23,506 registered veterinary nurses. The data presented here exclude any that first registered or were restored to the Register in 2023, or any that had an approved pause request in 2023.

Table 14 Number and category of concerns registered and written requests for advice received (for both veterinary surgeons and registered veterinary nurses)

Category	Concerns	Advice
Referrals and second opinions	1	17
Veterinary care	407	144
24-hour emergency first aid and pain relief	20	134
Veterinary medicines	10	332
Communication between professional colleagues	1	10
Equine pre-purchase examinations	3	11
Euthanasia of animals	7	16
Euthanasia of animals – 'Tuk's law'	3	0
Practice information, fees & animal insurance	3	100
Fair trading requirements	0	13
Communication and consent	14	20
Use and re-use of samples, images, post mortems and disposal	0	15
Clinical and client records	8	51
Client confidentiality	3	56
Health	4	7
Performance	1	1
Veterinary teams and leaders	0	22
Delegation to veterinary nurses	0	160
Treatment of animals by unqualified persons	1	186
Certification	5	42
Giving evidence for court	1	9
Advertising, endorsement, and publicity	2	349
Named veterinary surgeons	0	2
Miscellaneous procedures	6	30
Social media and online networking forums	2	12
Microchips and animals without microchips	1	32
CPD compliance	1	0
Registration investigation	1	1
Restoration	0	1
Appeal against DC decision / sanction	1	0
Convictions	7	7
Covid-19	0	11
Data protection	0	4
Raising concerns about a colleague	3	12
Riding establishments	0	15
Working hours	0	4
Recognised veterinary practice	1	36
Clinical governance	0	2
Other	0	232
Total	517	2,096

Euthanasia of animals – Tuk's law'.

'Tuk's law is the requirement for a veterinary surgeon to check the microchip of a dog if it is presented for euthanasia which, in the opinion of the veterinary surgeon, is not necessary either for clinical/behavioural or for welfare reasons.'

Figure 13 Number of concerns raised about veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses
1 April 2022 to 31 Mar 2023

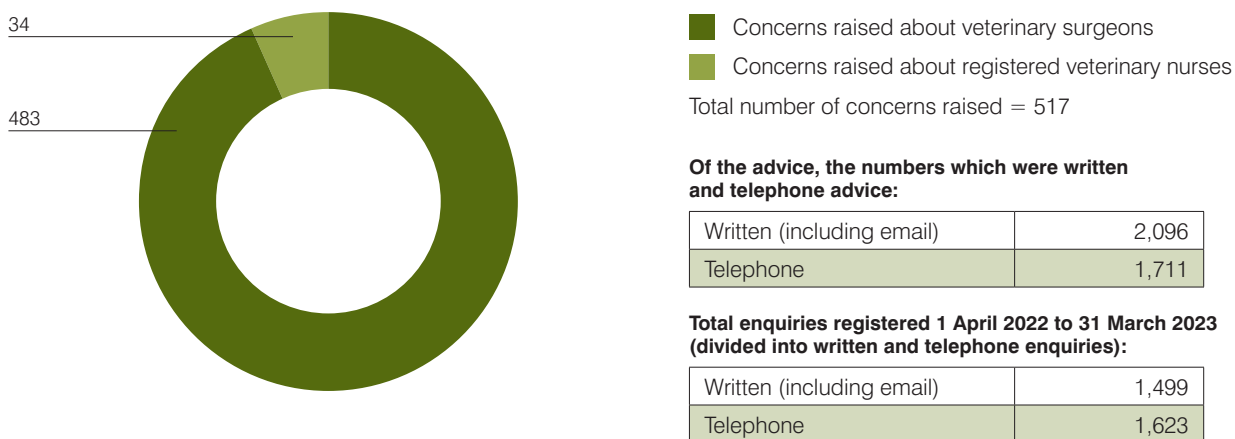


Table 15 Number and type of case examinations and investigations by the Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC) / Registered Veterinary Nurses Preliminary Investigation Committee (RVN PIC)

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Announced visits to veterinary practices and those raising concerns (No of interviews)	2 (2)	4 (5)	2 (1)
Unannounced visits to veterinary practices (No of interviews)	2 (1)	2 (0)	6 (6)
Health Protocol visits (No of interviews)	0	0	0
Performance Protocol visits (No of interviews)	0	0	0
Review visits (No of interviews)	0	0	0
Referral to external solicitors (No of formal witness statements taken)	25 (124)	24 (91)	28 (251)
Registration investigations (No of interviews)	0	0	0
Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 – liaising with other agencies	6	5	4

NB: Generally, it is the PIC and RVN PIC that refers concerns raised to external solicitors.

Table 16 Summary of Disciplinary Committee (DC) hearings 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Scheduled dates	Number of respondents	Days listed	Days sat	Complaint concerning	Outcome	Cost (£) ¹
Veterinary surgeons						
25/04/22 (One-day hearing) 15/11/21 – 19/11/21 (Five-day hearing) This was a resumed hearing of an inquiry which was adjourned in November 2021.	1	7	6	Allegations of failing to provide adequate and appropriate care for a dog, failing to keep adequate clinical records and failing to adequately communicate with the dog's owner.	Case dismissed.	£93,008
04/04/22 – 06/04/22 & 24/05/22 – 25/05/22 (Five-day hearing).	1	5	5	Conviction for conspiracy to commit fraud by false representation.	Suspended from the Register for a period of one month.	£64,835
08/06/22 (One-day hearing).	1	1	1	Application to be restored to the Register.	Application refused.	£13,402
14/06/22 – 20/06/22 (Five-day hearing).	3	7	5	Allegations of dishonesty in relation to the submission of mobility score assessment readings as part of a dairy animal health and welfare scheme.	Each of three individuals – suspended from the Register for a period of one month.	£44,980
02/09/22 (One-day hearing).	1	4	3	Allegations of taking controlled drugs from a practice other than for legitimate veterinary use and reporting for work while unfit to do so. Allegations of failing to respond adequately or at all to reasonable requests from the RCVS in relation to the concerns raised against him.	Removed from the Register.	£7,905
20/09/22 – 22/09/22 (Three-day hearing).	1	4	3	Allegations of taking controlled drugs from a practice other than for legitimate veterinary use and reporting for work while unfit to do so. Allegations of failing to respond adequately or at all to reasonable requests from the RCVS in relation to the concerns raised against him.	Removed from the Register.	£36,290
01/11/22 (One-day hearing) 27/04/22- 28/04/22 (Two-day hearing) This was a resumed hearing of an inquiry which was adjourned in April 2022.	1	4	3	Allegations relating to fraudulent pet insurance claims.	Misconduct found – decision on sanction postponed for a period of two years with undertakings.	£12,834
01/12/22 – 06/12/22 (Four-day hearing) 11/07/22 – 22/07/22 (Ten-day hearing) This was a resumed hearing of an inquiry which was adjourned in July 2022.	1	14	14	Allegations related to various aspects of the Respondent's conduct about documents submitted with animals going for slaughter and that the conduct risked undermining procedures designed to promote public health and welfare.	Suspended from the Register for a period of six months.	£139,032

Table 16 Summary of Disciplinary Committee (DC) hearings 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (continued)

Scheduled dates	Number of respondents	Days listed	Days sat	Complaint concerning	Outcome	Cost (£) ¹
Veterinary surgeons						
20/02/23 – 24/02/23 (Five-day hearing).	1	5	5	Allegations of kicking a horse in the abdomen following an examination.	Misconduct found – reprimand and warning.	£69,260
09/03/23 – 10/03/23 (Two-day hearing).	1	2	2	Application to be restored to the Register.	Application granted.	£30,797
20/03/23 – 21/03/23 (Two-day hearing) 20/02/23 (One-day hearing) 07/11/22 – 11/11/22 & 22/11/22 – 28/11/22 (Ten-day hearing) This hearing covered proceedings from the adjourned hearings on 28 November 2022 and 20 February 2023	1	15	13	Allegations relating to clinical and communications failings in respect of surgery carried out on two separate dogs on two separate occasions.	Case dismissed.	£110,068
Registered veterinary nurses						
22/08/22 – 23/08/22 (Two-day hearing).	1	3	2	Allegations of dishonestly taking prescription-only veterinary medication, as well as pet food, from a practice.	Suspended from the Register for a period of three months.	£23,163
20/09/22 – 21/09/22 (Two-day hearing).	1	4	2	Allegations of falsifying clinical records and holding herself out and practising as a registered veterinary nurse, despite not being on the RCVS Register at the time.	Removed from the Register.	£34,958
27/09/22 – 28/09/22 (Two-day hearing).	1	2	2	Conviction for being drunk in an aircraft.	Misconduct found – reprimand and warning.	£10,483
25/10/22 – 26/10/22.	1	2	2	Conviction for offences related to indecent images of children.	Removed from the Register.	£11,007
27/03/23 – 31/03/23 (Five-day hearing).	1	5	5	Allegations relating to the post-operative care of a dog which was left unattended for over two hours, which was covered up by the Respondent with dishonest and misleading clinical records and communications with colleagues.	Suspended from the Register for a period of six months.	£38,407

¹ The cost of the case to the RCVS includes all external legal costs from receipt of the concern onwards, and the cost of the Preliminary Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, but excludes RCVS staff costs. Costs have not been incurred exclusively in the year under review and may have been incurred in previous years.

Table 17 Summary of appeals to the Privy Council

Scheduled dates	Number of respondents	Days listed	Days sat	Complaint concerning	Outcome	Cost (£)
N/A – Appeal withdrawn.	1			Appeal against the DC decision to suspend name from the Register.	Appeal withdrawn by the appellant.	RCVS costs: £14,356. Each party paid their own costs.

Table 18. VN Council membership and attendance 1 April 20221 – 31 March 2023

	VN Council	VN Education Committee
Elected members		
Jessica Beckett RVN	3/3	
Elizabeth Cox RVN	0/1	
Susan Howarth RVN	4/4	5/6
Donna Lewis RVN	3/4	
Matthew Rendle RVN	4/4	
Claire Roberts RVN	4/4	
Holly Witchell RVN	2/3	
Appointed veterinary nurse members		
Belinda Andrews-Jones RVN	4/4	
Kate Kissick RVN	2/4	
Appointed veterinary surgeon members		
Susan Paterson MRCVS	3/4	
Katherine Richards MRCVS	4/4	
Appointed lay members		
Alison Carr	4/4	
Dominic Dyer	2/4	
Sarah Fox	4/4	4/6
Stephanie Richardson	2/4	

Table 19. Number of permanent RCVS and RCVS Knowledge staff

	31/3/22	31/3/23
Permanent RCVS staff	131	94
Permanent RCVS Knowledge staff	17	14

Table 20. Practice Standards Scheme Assessors as at 31 March 2023

Sophie Aylett	Robert Lehner
Elizabeth Barker	Avice O'Connor
Victoria Bullen	Terence Oomerjee
Richard Byrne	Renay Rickard
Jennifer Critchley	Emma Robinson
David Donovan	Rudo Ruvangu
Susan Edwards	Sally Stockton
Victoria Fyfe	Nicholas Stuart
Lindsay Hawkins	Bridget Taylor
David Kazemi	Samantha Thompson
Anne Lawson	Charles Thursby-Pelham

Table 21. Council and committee membership and attendance 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

	Cncl	APC	ARC	EC	FRC	PIC/DC LC	RC	Stndrds	Total
Number of meetings in above period	7	4	4	4	4	4	4	11	42
Elected members									
Dr L H Allum MRCVS	5/7							11/11	14
Miss L S Belton MRCVS	7/7					3/3		11/11	21
Dr A L Calow MRCVS	5/5			3/3			4/4		12
Dr D S Chambers MRCVS	7/7						2/4	7/11	16
Dr N T Connell FRCVS	7/7	1/1	4/4	4/4	4/4	4/4	4/4		28
Mrs O D R Cook MRCVS	5/5					3/3		7/8	15
Dr M A Donald MRCVS	7/7					1/1	4/4	3/3	15
Mrs J M Dyer MRCVS	7/7	4/4							11
Dr M M S Gardiner MRCVS	7/7	4/4	3/4					10/11	24
Dr M O Greene MRCVS	1/2	1/1							2
Professor S A May FRCVS	6/7				4/4				10
Dr S Paterson FRCVS	6/7	4/4		1/1	3/4		4/4		18
Dr K A Richards MRCVS	6/7	3/3		3/3	4/4	4/4	4/4		24
Col N C Smith FRCVS	2/2					1/1			3
Dr C M Whiting MRCVS	2/2	1/1		1/1		1/1			5
Mr W A S Wilkinson MRCVS	5/5					1/3		6/8	12
Appointed Members (Vet Schools/Vet Schools Council)¹									
Professor T D H Parkin FRCVS (B)	5/7			4/4		5/7		2/3	16
Professor C J Proudman FRCVS (S)	7/7			2/4		7/7	2/4		18
Professor J L N Wood FRCVS (C)	5/7					5/7			10

Key

Cncl – RCVS Council
 APC – Advancement of the Professions Committee
 ARC – Audit and Risk Committee
 EC – Education Committee
 FRC – Finance and Resources Committee
 PIC/DC LC – PIC/DC Liaison Committee
 RC – Registration Committee
 Stndrds – Standards Committee

Universities:

B = Bristol
C = Cambridge
E = Edinburgh
G = Glasgow
Lv = Liverpool
Ln = London
N = Nottingham
S = Surrey

Table 19. RCVS Council and committee membership and attendance 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

	Cncl	APC	ARC	EC	FRC	PIC/DC LC	RC	Stndrds	Total
Number of meetings in above period	7	4	4	4	4	4	4	11	42
Appointed Members (Lay)									
Professor D Bray	7/7		3/4						10
Mr J M Castle	7/7							10/11	17
Ms L Ford	6/7			4/4	4/4		4/4		18
Mrs C-L McLaughlan	7/7				4/4			9/11	20
Mr T J Walker	6/7	4/4			4/4				14
Ms J S M Worthington	7/7				4/4	4/4			15
Appointed Members (Veterinary Nurse)									
Mrs B S Andrews-Jones RVN	4/7	3/3			2/4		4/4	11/11	24
Mr M E Rendle RVN	7/7	2/3			1/4				10
Observer									
Dr C H Middlemiss MRCVS	0/7								0

This section lists the members of RCVS Council and committees, and VN Council members, from 9 July 2022 to 8 July 2023, and their attendance record during the year under review (1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023).

¹ Governance LRO next transitional step moved from an appointed member from each vet school, to 3 members in total appointed by Vet Schools Council from 10/7/20..

Key

- Cncl – RCVS Council
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