

## Registration Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 21 October 2025 at 10:00 am to be held remotely via Microsoft Teams

Agenda Item	Classification	Rationale
<b>1. Welcome &amp; apologies for absence</b>	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
<b>2. Declarations of interest</b>	Oral report Unclassified	n/a
<b>3. Matters arising</b>	Oral report	
<b>4. Matters for decision</b>		
4a. Election/appointment of Vice-Chair	Oral report	
4b. Changes to temporary registration advertising requirements	<b>Confidential</b>	<b>1,4</b>
4c. Temporary registration application	<b>Confidential &amp; private</b>	<b>1,2,4,5</b>
<b>5. Matters for discussion</b>		
5a. Draft RCVS Exit Survey Report 2022-24	<b>Confidential</b>	<b>1</b>
5b. Registration Statistics Report	Unclassified	n/a
<b>6. Matters for noting</b>		
6a. Draft Registration Appeal Rules	Oral report	
<b>7. Any other business (AOB)</b>	Oral report	
<b>8. Date of the next formal meeting</b> Tuesday, 28 April 2026 (remote)	Oral report Unclassified	n/a

## Registration Committee – Terms of Reference

1. The Committee shall comprise the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer of the College, together with two veterinary members of Council, a veterinary nurse member to be appointed by Veterinary Nurse Council (VNC), and a lay member of Council or VNC. The Committee shall be chaired by one of the Officers of the College, who will chair for a three-year term. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Registrar, and Director of Operations shall attend and participate in the meeting but shall be non-voting members.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for activities relating to the registration of veterinary and veterinary nurse members of the College (and, in due course, other Associate members of the College), and will provide and make recommendations to Council and/or VNC on matters relating to registration as appropriate.
3. Responsibilities will include but are not limited to:
  - a. Reviewing and monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (VSA) 1966 related to the registration of veterinary surgeons; (in conjunction with the Education Committee as appropriate);
  - b. Reviewing and monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the Veterinary Nurse Registration Rules related to the registration of veterinary nurses; (in conjunction with VNC);
  - c. Reviewing and monitoring the policies and procedures relating to registration and publication of the Register;
  - d. Advising in relation to the creation of new categories of Associate members of the RCVS;
  - e. Keeping under review data relating to Find-A-Vet;
  - f. Monitoring registration activities (including trends in Registration for both veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses);
  - g. Monitoring reports from relevant Appeal panels, ie
    - the Examination Appeals Committee;
  - h. Considering applications for Temporary Registration in accordance with the VSA 1966; and,
  - i. Reporting to Council on a regular basis summarising the work that comes under its purview (usually via the minutes of its meetings).

<b>Summary</b>	
Meeting	Registration Committee
Date	21 October 2025
Title	Registration statistics report
Summary	An overview of key statistics with commentary on trends or points of interest.
Decisions required	None
Attachments	Annex A - Registration Committee data
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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
Annex A	Unclassified	n/a

## Background

1. The purpose of this regular report is to provide a current picture of the trends across registration data for vets, vet nurses, and practice premises, in order to provide the Committee with insight for any future actions, considerations, or changes.
2. The data is mainly presented by quarters. Graphs have been provided, where possible, however some data sets are too wide ranging, meaning a graph does not represent a good visual representation of the information. A table of figures have been provided for every data set commented on.
3. At the last meeting in April 2025, the period under review included up to Q1 2025. As the committee meetings are twice a year, commentary has in the main, been provided on the last two quarters (Q2 2025 & Q3 2025) compared to the respective quarters of the previous year. There are times when other years or quarters are used for comparative reasons.

## Current picture and commentary

Please view attached annex one for the Registration data

### Vet Registrations

4. The first theme to highlight is that veterinary surgeon registrations for UK-practising overseas nationals decreased in Q2 2025, when comparing with Q2 2024. There were sixty-eight less Registrations which we believe is largely because of visa changes. The minimum salary requirement for overseas vets increased and this has had an impact on newly graduated overseas nationals applying. There has been an increase of thirty-one in Q3 2025 over Q3 2024, with the main increase coming in August and September. The Registration team advised that some data cleansing work had assisted in clearing some longer standing applications and we did see an increase in applicants from Hong Kong and the Commonwealth during this period, which is likely to be the reason for a higher number in Q3 2025.

Based on overall volume across the year, overseas registrations are decreasing when compared to 2024 and this is likely to continue for the remainder of 2025. However there has been a higher pass rate through the Statutory Membership exam in 2025 and increased volumes, which may lead to more registrants in the future.

5. There was an increase in UK Graduate registrations in Q2 2025, compared to the same period in 2024. An overall increase of 167 registrations. This was slightly balanced by a decrease of twenty-eight registrations in Q3 2025 (256), compared to Q3 2024 (282). Therefore, an overall increase across the two quarters being reviewed in 2025 of 139. The reason for the increase is due to 145 more students being on the submitted pass lists, including the new vet school Harper & Keele with ninety-one admitted to the register in 2025.
6. Temporary Registrations have shown a considerable decrease in 2025. This is due to the Temporary Registration Novice Official Veterinarians (TRNOV) scheme ending in December 2024. The purpose of the scheme was to address the veterinary workforce issue in delivering official controls in slaughterhouses. This was first approved in 2021 and in June 2023 an 18-month extension was granted by council, with the scheme ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. This is due to be reviewed again by council in June 2026. An email was sent when the scheme ended from the Head of Registration advising that there should be no more bulk recruitment of TRNOVs and that TRNOVs will only be recruited if all other recruitment methods were unsuccessful. This has resulted in the reduction of Temporary Registrations throughout 2025.

#### **Vet & Practice Premises renewal summary**

7. The practice premises renewal deadline was 1 April 2025 and concluded in May 2025. There were 6620 practices eligible for renewal and of those, 140 (2%) were removed for non-payment of the fee in May. This was the same removal percentage in 2024. There have since been seventy restorations to the register between the non-payment removals and October 1, 2025.
8. The vet surgeon renewal deadline was 1 April 2025 and concluded in early June 2025. There were 37,216 vets eligible for renewal and of those, 506 (1.4%) were removed for non-payment of the fee. For comparison there were 479 removals for non-payment in June 2024 (1.3%). There have been 108 restorations to the register between the non-payment removals and October 1, 2025.
9. Further observations on the vet renewal period is an increase in voluntary removals between March and June 2025. 528 vets left the register voluntarily compared to 381 in 2024 and 338 in the same period in 2023. With an increase of 147 on the previous year, this is something to be monitored. The top three reasons of leaving the register remain the same as what has been mentioned in previous Registration statistics reports. These are Relocating overseas, returning overseas and retirement.

If you would like to see more detailed analysis regarding Vets leaving the profession, the exit survey report will be published in November 2025, covering 2022-2024.

10. In the October 2024 Registration Statistics paper, commentary was provided on an increase in change of categories made during the 2024 renewal period compared to 2023. There was no significant increase or decrease in the 2025 renewal, with overall changes of categories at a similar level to 2024.

### Vet Nurse Registrations

11. Vet nurse UK graduate registrations were similar in volume in Q2 2025, compared to Q2 2024. There was an increase of 150 in Q3 2025 compared to Q3 2024. The reasons for this were larger diploma passlists, a higher number of later admissions due to re-sits and some universities had higher graduate numbers in 2025.
12. Vet nurse overseas registrations have increased by five when comparing Q2 2025 to Q2 2024 and decreased by thirteen in Q3 2025 compared to Q3 2024.

There is likely to be a decline in the number of veterinary nurses educated outside the UK entering the RCVS Register. This is primarily due to recent changes in UK visa policy. The minimum salary threshold for the Skilled Worker visa has been raised to a level that is often unattainable for veterinary nurses. More significantly, the UK Government's tightening of migration rules, effective from 22 July 2025, has made it increasingly challenging for non-graduate professions to qualify for a visa. Veterinary nursing, along with over 180 other occupations, have been removed from the list of eligible roles. This is because veterinary nursing is not officially classified as a graduate profession in the UK, despite some courses being delivered at undergraduate level. As a result, a growing number of overseas applicants are withdrawing from the registration process during the assessment or examination stages, often after investing considerable time and financial resources.

### Vet Nurse renewal

13. The vet nurse renewal commenced at the end of September 2025. A renewal notice was sent to 26,370 eligible vet nurses. At the time of drafting this paper (08/10/25), 13,364 nurses have paid the fee (51%), which includes 11,150 nurses that employers are covering the payment. 8044 vet nurses have completed their declarations (30%). The vet nurse deadline is 1 November 2025, with removals for non-payment completed at the beginning of January 2026.

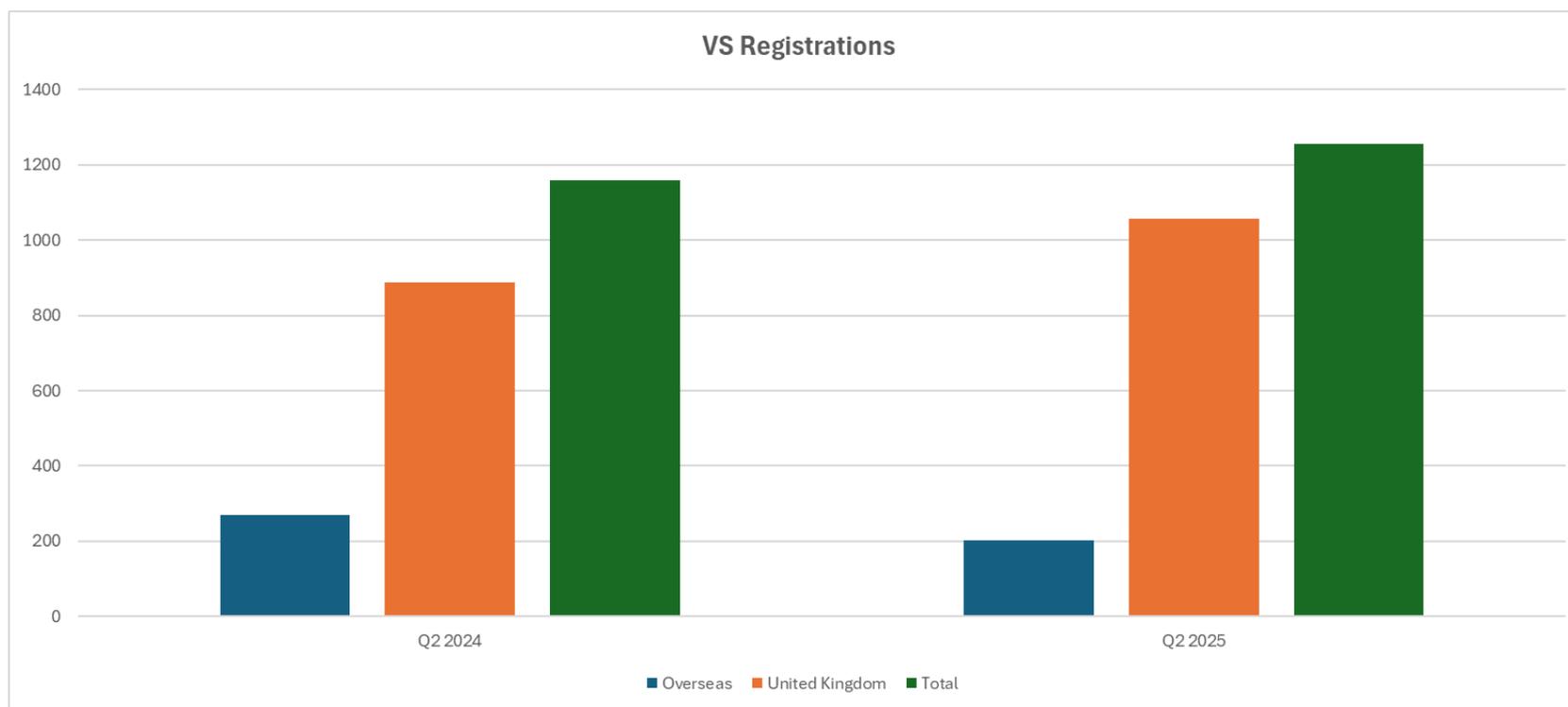
**Vet and Vet Nurse Register movements**

14. These statistics show each category of Registration monthly, and for this report the information has been provided for 2025 and 2024. The data is taken on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, and these tables reflect the movements up to 1 October 2025.

## Annex A – Registration Committee Data

### VS Registrations

	Q2 2024	Q2 2025
Overseas	269	201
United Kingdom	889	1056
Total	1158	1257

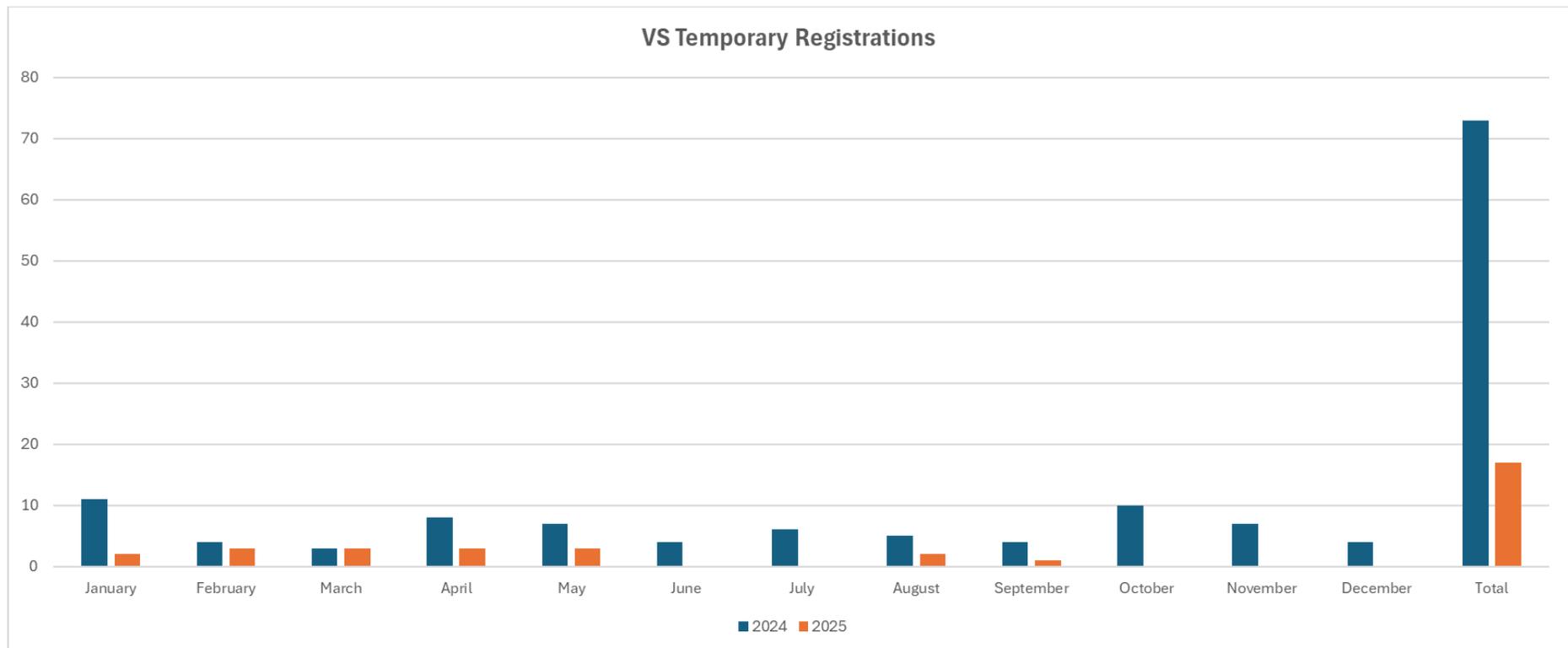


	Q3 2024	Q3 2025
Overseas	176	207
United Kingdom	282	254
Total	458	461



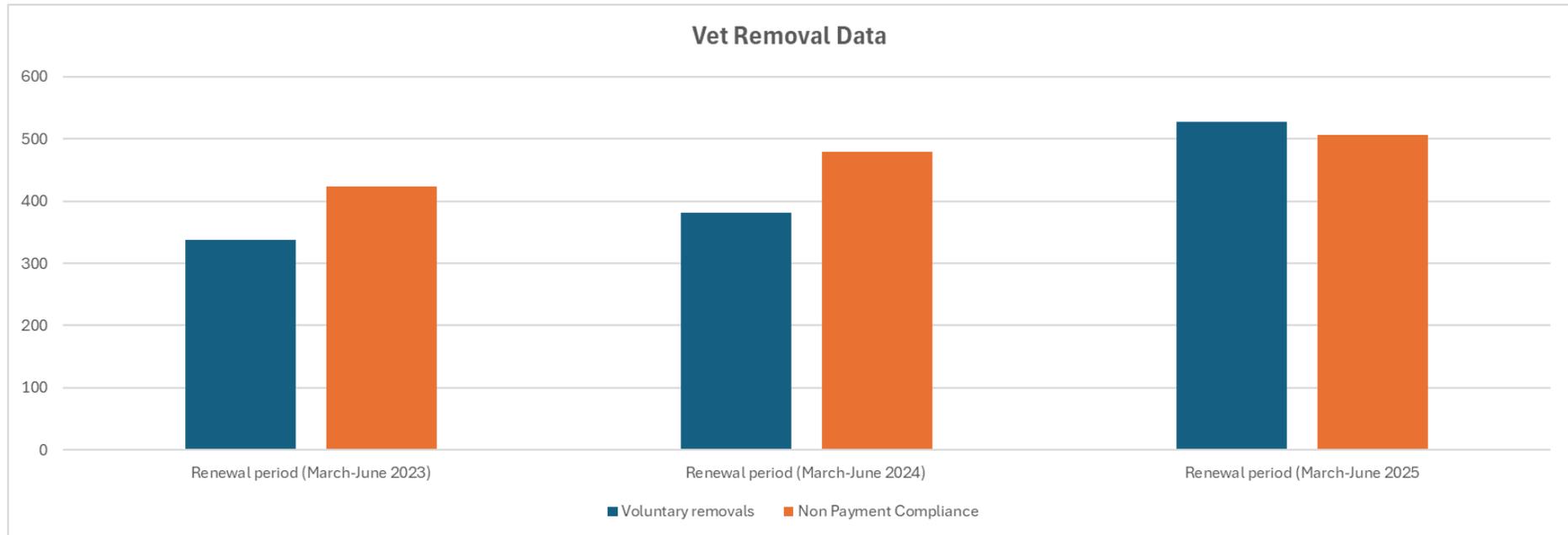
**VS Temporary Registrations**

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2024	11	4	3	8	7	4	6	5	4	10	7	4	73
2025	2	3	3	3	3	0	0	2	1				17



Vet removal data

	Renewal period (March-June 2023)	Renewal period (March-June 2024)	Renewal period (March-June 2025)
Voluntary removals	338	381	528
Non Payment Compliance	423	479	506

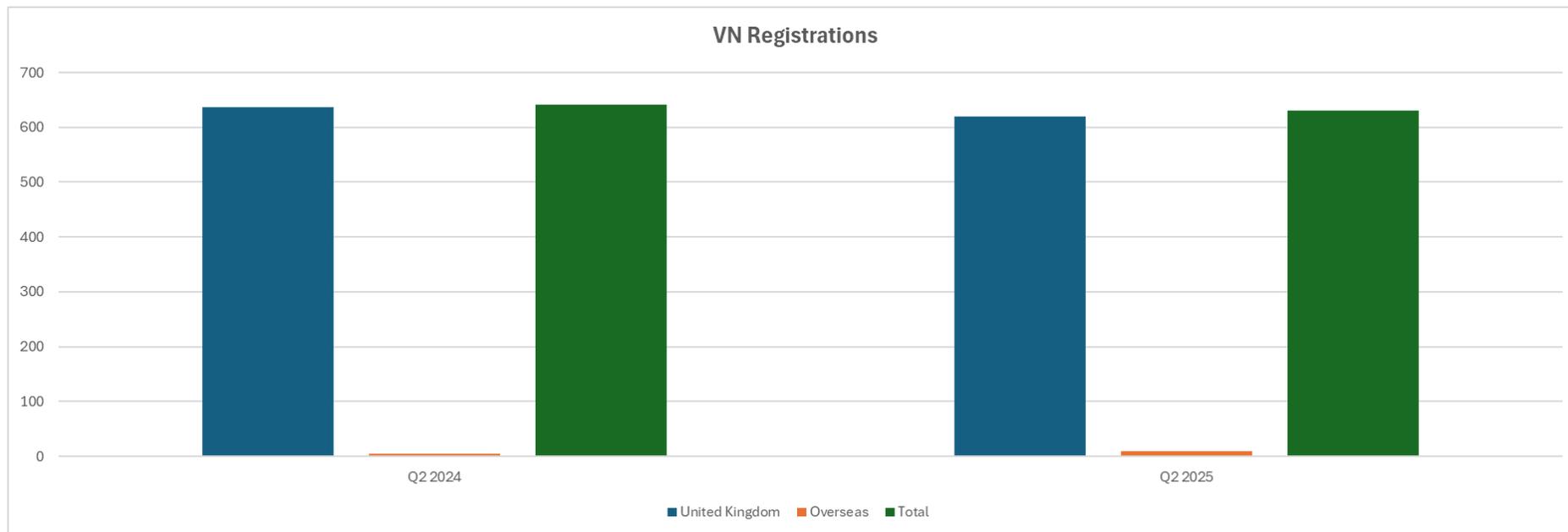


## Vet change of category data

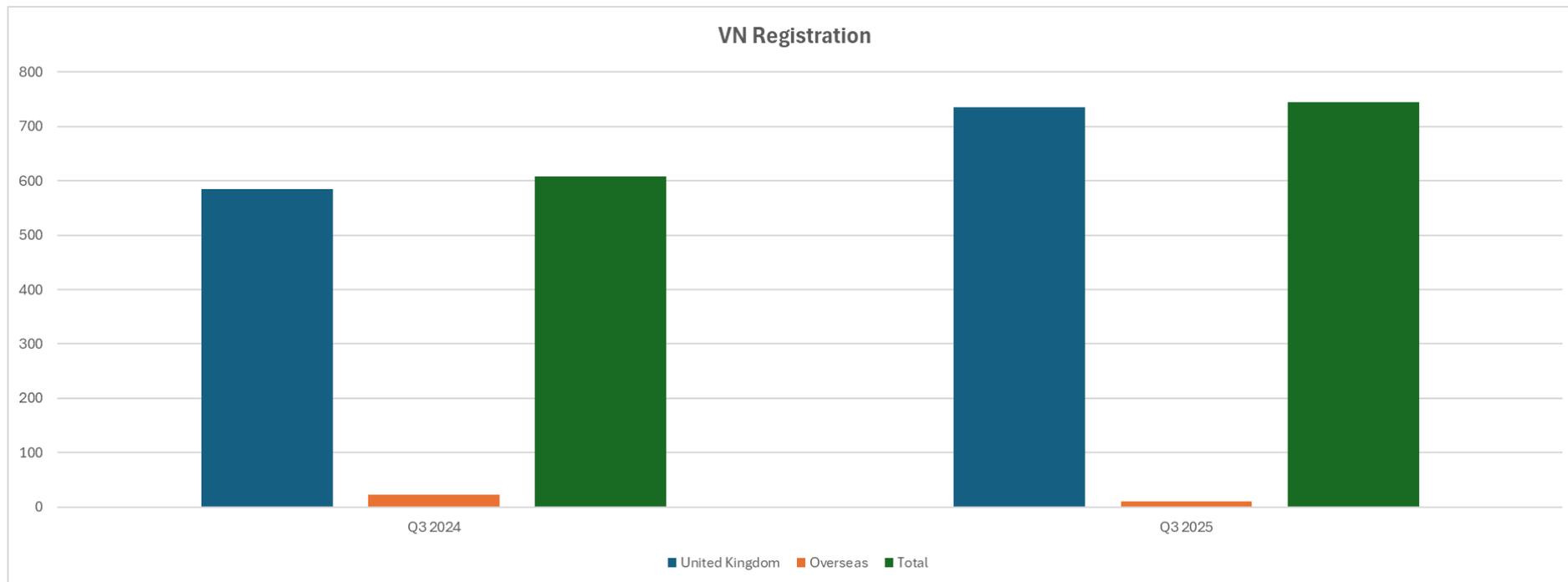
Current category	New category	Q2 2023	Q2 2024	Q2 2025
UK Practising	Non - Practising	264	301	304
UK Practising	Overseas Practising	248	346	346
Overseas Practising	UK Practising	100	83	98
Non - Practising	UK Practising	96	79	60
<b>Overall category changes</b>		<b>864</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>988</b>

### Vet Nurse Registrations

	Q2 2024	Q2 2025
United Kingdom	636	620
Overseas	5	10
Total	641	630



	Q3 2024	Q3 2025
United Kingdom	585	735
Overseas	23	10
Total	608	745



## Vet Registration movements 2024 &amp; 2025

<b>VS - Movements 2024</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Feb-24</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Apr-24</b>	<b>May-24</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>	<b>Aug-24</b>	<b>Sep-24</b>	<b>Oct-24</b>	<b>Nov-24</b>	<b>Dec-24</b>	<b>Yearly Increase</b>
VS - UK Practising	30155	30220	30279	30152	29811	29814	30375	30750	30825	30883	31017	31060	<b>3.40%</b>
VS - non-practising	2340	2331	2338	2333	2446	2441	2377	2370	2372	2367	2354	2347	
VS - non-practising 70+	1393	1389	1388	1396	1490	1489	1487	1484	1480	1479	1475	1471	
VS - Practising outside the UK	3499	3503	3522	3521	3677	3675	3571	3599	3616	3650	3669	3685	
VS - Republic of Ireland	326	326	326	326	327	327	327	327	327	327	326	326	
<b>Total</b>	<b>37713</b>	<b>37769</b>	<b>37853</b>	<b>37728</b>	<b>37751</b>	<b>37746</b>	<b>38137</b>	<b>38530</b>	<b>38620</b>	<b>38706</b>	<b>38841</b>	<b>38889</b>	<b>3.60%</b>

<b>VS - Movements 2025</b>	<b>Jan-25</b>	<b>Feb-25</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Apr-25</b>	<b>May-25</b>	<b>Jun-25</b>	<b>Jul-25</b>	<b>Aug-25</b>	<b>Sep-25</b>	<b>Oct-25</b>	<b>Nov-25</b>	<b>Dec-25</b>
VS - UK Practising	31224	31258	31267	31069	30612	30629	31291	31652	31730	31830		
VS - non-practising	2349	2347	2356	2322	2460	2452	2380	2370	2373	2372		
VS - non-practising 70+	1470	1461	1442	1276	1390	1391	1394	1390	1388	1387		
VS - Practising outside the UK	3705	3714	3733	3737	3881	3884	3765	3782	3798	3841		
VS - Republic of Ireland	326	325	320	267	269	269	269	269	269	26		
<b>Total</b>	<b>39074</b>	<b>39105</b>	<b>39118</b>	<b>38671</b>	<b>38612</b>	<b>38625</b>	<b>39099</b>	<b>39463</b>	<b>39558</b>	<b>39456</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Vet Nurse movements 2024 & 2025**

<b>VN Movements 2024</b>	<b>Jan-24</b>	<b>Feb-24</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Apr-24</b>	<b>May-24</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>	<b>Aug-24</b>	<b>Sep-24</b>	<b>Oct-24</b>	<b>Nov-24</b>	<b>Dec-24</b>	<b>Yearly Increase</b>
VN - Period of Supervised Practice	27	23	20	23	21	21	21	17	16	14	13	12	
VN - Registered Veterinary Nurse	23508	23269	23472	23542	23705	23831	24106	24506	24642	24816	24849	24935	6.10%
VN - Student Veterinary Nurse	7054	7011	7069	7170	6493	6396	6246	6283	6321	6485	6832	6924	
VN - VN Applicant	67	163	54	10	655	660	546	191	135	71	70	77	
VN - OS qualified VN	73	84	69	73	79	80	83	73	70	72	75	77	
<b>Total</b>	<b>30656</b>	<b>30466</b>	<b>30615</b>	<b>30818</b>	<b>30953</b>	<b>30988</b>	<b>31002</b>	<b>31070</b>	<b>31184</b>	<b>31458</b>	<b>31839</b>	<b>32025</b>	

<b>VN Movements 2025</b>	<b>Jan-25</b>	<b>Feb-25</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Apr-25</b>	<b>May-25</b>	<b>Jun-25</b>	<b>Jul-25</b>	<b>Aug-25</b>	<b>Sep-25</b>	<b>Oct-25</b>	<b>Nov-25</b>	<b>Dec-25</b>
VN - Period of Supervised Practice	11	11	13	11	10	11	14	11	11	12		
VN - Registered Veterinary Nurse	24952	24823	24932	24989	25059	25211	25551	25964	26221	26395		
VN - Student Veterinary Nurse	6910	6861	6898	6883	6235	6114	5987	5881	5755	5987		
VN - VN Applicant	57	71	29	61	683	710	521	292	193	156		
VN - OS qualified VN	72	81	84	78	71	74	77	75	74	69		
<b>Total</b>	<b>31930</b>	<b>31766</b>	<b>31872</b>	<b>32022</b>	<b>32058</b>	<b>32120</b>	<b>32150</b>	<b>32223</b>	<b>32254</b>	<b>32619</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>