

VETERINARY COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023/2024



VETERINARY COUNCIL  
OF NEW ZEALAND  
Te Kaunihera Rata Kararehe o Aotearoa



We are pleased to present this report to the Minister of Agriculture under section 86 of the Veterinarians Act 2005.





## CONTENTS

About Us.....	2	Fitness to Practice .....	19
Our Strategy 2019–2024 .....	3	Health.....	19
From the Chair .....	4	Competence .....	19
From the Chief Executive .....	6	Notifications and Complaints .....	20
The Council .....	9	Discipline .....	21
Registration and Recertification .....	15	Communications and Liaison .....	22
General Registration.....	15	Finance and Risk.....	23
Specialist Registration .....	15	Auditor’s Report .....	24
Limited Registration .....	16	Entity Information.....	28
Annual Practising Certificates.....	16	Statement of Service Performance.....	30
International Accreditation .....	17	Financial Report.....	32
Recency of Practice.....	17	Contact Us.....	40
Professional Standards .....	18		





# About Us

The Vet Council regulates the veterinary profession in New Zealand.

We uphold veterinary standards to protect people and animals, and to maintain trust in veterinary professionals.

We support this by setting, promoting and upholding high standards; having timely and transparent processes; being fair, consistent and compassionate; and fostering important relationships with veterinarians, the public and the wider veterinary services industry.

The Vet Council wants Aotearoa to have the world's most trusted veterinary profession.

The Veterinarians Act 2005 charges us with:

- Registering veterinarians who are properly trained and qualified.
- Setting and monitoring the standards veterinarians must meet.
- Promoting high standards of veterinary education and conduct.
- Accrediting and monitoring training institutions for veterinarians.
- Issuing veterinarians with annual practising certificates.
- Dealing with concerns about veterinarians' performance, professional conduct or health, and taking action where necessary.
- Advising and making recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture and Massey University on matters related to veterinarians, veterinary education and veterinary science.

There are seven Council members, consisting of:

- **Three** veterinarians elected by the profession
- **One** veterinarian appointed by the Minister of Agriculture
- **Two** laypersons appointed by the Minister of Agriculture
- The Academic Director of the Veterinary Science Programme at Massey University.

We have a staff of 11, led by our CEO and Registrar. We also rely on the support of veterinarians and members of the public to serve on our committees and advisory groups.

# OUR STRATEGY 2019–2024



VETERINARY COUNCIL  
OF NEW ZEALAND  
Te Kaunihera Rata Kararehe o Aotearoa

## Vision

*The world's  
most trusted  
veterinary  
profession*

## Mission

Leading New Zealand's  
veterinary profession through:

*Setting, promoting and  
upholding high standards*

*Timely and transparent  
processes*

*Being fair, consistent and  
compassionate*

*Fostering stakeholder  
relationships*

## Values

Together, we:

**Collaborate**  
*we work as a team*

**Care**  
*we are considerate and fair*

**Adapt**  
*we develop ourselves  
and our service*



*Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tīna*  
Seek out distant horizons and cherish those you attain

## PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC

### Strategic Themes:

#### WELLBEING

The wellbeing of everyone we work with will be supported and at the forefront of our work. In 2024 veterinary professionals will be resilient and will see VCNZ as an organisation that cares about the profession and makes wellbeing a priority.

#### COMMUNICATION

VCNZ will be the go-to-body for lifting the standards of the veterinary profession in NZ, we will be trusted, appreciated and valued for the work that we do.

#### RELATIONSHIPS

We have excellent relationships with our stakeholders across the board.

#### QUALITY

We will continuously improve our systems, take the lead on setting professional standards and ensuring that everyone understands what is expected of a veterinary professional.

#### FUTURE SCANNING

VCNZ will be ready for new challenges facing the veterinary profession and the public.



## From the Chair

**Kia ora koutou. I am delighted to share the Veterinary Council of New Zealand's Annual Report for 2023-2024 with you all.**

As I reflect on the year that has been, I am immensely proud of the volume and quality of work that has been achieved. I have been on the Council for more than nine years, and have seen it move from being a body that primarily responded to complaints, to a highly respected leader in the sector. The Vet Council is now very much a modern regulator that is focused on strengthening and sustaining a world leading veterinary workforce.

Of course there have been obstacles along the way. One of the biggest challenges in the last decade has been the COVID-19 pandemic. It had a major impact on the ability to deliver clinical services and maintain a functioning workforce, with the aftermath still being felt. Veterinarians have however responded exceptionally well in these difficult times.

The veterinary sector, like every other sector, is having to respond to a rapidly changing world involving new ways of working, new technologies, and increased expectations.

Where possible the Veterinary Council is supporting the veterinary profession to manage these and respond in the best ways possible.

Veterinarians play a critical role in combatting and managing the risks of antimicrobial

resistance (AMR), which is now one of the biggest global threats to human and animal health. To assist this work, the Vet Council is developing an AMR strategy that will use its regulatory tools to help veterinarians safeguard antibiotics and other antimicrobials for the future.

As a profession, we need to have legislation that reflects the complex nature of what we do, while also supporting veterinarians to practise well. With this in mind, I believe one of the most significant pieces of work that we have undertaken in recent times has been to review the Veterinarians Act. We have highlighted that the main piece of legislation guiding the profession needs to be future focused and take into account issues such as the potentially increased roles for allied professionals and practice management in delivering high quality veterinary care.

Our other major piece of work in the last year was a review of emergency care requirements. Many people from all areas of the workforce contributed to the review which looked at the challenges for veterinarians in providing emergency care, after hours as well as its influence on wellbeing and work satisfaction. Feedback on what has been found will now be gathered.



I would like to acknowledge the role of the Vet Council and staff in this important work. They are working towards delivering real change and have provided exceptional service to the profession. I'm proud that the Council has been able to support New Zealand veterinarians through the many challenges they have faced recently and helped them to demonstrate their high level of expertise and worth to our country.

After chairing the Vet Council for three terms, I made the decision to step down this year so that other people with fresh perspectives and experiences can take a turn. I am sure that the new Chair will have plenty to offer, and I look forward to seeing what the Council achieves in the coming years.

The purpose of the Vet Council is *Leading veterinary excellence, ensuring quality and advancing trust.*

I have every confidence that we will continue to have a high quality, valued profession delivering excellent services and support to the public and the government.

Thank you to all of our Council members and the Vet Council staff for their continued dedication and unwavering commitment to ensuring the veterinary profession is well regulated and continues to be world leading.

I would like to acknowledge the Vet Council's Chief Executive and Registrar Iain McLachlan for his excellent leadership and the support that he and his team provides the Council, and the team at Massey University School of Veterinary Science Tāwharau Ora for their contribution to producing world class graduates.

**Lindsay Burton**  
**Chair**  
**Veterinary Council of New Zealand**



## From the Chief Executive

It has been another busy year for the Vet Council team with a great amount of variety in our work.

At the start of the year, we were pleased to welcome our new Veterinary Advisor, Michelle Logan, to the team. Michelle (MA VetMB, CertAVP(ESST), FANZCVS(Equine Medicine), FHEA) has had many years' experience working in mixed animal veterinary practice and is a registered specialist in equine medicine. Her expertise is greatly appreciated.

One of our major pieces of work over the last 12 months has been developing a case for change for reviewing the Veterinarians Act 2005. This involved surveying more than 450 professionals and organisations across the country to understand the challenges the wider veterinary sector is currently facing and potential options for addressing these, such as regulating Allied Veterinary Professionals and clinics. In early 2025, we will share the final report.

Another significant project has been our Emergency Care Review. Emergency care provision is a requirement that we set for all practicing veterinarians to ensure that animal welfare is protected, public expectations are met, and the burden falls fairly on all those in clinical practice. As a modern regulator, we have to ensure that our requirements are fit-for-purpose in today's working environments and are reasonable for practising vets. With this in mind, we invested a considerable amount

of time in consulting with the wider veterinary profession to better understand the current issues facing veterinarians providing emergency care, and how we can use our regulatory tools to influence future delivery. We used a systems thinking approach to help us understand the true complexity of the issues. We also held a webinar and a series of regional meetings to share our findings and gather feedback.

We started work on our Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Strategy. While the profession has made considerable progress in terms of prudent antimicrobial use, we wanted to understand what more could be done to continue that good work and support the profession to manage the threat of AMR. The strategy, once complete, will set out our strategic goals for responsible antimicrobial stewardship within the profession. We anticipate it will be ready to share early 2025.

In 2023, we received funding, through the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to facilitate the 'Vets on Farm – Supporting your recovery' programme as part of the ongoing recovery efforts in parts of the North Island impacted by flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle. Through this, we contracted veterinary clinics to provide support and advice, such as farm planning reviews, disease sampling and testing, and herd health planning, to animal farms in Northland, Coromandel, Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay, Taranua and Wairarapa. Feedback from the initiative has been very positive and further evaluation is still being completed.



We were able to deliver the programme under budget and achieve some great results.

In the past year we have seen some easing of the veterinarian shortage. More vets are entering the country and more are being trained at Massey University, with higher numbers starting to enter the workforce. We will continue to look at how we can work with overseas universities and support Massey to ensure there is a sustainable number of working veterinarians and specialists.

Mental health has been another area of focus. In 2023 we released a series of snapshot videos with Connect Communications about communicating with clients and communicating in conflict situations. These videos, along with a workplace wellbeing webinar in early 2024, have provided practical resources and expert knowledge to veterinarians and practices.

We held several meetings in the last year with veterinary innovators to stay up-to-date on changes in the sector. Meetings like this help to ensure our regulations are appropriate and not getting in the way of innovation, while also taking any emerging risks into consideration. Also in the technology space, we have continued our efforts in improving our cybersecurity and where necessary investing in systems to reduce the likelihood of potential threats.

Our Professional Standards Committee has been working on herd health and disease programmes. This is going to be very important for the profession, and we look forward to sharing more about it in due course.

We have also had a focus on ongoing communications with large production animal practices to maintain good relationships and ensure we are meeting their needs. Another key piece of work has been preparing more guidance about dry cow therapy. This work supports our Statement of Authority on Dry Cow Therapy.

I would like to thank the Vet Council team for all their hard work throughout 2023/2024. A great deal has been accomplished and set up for another successful year ahead. Thank you as well to the Council members and all of the people who serve on our various committees and advisory groups for your guidance and continued dedication to the veterinary profession.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Iain McLachlan**  
**Kaiwhakahaere Matua me Pouroki - Chief**  
**Executive and Registrar**  
**Veterinary Council of New Zealand**





# The Council



Dr Lindsay Burton (appointed veterinarian and Chair)

Dr Lindsay Burton was first appointed to the Council in May 2015 and has been Chair since March 2019.

He graduated from Massey University in 1975 with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) and spent five years working in mixed animal practice. He then joined the New Zealand Dairy Board in 1980 and was involved in animal breeding. This was followed by a period as Principal Veterinarian at Livestock Improvement Corporation (LIC) until 2004. Additional roles he has held include Director of National Animal Identification and Traceability; Principal Scientist John's Disease Research Consortium; and Chair of the Ministry for Primary Industries Farm to Processor Animal Welfare Forum.

In 2005, Lindsay joined the Fonterra Cooperative Group as Risk Management Programme Specialist/Manager. The areas he covered included biosecurity; animal health (including disease control); food safety arising from animal pathogens; residue risk assessment; and animal welfare policy and strategy for the Milk Supply Technical and Food Assurance team. He was then appointed General Manager Veterinary, Technical and Risk Management from 2014 – 2019 at Fonterra, where he led the team responsible for key elements of food safety, animal health, and reputational risk. This related to farms, animals and raw milk within New Zealand and its offshore milk supplies.

Lindsay has extensive experience and expertise in science-based decision making. He is a member of the Council's Professional Standards Committee, and Finance and Risk Committee.



Dr Ben Davidson (elected veterinarian and Deputy Chair)

Ben graduated from Massey University in 2000 and was the director and manager of Rangiora Vet Centre for 20 years. In March 2023, he sold his shares and left the practice to set up a vet contracting and consultancy service with a focus on wildlife, conservation medicine, and governance.

Alongside his role as an elected member of VCNZ, Ben is a trustee on the board of Orana Wildlife Park, a director of The cGP Lab and veterinary advisor to DairySmart NZ.

His interest in governance and leadership began when he was the Massey University Veterinary Students Association (MUVSA) President. He also spent seven years on the New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) Sheep and Beef Special Interest Branch, including two as President. Ben has had formal training in governance and strategic planning through the New Zealand Institute of Directors. He has also facilitated strategic planning sessions for various organisations including the School of Veterinary Science, VCNZ, and The Vet Company.

Ben was elected to Council in December 2016 and was previously a member of the Council's Complaints Assessment Committee. He has been Deputy Chair since March 2019 and is Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee.



Dr Julie Everett-Hincks (appointed non-veterinarian)

Julie is a principal analyst at the Ministry for the Environment, and is an enrolled barrister and solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand. She has a PhD in animal science, and previously worked as a senior scientist at AgResearch before completing a law degree. Before taking up her current role, Julie was the Science Manager at Otago Regional Council and the Legal Advisor to the Royal Society Te Apārangi's Gene Editing Panel.

Julie's work on improving lamb survival won her national recognition: she was the first woman to receive the Sir Arthur Ward Award in 2016 from the New Zealand Society of Animal Production. She is a member of the Council's Professional Standards Committee.

Julie was raised on a sheep farm and lives with her family on a small property in Otago.



### Mr Zach Mounsey (appointed non-veterinarian)

Zach is passionate about growing the value of New Zealand's primary industries and influencing their long-term sustainability. After growing up on a dairy farm in Ōtorohanga, he recognised the opportunity in agriculture, both on-farm and beyond the farm gate. Zach graduated from the University of Waikato with a Bachelor of Management Studies adding financial, economic and business disciplines to his farming knowledge.

After graduating, he held roles in public trading and finance at Fonterra in the office of the Chief Financial Officer. He then made the move to DairyNZ as an economist, followed by an inaugural corporate support role to the Chief Executive before joining Happy Valley Nutrition. Zach has also spent time abroad with Harvard Business School developing his leadership and strategic capability.

He is a member of the Council's Finance and Risk Committee. Zach and his partner sharemilk on a dairy farm in Ōtorohanga, where they live.



### Prof Jenny Weston (ex-officio member)

Jenny is the Academic Lead for Veterinary Science at Massey University. She graduated from Massey University in 1994 and worked in clinical practice (mainly dairy) in Taranaki for eight years, before returning to Massey to run the Farm Services Clinic for 10 years. She then coordinated the final year clinical rosters for the BVSc students for several years before her appointment as Academic Lead in May 2016. The leader of the BVSc programme at Massey is statutorily appointed to the Council.

Since her return to Massey, Jenny has undertaken further study in veterinary epidemiology, leading to her becoming a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS). She has completed a PhD in diagnosis and control of Neospora caninum abortion in cattle, and more recently completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Administration and Leadership.

Jenny was on the Executive Committee of the Society of Dairy Cattle Veterinarians Branch of the NZVA for 20 years and served on the NZVA Board for six years, including one term as President.

She is a member of the Council's Recency of Practice and Registration Advisory Groups, and represents New Zealand on the Veterinary Schools Accreditation Advisory Committee (VSAAC), which accredits veterinary schools in Australia and New Zealand.

Her interests include endurance riding, travel, and tramping. She lives on a lifestyle block at Ashhurst with her husband and their animals.



### Dr Liz Shackleton

---

A graduate of University College Dublin, Liz has spent the last 15 years in New Zealand working in clinical practice and various strategic leadership roles.

Her work has included supporting teams and governance functions across private and public partnerships in the primary sector. Supporting the development of New Zealand's primary industry talent is a key interest.

Liz is a chartered member of the Institute of Directors New Zealand, a past president and member of the Australia New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (Pharmacology), is an Institute for Strategic Leadership alumnus, and has experience across the primary industry, biosecurity, regulatory and animal health sectors.



### Dr Kylie Lawson

---

In her role as General Manager at Animates Vetcare NZ, Kylie plays a key role in driving the business' growth. Her practical skills in executive leadership, business governance, and change management are essential in ensuring the organisation's success.

Kylie's commitment to excellence extends to her continuous professional development. Her attainment of a Certificate in Company Direction from the Institute of Directors in New Zealand reflects her dedication to upholding the highest standards of professional conduct.

Beyond her managerial role, Kylie is a strong advocate for strategic thinking, engagement, and workplace culture. Recognising the important role of culture in organisational success, she prioritises employee engagement and being a values-led business.

Her leadership philosophy centres on developing highly functional teams. She actively creates a psychologically safe workplace, emphasising the wellbeing and safety of her team members.



# Highlights

3464

practising  
vets

284

new  
registrants

6

new  
specialists

16

presentations to  
veterinarians and  
students

16

articles and  
e-updates  
published

9

new standards  
and guidance  
documents  
published



# Registration and Recertification

To work and use the title “veterinarian” in Aotearoa, veterinarians must be registered and hold an Annual Practising Certificate. Registration does not expire but Annual Practising Certificates must be renewed each year.

The Vet Council is responsible for:

- Registering veterinarians and veterinary specialists
- Accrediting and approving veterinary education programmes and assessments that qualify a person for registration
- Re-certifying veterinarians by issuing Annual Practising Certificates
- Ensuring vets returning to practice after a break have enough support to return safely and smoothly.

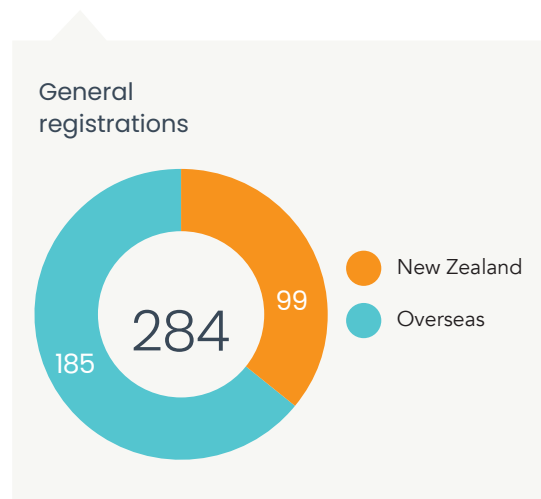
## Specialist Registration

In the last year there were six specialist registrations in:

- Large animal medicine
- Equine surgery
- Veterinary cardiology
- Veterinary clinical pharmacology
- Small animal surgery
- Small animal medicine

## General Registration

There were 284 new registrations in 2023-24.



### Limited Registration

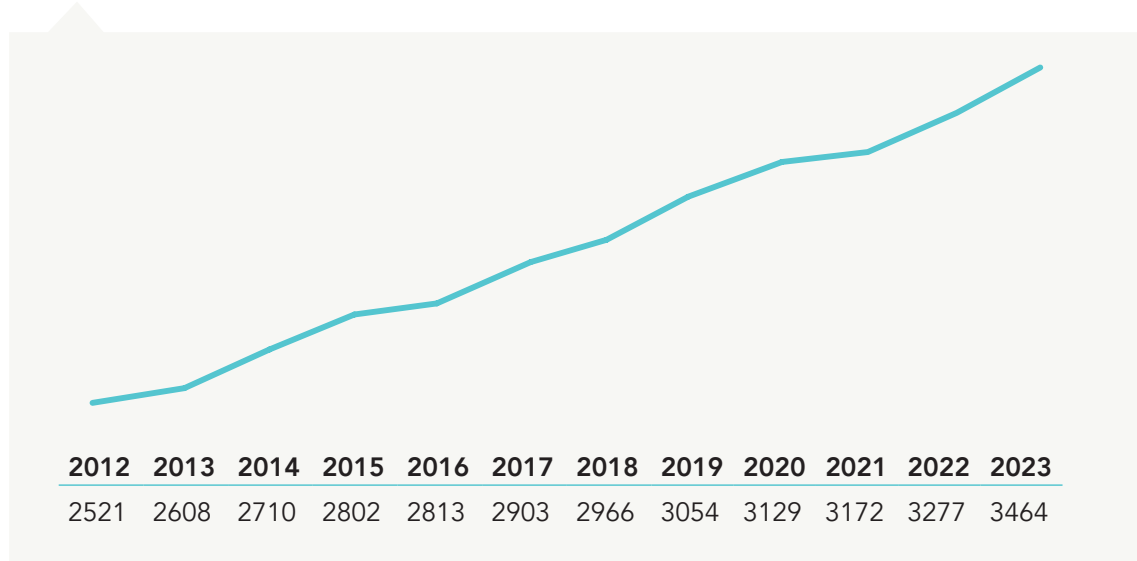
The Veterinarians Act allows for limited registration in some circumstances for people who would not otherwise be eligible for registration. This provides some flexibility to meet particular needs and respond to special circumstances. More information on the scopes of limited registration that are available can be found on our website.

This year, we granted 15 new limited registrations. Three were within the Australasian Veterinary Exam scope, six were particular skills for a restricted period, two were under the academic scope, two were under the restricted purpose scope, one was under the postgraduate training scope and one was under the industry scope.



### Annual Practising Certificates

**3,464** Number of practising veterinarians (as at 30 June 2023)



## International Accreditation

The Vet Council is a member of the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc (AVBC), along with most state and territory veterinary regulators in Australia. AVBC carries out the accreditation of veterinary education programmes on behalf of its members but the Vet Council makes the final decision on whether to accept a veterinary degree for registration in New Zealand.

Accreditation normally takes place following an accreditation visit to the veterinary school in question by a team of experts.

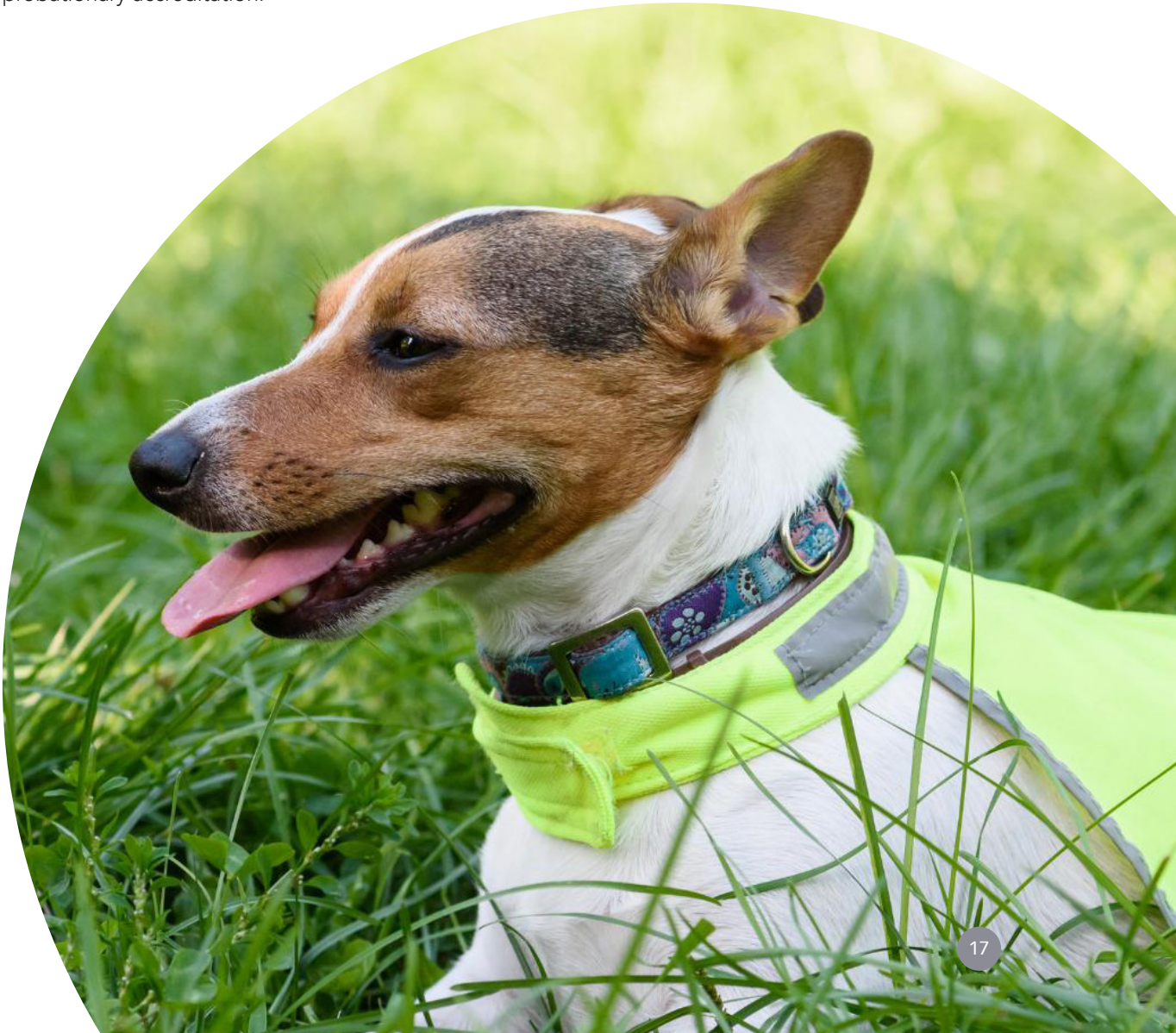
During the year, Murdoch University and City University of Hong Kong were granted accreditation, the University of Adelaide and the University of Melbourne were granted accreditation with minor deficiencies, and James Cook University was granted probationary accreditation.

## Recency of Practice

We require veterinarians to seek approval to work when they have not practised as a veterinarian for three or more years, or if they are switching to a new field of work. This is to make sure there is sufficient support in place to allow them to develop or refresh the skills needed.

In most cases we issue guidance to the veterinarian. In cases where oversight is needed, we invite veterinarians to enter into a voluntary undertaking or agree to conditions on their practice, normally relating to supervision, oversight and ongoing learning.

We considered 15 cases this year and in one case a condition of practise was agreed limiting the veterinarian's scope of work. All other cases were granted practising certificates, with guidance and without the need for formal restrictions.



# Professional Standards

The Vet Council is responsible for setting the minimum standards for practising as a veterinarian, as well as promoting high standards of professional education and conduct.

Much of our professional standards work is carried out by the Professional Standards Committee (PSC).

The committee members in 2023/24 were:

- Dr Lindsay Burton
- Dr Julie Everett-Hincks
- Dr Katie Grant
- Dr Bernice Mangal
- Dr Wayne Ricketts
- Dr Tony Zohrab
- Mr Wayne Langford
- Dr Steve Cranefield
- Dr Natalie Lloyd
- Dr Brendon Bell
- Dr Clive Bingham (until August 2023)
- Dr Will Halliday (from August 2023)

The PSC met four times this financial year and conducted some business via email. The Committee advised on standards on several topics including dry cow antibiotic therapy, herd health planning and defining the term “under the care of a veterinarian”.

Vet Council staff continued to produce guidance and technical advice on topical issues for veterinarians throughout the year. This is available on the Vet Council website.



# Fitness to Practice

## Health

Supporting the good physical and mental health of veterinarians is a vital part of our role. We work with the New Zealand Veterinary Association to offer all veterinarians free access to a confidential, 24/7 counselling service.

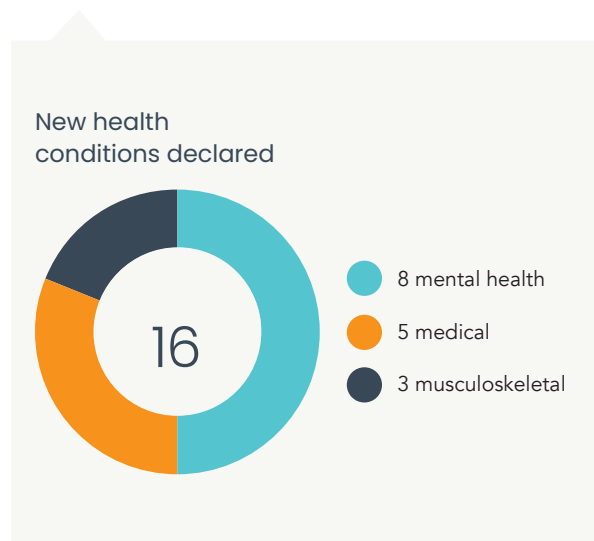
Our health processes focus on early intervention and rehabilitation. The approach is non-judgmental and confidential.

We operate a Health Advisory Group, made up of a medical advisor, a Council member and the Professional Advisor (veterinarian staff member). The Registrar takes advice from the group and can enter into voluntary agreements with veterinarians whose health is impaired. Agreements might require the veterinarian to undergo medical assessments or comply with any requirements considered necessary to ensure they can practice safely.

If a veterinarian lacks insight into their condition or is uncooperative, the case can be referred to the Council, which can exercise its statutory powers to protect the public if necessary.

## Competence

We promote ongoing competence through our professional standards work and annual recertification. This includes a requirement for veterinarians to engage in continuing professional development. When a veterinarian's competence is questioned, we can conduct a preliminary competence inquiry or a competence assessment.



In 2023-24, a total of 80 veterinarians reported to us that they had a condition that could affect their practice. This included 16 veterinarians reporting new conditions which covered mental health, medical and musculoskeletal issues.

There were 17 veterinarians practising with a voluntary undertaking related to their health.

Preliminary competence inquiries involve a 2-3 hour visit to a veterinarian's practice to gain a better understanding of their practising context and to gather enough information for the Council to decide if a competence assessment is required. Competence assessments are carried out by a small team, including veterinarians and at least one layperson.

These normally include a day-long assessment at the veterinarian's place of work and involve gathering additional information about their work. Neither process is disciplinary in nature and each is designed to be evaluative, educational and rehabilitative.

In 2023-24 there were no competence assessments or preliminary competence inquiries carried out.

Members of previous competence assessment teams have included:

- Dr Stuart Burrough (convenor)
- Dr Stuart Bruere (convenor)
- Dr Cath Watson
- Ms Rachel Kent
- Dr Pieter Verhoek (preliminary competence interviewer)

### Notifications and Complaints

The Veterinarians Act requires complaints about veterinarians to be referred to a Complaints Assessment Committee (CAC). We also operate a Notifications Review Group (NRG) which considers concerns raised by people who do not wish to make a formal complaint about a veterinarian. This allows for a faster and less formal resolution of concerns.

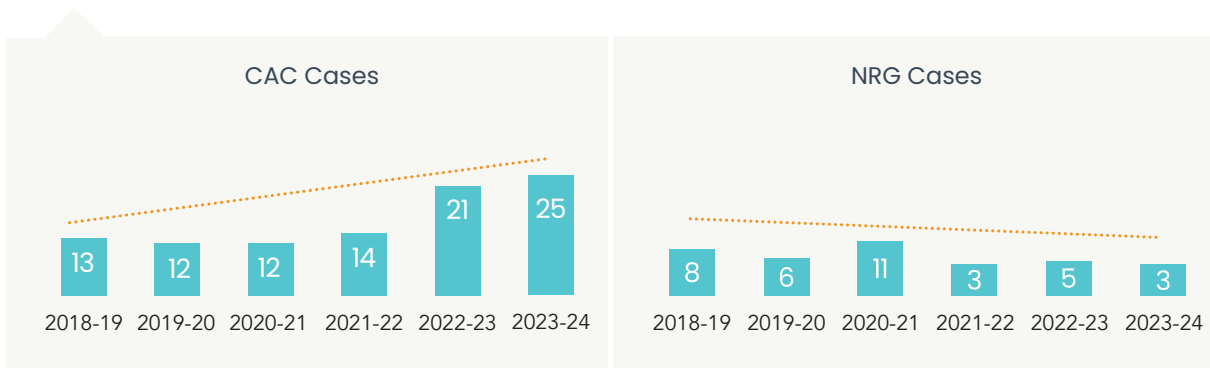
The aim of these processes is to protect public interest. The Council encourages the CAC and NRG to focus on preventing future harm through education and rehabilitation where possible. In a small number of serious cases, disciplinary action may be needed and a CAC can lay charges against a veterinarian before the Judicial Committee.

In 2023, members of the CAC were:

- Dr Mark Simpson
- Susan D'Ath
- Dr Brendon Bullen
- Susan Beggs
- Dr David Barrowman
- Dr Rosemary Price
- Jennie Kruisvijk

In 2023, members of the NRG were:

- Dr Stuart Burrough
- Dr Emma Cuttance
- Helen Ridley
- Dr Craig Hunger





### Discipline

When a CAC decides to lay charges, a Judicial Committee is convened to consider the case. It must have at least four members, including an experienced solicitor or barrister of the High Court, a lay person, a member of the Council, and a veterinarian with relevant experience in the area of practice that is the subject of the original complaint.

In 2023-24, there were no disciplinary hearings.



# Communications and Liaison

We want the veterinary profession and our stakeholders to be engaged in our work. It helps ensure that we set and maintain regulations that are fit for purpose, and that veterinarians know the standard of practice we expect from them.

A big part of how we do this is through our communications work which helps keep people up-to-date with what the Vet Council is doing, what is happening in the wider veterinary sector, and any important changes to legislation or our regulatory functions. Plus, it lets people know how they can have a say about the things that affect them and their work.

One of the most significant projects the Communications team has been involved with in the last year has been presenting the results from our Emergency Care Review and encouraging vets to give their feedback on the findings. Using a systems thinking approach for the review meant we had a lot of complex information to share with veterinarians and stakeholders.

To make it easier to digest, we created an animation to explain the causal diagram that displayed the findings. A series of regional meetings are planned across the motu to engage with vets, as well as a stall at the annual NZVA and NZVNA conference that will be held in Ōtautahi Christchurch in June 2024.

As part of ongoing recovery efforts in areas of the North Island affected by flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle, the Vet Council facilitated the Vets on Farm programme for the Ministry of Primary Industries. This involved us contracting veterinary clinics to provide support and advice, such as farm planning reviews, disease sampling and testing, and herd health planning, to farms severely impacted by the weather events. Significant work went into ensuring veterinarians and farmers had the information they needed to take part in the programme.

Communications work for other major projects such as our antimicrobial resistance (AMR) strategy and review of the Vet Act also continued. To help share what these projects aim to achieve, we have planned to film a series of short videos for our website explaining the purpose of the projects, what work has been done, and what the next steps are. We will also film several videos about veterinary wellbeing, our complaints process, and other important work such as Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

Over the year, the team continued to deliver the Vet Council's regular comms including pānui for veterinarians, clinic owners and managers, specialists and veterinary students. They also worked with the Deputy Registrar to prepare case studies to share how the Council manages complaints and other issues, and what the veterinary profession can learn as a result.

Pieces of consumer guidance have also been produced and will be rolled out shortly to give animal owners information about their responsibilities and rights, and explain common issues such as how to prepare for an animal health emergency. Our comms team each year support the development of the Council's stakeholder engagement plan. This year, there has been a special focus on engaging with production and large animal practices to ensure we maintain a strong relationship.

Other work has included assisting our Professional Advisors by editing technical advice and guidance for The Hub, ensuring it is concise and easy to read, and keeping our LinkedIn page updated with news and interesting content for the profession.

# Finance and Risk

The Council exercises oversight of our finance and risk activities and has appointed a Finance and Risk Committee to assist it. The Committee oversees our financial management, reporting, control and audit work as well as monitoring risk.

Under our risk management framework, the Committee regularly monitors risks to the Vet Council and cybersecurity.

This year, the committee members were:

- Dr Ben Davidson (Chair)
- Dr Lindsay Burton
- Mr Zach Mounsey
- Dr Richard Wild



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Members of Veterinary Council of New Zealand

#### Report on the Audit of the Performance Report

##### Opinion

We have audited the performance report of Veterinary Council of New Zealand ('the Council') which comprises the entity information on pages 3 to 4, the statement of service performance on pages 5 to 6 and the financial statements on pages 7 to 14. The complete set of the financial statements comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2024, the statement of financial performance and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying performance report presents fairly, in all material respects, the entity information and the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2024, and the financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, and the service performance for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-for-Profit) ('PBE SFR-A (NFP)') issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

Our report is made solely to the Members of the Council. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Members of the Council as a body, for our audit work, for our report or for the opinions we have formed.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) ('ISAs (NZ)') and the audit of the service performance information and entity information in accordance with the ISAs (NZ) and New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 ('NZ AS 1') (Revised) *The Audit of Service Performance Information*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* ('IESBA Code'), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, Veterinary Council of New Zealand.

### **Responsibilities of the Council for the Performance Report**

The Council members are responsible on behalf of the Council for:

- the preparation and fair presentation of the entity information, the financial statements and the statement of service performance in accordance with PBE SFR-A (NFP);
- service performance criteria that are suitable in order to prepare service performance information in accordance with PBE SFR-A (NFP); and
- such internal control as the Council members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Council members are responsible on behalf of the Council for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council members either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the entity information, the financial statements as a whole, and the statement of service performance are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report is located at the External Reporting Board's website at:

<https://www.xrb.govt.nz/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-18/>



**BAKER TILLY STAPLES RODWAY AUDIT LIMITED**

**Wellington, New Zealand**

26 August 2024

# Performance Report

Veterinary Council of New Zealand  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Prepared by BW Miller Dean Limited

# Contents

3	Entity Information
5	Statement of Service Performance
7	Statement of Financial Performance
8	Statement of Financial Position
9	Statement of Cashflows
10	Notes to the Financial Statements

# Entity Information

## Veterinary Council of New Zealand For the year ended 31 March 2024

### Legal name

Veterinary Council of New Zealand

### Type of entity and legal basis

The Veterinary Council of New Zealand (the Council) is the statutory body established under the Veterinarians Act 2005 (the Act) to regulate veterinarians. The Council is a registered charity

### Purpose and functions

The Council upholds veterinary standards to protect people and animals, and to maintain trust in veterinary professionals. It achieves this by:

- accrediting and monitoring the institutions that train veterinarians
- registering veterinarians who are properly trained and qualified
- setting and monitoring the standards veterinarians must meet
- promoting high standards of veterinary education and conduct
- annually re-certifying veterinarians
- reviewing and acting on, where necessary, concerns about a veterinarian's performance, professional conduct or health
- advising and making recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture and Massey University on matters related to veterinarians, veterinary education and the practice of veterinary science.

### Structure

There are seven Council members. Three veterinarian members are elected by veterinarians. Two laypeople and one veterinarian are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture. The Academic Director of the Veterinary Science programme at Massey University is also a member.

The Chair and Deputy Chair are elected annually by the Council at its first meeting of the year.

Council members during 2022/24 were:

- Dr Lindsay Burton, Chair  
Ministerial veterinarian appointee. Current term ends July 2024.
- Dr Ben Davidson, Deputy Chair  
Elected veterinary member. Current term ends December 2025.
- Associate Professor Jenny Weston  
Massey University Academic Programme Director. Term began May 2016.
- Mr Zach Mounsey  
Ministerial non-veterinary appointee. Current term ends August 2025.

#### Entity Information

- Dr Julie Everett-Hincks  
Ministerial non-veterinary appointee. Current term ends October 2024.
- Dr Kylie Lawson  
Elected veterinary member. Current term ends December 2025.
- Dr Elizabeth Shackleton  
Elected veterinary member. Current term ends December 2025.

The Council formally met four times during the year to 31 March 2024.

The Council appoints committees to undertake functions on its behalf, to provide advice and to make policy recommendations. The business and membership of the Council's standing committees is reported on in the relevant sections of this report.

The Council is supported by a Wellington based staff team, led by the CEO & Registrar. The staff team are responsible for the Council's operations.

#### Main sources of Revenue

Most of the Council's revenue comes from the annual practising certificate application fees paid by veterinarians. Additional sources of funding include:

- Fees from applicants for veterinary registration
- Fees from for the issue of letters of good standing
- Cost recovery from disciplinary hearings.

In 2023/24 the Council Received \$2.6 million in one-off funding from the Ministry for Primary Industries for a project to assist recovery from the North Island Weather Events, including Cyclone Gabrielle. Any unspent funds will be returned to the Ministry at the conclusion of the project.

#### Contact us

<b>Chair</b>	Lindsay Burton
<b>CEO &amp; Registrar</b>	Iain McLachlan
<b>Postal address</b>	PO Box 10 563, Wellington 6143
<b>Council Office</b>	Level 6, Midland Chambers 45 Johnston Street Wellington
<b>Phone</b>	04 473 9600
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:vet@vetcouncil.org.nz">vet@vetcouncil.org.nz</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.vetcouncil.org.nz">www.vetcouncil.org.nz</a>

# Statement of Service Performance

## Veterinary Council of New Zealand For the year ended 31 March 2024

### The outcomes we aim for

The Council's Strategy sets a vision of New Zealand veterinarians as the world's most trusted veterinary profession and outlines our mission as leading New Zealand's veterinary profession through:

- Setting, promoting and upholding high standards
- Timely and transparent processes
- Being fair, consistent and compassionate
- Fostering stakeholder relationships.

The Strategy identifies five themes: Wellbeing, communication, relationships, quality and future scanning; all sitting under the overarching theme of public protection.

Output	Expected performance	Actual 2023/24	Note:	Actual 2022/23
<b>Wellbeing</b>				
Hold a webinar to support veterinarian and team member mental health	Achieved	Not Achieved	1	Achieved
Average score on monthly staff survey (out of 5)	4	3.9	2	4.1
<b>Communication</b>				
Number of face to face presentations to the profession	10	10		18
Number of presentations to veterinary students	3	6		3
Average feedback score from presentations (out of 10)	8	None Received	3	7.2
Number of veterinary articles published	15	19		24
Number of press releases and media articles	6	45		14
<b>Relationships</b>				
Percentage attendance at AVBC meetings	100%	100%		100%
Support and participate in Vet Futures Aotearoa	Achieved	Achieved		Achieved
Number of meeting with key stakeholder organisations	75	149		168
<b>Quality</b>				
Average time taken to close a Complaints Assessment Committee case	6 months	8.8 months	4	6 months
Average time taken to close a Notification Review Group case	6 months	4.8 months		6 months

Statement of Service Performance

Number of new guidance and standards documents issued for veterinarians	10	9	5	12
Number of new guidance documents issued for veterinary practices	5	1	6	3
<b>Future scanning</b>				
Number of veterinarians registered	200	285		317
Number of strategic planning sessions held	4	4		4
<b>Vets on Farm (North Island Weather Events Fund)</b>				
Number of farms that received funded vet visits and plans	300	288	7	
Number of vets included in the digital platform	50	64		

**Notes:**

1. A webinar was organised during the relevant year but was delayed until June 2024 to ensure good attendance.
2. The monthly staff survey consists of 5 questions, each with a rating of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Higher numbers indicate a more positive workplace experience. The average score is based on the mean score across all 5 questions each month. Given the small number of staff and varying response rates, the score can fluctuate. The Council has agreed that an average of 4 is an appropriate goal.
3. Vet Council staff distribute a link to a standard survey after all public presentations. The feedback score is based on a question asking for an overall rating out of 10 (higher being better). The response rate is often low.
4. Time is measured between an initial letter being sent to a veterinarian and the decision being sent to them. Due to higher than expected complaint numbers and some staff turnover (resulting in less capacity and the need to train new staff) the target was not met this year.
5. Guidance for veterinarians is published on the Hub ([hub.vetcouncil.org.nz](http://hub.vetcouncil.org.nz)). The amount of guidance published can depend on how complex the topics are and what other work priorities there are. The organisation had a significant amount of project work this year, which impacted on the ability to publish as many standards.
6. Practice Guidance is published in its own section on the Hub. The amount of practice guidance published can vary based on competing work priorities and our assessment of the need for more guidance.
7. Fewer farms than planned received vet visits mostly due to the time constraints the project was working under. Additionally, a number of clinics returned funds to the Vet Council for farms that they had signed up but were unable to provide the services to during the project period.

# Statement of Financial Performance

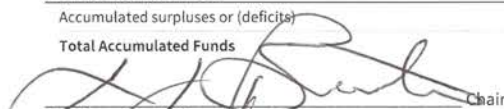
Veterinary Council of New Zealand  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	NOTES	2023
<b>Revenue</b>			
Fees and other revenue from Registrants	1,820,378	1	1,749,673
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	124,456		43,341
Government Grant - MPI NIWE Project	2,358,761	11	-
Other revenue	-		5
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,303,595</b>		<b>1,793,020</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employment Related Expenses	1,023,010	2	872,076
Costs related to providing goods or service	3,267,283	3	759,316
Other Expenses	38,792	4	32,297
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,329,086</b>		<b>1,663,689</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>(25,491)</b>		<b>129,330</b>

# Statement of Financial Position

Veterinary Council of New Zealand  
As at 31 March 2024

	31 MAR 2024	NOTES	31 MAR 2023
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	1,493,703	5	1,635,459
Receivables and prepayments	82,745		33,734
Prepayments	106,569		95,032
Interest Receivable	19,381		9,005
Investments (current)	2,132,387	5	1,765,678
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>3,834,786</b>		<b>3,538,909</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	30,507	7	29,385
IT Development	592	7	1,183
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>31,099</b>		<b>30,568</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,865,885</b>		<b>3,569,477</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	90,033	6	101,818
MPI NIWE Repayment	369,425		-
Employee costs payable	95,292		84,134
Goods and services tax	90,914		205,242
Fees Received In Advance	1,602,063		1,534,635
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>2,247,728</b>		<b>1,925,829</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,247,728</b>		<b>1,925,829</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)</b>	<b>1,618,157</b>		<b>1,643,648</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	1,618,157		1,643,648
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>1,618,157</b>		<b>1,643,648</b>

 Chair

 Chief Executive Officer

21 August 2024 Date

# Statement of Cashflows

Veterinary Council of New Zealand  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
<b>Statement of Cashflows</b>		
<b>Cashflows from Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Cash Inflows</b>		
Fees, Subscriptions and other receipts from registrants	1,838,795	1,864,600
Interest Received	114,079	37,061
Other Income	2,680,000	5
<b>Total Cash Inflows</b>	<b>4,632,874</b>	<b>1,901,666</b>
<b>Cash Outflows</b>		
Cash Paid for Supplies, Employees & Services	(4,282,226)	(1,639,068)
GST	(114,328)	16,792
<b>Total Cash Outflows</b>	<b>(4,396,554)</b>	<b>(1,622,276)</b>
<b>Total Cashflows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>236,320</b>	<b>279,390</b>
<b>Cashflows from Investing Activities</b>		
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(11,367)	(10,148)
Sale of Fixed Assets	-	88
<b>Total Cashflows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>(11,367)</b>	<b>(10,060)</b>
<b>Cashflows from Financial Activities</b>		
<b>Cash Outflows</b>		
Increase in Investments	(366,709)	(330,306)
<b>Total Cash Outflows</b>	<b>(366,709)</b>	<b>(330,306)</b>
<b>Total Cashflows from Financial Activities</b>	<b>(366,709)</b>	<b>(330,306)</b>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	(141,756)	(60,976)
Opening Cash	1,635,459	1,696,435
Closing Cash	1,493,703	1,635,459

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## Veterinary Council of New Zealand For the year ended 31 March 2024

### Statement of Accounting Policies

#### Reporting Entity

The Veterinary Council of New Zealand is governed by the Veterinarians' Act 2005.

#### Basis of Preparation

The entity has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

#### Measurement Base

The accounting principles recognised as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of income and expenditure on an accrual basis using historical cost have been adopted, in so far as they apply to the Council.

#### Specific Accounting Policies

The following specific accounting policies which materially effect the measurement of the financial performance and financial position have been adopted.

#### Revenue

Revenue is accounted for as follows:

##### Annual Practising Fees

The Annual Practising Fee is charged for the period from 1 April to 31 March.

Annual Practising Fee income is recognised on an accrual basis in the practising period to which it relates.

The \$1,602,063 shown in the Statement of Financial Position represents fee income in advance that will be recognised in the practising period from April 2024 to March 2025. (2023: \$1,534,635 recognised in the months April 2023 to March 2024).

#### Interest Income

Interest Income is recognised on an accruals basis.

#### Other Income

All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for in accordance with the substance of the transaction.

#### Goods and Service Tax

Veterinary Council of New Zealand is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at net realisable value after due allowance for uncollectible debts.

#### Income Tax

Veterinary Council of New Zealand is exempt from New Zealand income tax under sCW 50(2) of the Income Tax Act 2007.

#### Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances available on call.

#### Investments

Investments comprise short term deposits with less than 12 months to maturity.

**Valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, Plant and Equipment have been valued at cost less accumulated depreciation to date.

**Depreciation**

Rates of depreciation applied to the Property, Plant, Equipment and IT Development are:

Office Equipment	9.0-80.4%	DV
Furniture and Fittings	8.4 -39.6%	DV
Reference Library	26%	DV
Software Development	50%	DV
Website Development	50%	DV

**Changes in Accounting Policies**

There have been no changes in accounting policies. (2023 NIL). Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

**Notes to the performance report**

	2024	2023
<b>1. Analysis of Revenue from Registrants</b>		
Annual Practising Fees	1,693,708	1,620,674
Registration Application Fees	113,569	118,575
Specialist Registration Fees	1,570	2,511
Letter of Good Standing	11,530	7,913
<b>Total Analysis of Revenue from Registrants</b>	<b>1,820,378</b>	<b>1,749,673</b>
	2024	2023
<b>2. Employment Expenses</b>		
ACC Levies	1,532	1,383
Kiwisaver Employer Contributio	28,154	24,518
Payroll costs	2,172	2,225
Salaries	944,145	826,077
Staff Appointment Costs	34,809	9,016
Sundry Personnel Costs	12,199	8,858
<b>Total Employment Expenses</b>	<b>1,023,010</b>	<b>872,076</b>
	2024	2023
<b>3. Costs related to providing goods or services</b>		
Allied Veterinary Professional costs	5,922	-
Annual Practicing Certificate	48,714	17,812
Australian Veterinary Boards Council costs	98,244	90,325
Communications	95,339	53,636
Competence assessment	-	(906)
Complaints Assessment Committee	22,901	15,497
Council	117,029	92,599
Database & Website Support expenses	133,646	208,838
Elections	-	8,000

Notes to the Financial Statements

Health	21,520	24,861
Liaison	26,778	20,304
MPI NWE Project Costs	2,358,761	-
Notifications Review Group	1,596	1,345
Operating Expenses	87,892	75,139
Professional Standards	90,462	29,773
Property Rental	98,320	97,513
Veterinarian Act Review	60,160	24,580
<b>Total Costs related to providing goods or services</b>	<b>3,267,283</b>	<b>759,316</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>

**4. Other Expenses**

Accounting Fees	9,029	9,234
Audit Fees	15,022	8,170
Depreciation	10,836	10,774
Other expenses	3,904	4,120
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>38,792</b>	<b>32,297</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>

**5. Bank accounts, Cash & Investments**

<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>		
Cheque Account BNZ	618,656	875,282
Petty Cash	200	200
On Call	874,075	759,146
Money Maker Account ASB	772	831
<b>Total Bank and Cash Balances</b>	<b>1,493,703</b>	<b>1,635,459</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
Term Investment - BNZ	1,148,148	823,850
Term Investment - ASB	463,362	442,680
Term Investment ANZ	520,877	499,148
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>2,132,387</b>	<b>1,765,678</b>
<b>Total Bank accounts, Cash &amp; Investments</b>	<b>3,626,090</b>	<b>3,401,137</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>

**6. Analysis of liabilities**

<b>Creditors and accruals</b>		
Trade Creditors	37,579	80,083
Accruals	52,454	21,735
<b>Total Creditors and accruals</b>	<b>90,033</b>	<b>101,818</b>
<b>Total Analysis of liabilities</b>	<b>90,033</b>	<b>101,818</b>

## 7. Property, Plant, Equipment and IT Development

2024	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / disposals / adjustments	Current Yr Depn & Loss	Closing Carrying Amount
<b>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>					
Office Equipment	13311	10852		8182	15981
Furniture & Fittings	16074	515		2063	14526
Reference Library					
	<b>29385</b>	<b>11367</b>		<b>10245</b>	<b>30507</b>
<b>IT Development</b>					
Software Development	544			272	272
Website Development	639			319	320
	<b>1183</b>			<b>592</b>	<b>592</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30568</b>	<b>11367</b>		<b>10837</b>	<b>31099</b>
<b>2023</b>					
	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / disposals / adjustments	Current Yr Dep & Loss	Closing Carrying Amount
<b>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>					
Office Equipment	10502	10148	88	7251	13311
Furniture & Fittings	18414			2340	16074
Reference Library					
	<b>28916</b>	<b>10148</b>		<b>9591</b>	<b>29385</b>
<b>IT Development</b>					
Software Development	1088			544	544
Website Development	1279			640	639
	<b>2367</b>			<b>1184</b>	<b>1183</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>31282</b>	<b>10148</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>10775</b>	<b>30568</b>

## 8. Capital Commitments and contingent liabilities

Capital expenditure commitments contracted for at balance date	2024	2023
	NIL	NIL

## 9. Related Party transactions

During the year ended 31 March 2024 year, members of Council who are registered Veterinarians, deal with the Council as part of their ordinary course of business as veterinarians. Council members have also worked for the Professional Standards Committee. Total fees paid to the Professional Standards Committee amounted to \$4927 (2023 \$4,392)

Board Member remuneration	2024	2023
	\$49,480	\$47,310

## 10. Commitments and contingencies ,

Non-cancellable operating lease rentals (inclusive of GST) are payable as follows:

	2024	2023
Current	179,630	92,126
Non-current	925,090	19,096
	<b>\$1,104,720</b>	<b>\$111,222</b>

The Council entered into a lease for new premises commencing April 24. The lease expires on 31 March 2030.

The Council entered into a lease on a photocopier on 17 June 2021. The term of this lease is five years from the commencement date.

## 11. North Island Weather Events Grant

The Veterinary Council received grant income of \$2,680,000 from the Ministry for Primary Industries to support the recovery of rural communities and primary industries affected by the North Island Weather events of early 2023, including Cyclone Gabrielle. The project involved the delivery of veterinarian-led farm assessments and individualised animal health and welfare plans, along with the development of a digital platform to facilitate communication to, and with, veterinarians undertaking the work. The grant agreement provided that any funding provided that exceeded the cost of delivering the project must be refunded to the Ministry. At the end of the current financial year, total expenditure was \$2,358,761 and total underspent funding \$369,425 (GST inclusive). At completion of the project, total expenditure, including funds committed for an external evaluation was \$2,409,918. Total unspent funding of \$310,594 (GST inclusive) will be refunded to the Ministry.

## 12. Audit

These financial statements have been audited

## 13. Events Subsequent to reporting date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (Last year NIL).

## **CONTACT US:**

VETERINARY COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND

Postal Address: PO BOX 10 563 | WELLINGTON 6143

Council Office: LEVEL 6 | MIDLAND CHAMBERS | 45 JOHNSTON STREET | WELLINGTON

 04 473 9600  [vet@vetcouncil.org.nz](mailto:veter@vetcouncil.org.nz)  [www.vetcouncil.org.nz](http://www.vetcouncil.org.nz)