

<b>Summary</b>	
Meeting	Council
Date	8 June 2023
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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<b>Classifications</b>		
<b>Document</b>	<b>Classification<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Rationales<sup>2</sup></b>
Paper	Unclassified	n/a

**<sup>1</sup>Classifications 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.

**<sup>2</sup>Classification rationales**

Confidential	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To allow the Committee or Council to come to a view itself, before presenting to and/or consulting with others</li> <li>2. To maintain the confidence of another organisation</li> <li>3. To protect commercially sensitive information</li> <li>4. To maintain public confidence in and/or uphold the reputation of the veterinary professions and/or the RCVS</li> </ol>
Private	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> </ol>

# Registered Veterinary Nurses Preliminary Investigation Committee

## Report to Council

### Introduction

1. Since the last Report to Council, there has been two meetings of the RVN Preliminary Investigation Committee, which took place on 4 April and 16 May 2023.

### RVN Concerns received / registered

2. In the period 4 March to 26 May 2023, there were 10 new Concerns relating to RVNs. Of these 10 new Concerns:
  - One case closed at Stage 1 PIC.
  - Eight are currently under investigation by a Case Manager, Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary surgeon, and a lay member (Stage 1 Preliminary Investigation Committee)
  - One case was referred to Stage 2 PIC.

### RVN Preliminary Investigation Committee

3. Two new cases have been considered by the RVN PIC between 4 March to 26 May 2023. Both cases were referred to external solicitors for formal statements to be taken. At the meeting on 16 May, the Committee considered an ongoing case and decided to refer it to the RVN Disciplinary Committee for a formal hearing.

### Ongoing Investigations

4. Three concerns are currently under investigation and will be returned to the RVN PIC for a decision in due course.

### Health Concerns

5. At the meeting on 4 April 2023, the Committee considered a case where the Respondent RVN has been subject to undertakings given under the RCVS Health Protocol for a number of years. The Committee agreed that the case should be closed, and the Respondent released from their undertakings. There are no other RVNs on the 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, one case has been referred to the RVN Disciplinary Committee. This will be listed for a hearing in due course.

### Disciplinary Hearings

8. A disciplinary hearing took place between 27 and 31 March 2023 in relation to Libby Morris. The Disciplinary Committee found all the allegations proved and decided that the RVN's name should be suspended from the Register for a period of six months.

### Operational matters

9. The training for PIC members in relation to the new Charter Case Committee was postponed and will take place shortly, with a date to be confirmed. A full day's general training was held in person on 15 May 2023 for PIC and VNPIC members, along with members of the Professional Conduct department, with talks on relevant issues and case law, and case studies for discussion.
  
10. The RVN PIC has recently welcomed Susan Holt RVN whose term began in March 2023. At the end of June 2023, we will say goodbye to our Chair and Vice-Chair (Suzanne Edwards RVN and Susan Little MRCVS) who have served on the Committee for 8 years. We are very grateful for the contributions they have made to the Committee, and we will miss their vast experience and knowledge.