

Summary

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| Meeting | Standards Committee |
| Date | 3 December 2025 |
| Title | Standards Committee Minutes |
| Summary | <p>Minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held in-person and remotely on Wednesday 3 December 2025, at 10am.</p> <p>The Committee's attention is drawn to paragraphs 1-19 of the classified appendix.</p> |
| Attachments | Classified appendix |
| Author | <p>Ky Richardson</p> <p>Senior Standards and Advice Officer/Solicitor</p> <p>k.richardson@rcvs.org.uk / 0207 202 0757</p> |

Classifications

| Document | Classification ¹ | Rationales ² |
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| Minutes | Unclassified | n/a |
| Classified appendix | Confidential | 1 |

1 Classifications explained

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| 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. |

2 Classification rationales

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| 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 |

Minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held in-person on 3 December 2025, at 10am

Members: Olivia Cook (Chair)
Sinéad Bennett (Vice Chair)
Derek Bray
Linda Ford
Christopher Loughrey
Matthew Rendle
Tim Walker
David Black
Sam Bescoby
Abbie Calow
Linda Belton (Officer Observer)

In attendance:

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| RCVS | Gemma Kingswell | Head of Legal Services (Standards) |
| | Beth Jinks | Standards and Advisory Lead |
| | Ky Richardson | Senior Standards and Advice Officer/Solicitor |
| | Annelise Samuels | Senior Standards and Advice Officer |
| | Bri McLachlan | Standards and Advice Administrator |
| VetCompass | Stuart Becker | |

AI 1 Apologies for absence, declarations of interest, minutes of the meeting of 22 October 2025

1. Apologies were received from Derek Bray and Matthew Rendle.
2. The minutes of the meeting of 22 October 2025 were agreed by the Committee.

Matters for discussion

AI 2 (a) UCOOH - discussion and Vet Compass presentation – confidential

3. The minutes of this agenda item can be found in the classified appendix at paragraphs 1 – 8.

AI 2 (b) Artificial intelligence – confidential

4. The minutes of this agenda item can be found in the classified appendix at paragraphs 9 - 13.

AI 2 (c) Revision of Chapter 13

5. The Committee was thanked for its comments on the proposed changes to Chapter 13 of the supporting guidance provided at its last meeting. A full re-draft of the chapter is now in progress and to inform that work, the Committee was referred to the relevant paper setting out key elements to be included and asked whether anything was missing.
6. The Committee made the following comments:
 - a. Paragraph 2. d., of the paper references retention periods and the use of AI. AI is a wider issue but the guidance on retention periods should be put back in as it is important.
 - b. The current language in the *Code of Professional Conduct*, i.e., clear, detailed, and accurate, may encourage the professions to write more than is required. Outcomes-focused language that empowers the professions to judge what is relevant in each case may be more helpful.
 - c. Guidance on amending clinical and client records and the requirement for an audit trail should be maintained in the new chapter.

AI 2 (d) CMA provisional remedies – confidential

7. The minutes of this agenda item can be found in the classified appendix at paragraphs 14 – 19.

Matters for decision

AI 3 (a) Certification Subcommittee – annual review

8. The Chair of the Certification Subcommittee, Kate Richards, summarised the paper, providing an overview of the work and the proposed structure of the Subcommittee moving forwards. The Committee was asked to approve the proposed structure, with or without comment.
9. The Committee approved the proposed structure and invited consideration of how industry might feed into policy making with the RCVS in the future. The Secretary to the Subcommittee confirmed that due consideration will be given to this.

Matters for report

AI 4(a) Disciplinary Committee Report

10. The report was noted.

AI (5) Risk and equality

11. No new risks were reported.

AI 6 Any other business and date of next meeting

12. The next meeting will be on 11 February 2026 and will be a remote meeting.