

## ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2020/21

### Appendix 3: External Examiners' report

## PgDip Veterinary Clinical Practice

This appendix contains Year Leader's responses to 2020/21 External Examiners' comments and updates to actions from previous External Examiners' reports (if applicable).

As Course Director please ensure you reflect on External Examiners' comments in the Course Review section. Please ensure that any actions to be taken in response to these comments have been recorded in your Annual Quality Improvement Report.

For support or advice please contact Ana Filipovic, Academic Quality Officer 'Standards', [afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk), 01707666938

Appendix 3 consists of:

a.	Updates to actions from previous years' reports
b.	20/21 Collaborative Annual Report with responses from Course Director

# Individual Report

Exam board meeting: 24-Jun-2021

Pg Dip in Veterinary Clinical Practice , 2020/21

Dr Liz Mossop

## The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

### 1.1 Course content

All appropriate and up to date

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met

All met despite the challenges of the year

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you, all the staff and examiners and administrators should be thanked for making it possible.

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 1.3 Teaching methods

All appropriate and up to date

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)

No issues

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

N/A

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

## 1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

This has evolved into an excellent programme which produces well rounded graduates through a range of assessment methods

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

### **Course Director Response:**

Thank you, we are delighted to receive this comment.

### **Action Required:**

### **Action Deadline:**

### **Action assigned to:**

## Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

Appropriate and comparable - the quality of assignments improves year on year

#### **COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

##### **Course Director Response:**

Thank you, we are continuing to work with your comments and feedback from the students to help the staff and examiners improve their feedback and comments.

##### **Action Required:**

##### **Action Deadline:**

##### **Action assigned to:**

### 2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range

Most candidates pass these assessments with very few resits - this is to be expected bearing in mind the level of study and competitive nature of entry onto the programme

#### **COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

##### **Course Director Response:**

No comment required

##### **Action Required:**

##### **Action Deadline:**

##### **Action assigned to:**

**2.3 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the students' performance**

none

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

N/A

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

These have not changed and are appropriate and align with the curriculum

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No reply required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

Appropriate levels of double marking and numbers of assessment points

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

Consistent

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

### 3.4 Standard of marking

Feedback and marking is at an expected level of consistency - there is some variation but over the period of time I have overseen this programme it has generally improved

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you, we are continuing to improve this each year and bring up to speed new examiners into the programme

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**



**3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)**

All appropriate, excellent support and BoE processes

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you to the examinations staff and course administrators.

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**3.6 Opinion on changes to the assessment procedures from previous years in which you have examined**

The changes made over the years have been appropriate and are mostly small changes to process and marking

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you for your comments, as always very useful to improve the course.

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

4.2 An acceptable response has been made

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

#### 4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

#### 4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

An issue around academic offence processes was identified and this was addressed in a very timely fashion by the team

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you for highlighting this and we will bring to the attention of the examiners about the RVC policies in suspected academic misconduct.

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.5 I attended the meeting of the Board of Examiners held to approve the results of the Examination**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you for attending the BoE meeting

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.7 The standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comments required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.8 The standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.9 I have received enough training and support to carry out my role**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

N/A

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

**4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

No comment required

**Action Required:**

**Action Deadline:**

**Action assigned to:**

## Completion

If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

**5.1 Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

None - I would like to thank the team for their support and swift responses on all matters relating to the programme. I did not receive timely feedback on my general comments relating to the safety net procedures this time and last time but I assume they were considered. I understand that teams have been very busy during this time.

**COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield**

**Course Director Response:**

Thank you for all your comments and support of the programme for the last 5 years. All comments are considered, and agree that teams have been very busy over the last year.



