

ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

V

MR JOHN FRANCIS McKENNA

STATEMENT FROM MR MARTYN JONES MP

I want to make it clear that I am voluntarily standing down from this committee for this case, not because I accept Mr Corless's argument because I do not but simply because I don't want to cause the Council to become embroiled in an unnecessary appeal over this aspect of the matter.

I shall continue to speak my mind in public in the way expected of me as an MP; it is my duty so to do. I am perfectly satisfied that although I have developed opinions of many aspects of life and in the nature of things on veterinary issues, I have never felt that this has got in the way of me acting in a judicial capacity in an impartial fair manner.

I cannot conceal my dislike of being put in a category where it may be thought that I could be biased.

I am sorry that this case will continue without me because I feel that in cases of this kind and others that I add a valuable perspective as a lay person to what are essentially professional veterinary matters. Finally I want to make it very clear that no one should expect me in the future to voluntarily withdraw from the Committee on the grounds addressed in this case. I shall not do so.

12 December 2006