

Individual Report

PM/07/25

Exam board meeting: 08-Oct-2025

RCVS Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice, 2024/25

Dr Connie Wiskin

The Programme

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

1.1 Course content

As previous, course content is aligned with relevant Learning Outcomes [LOs], and provides the means for candidates to study successfully. Content is clearly signposted, and accessible.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

Submitted work aligns to specified modular/course LOs. LOs were met in relation to teaching/guidance. (Non-meeting, albeit relatively rare, relates to candidate weakness in assessment rather than any programme deficit). LOs present as relevant, and specific.

Response from college requested: **NO**

1.3 Teaching methods

Educational/teaching methodologies are appropriate to PG learners at this level, and accommodate the flex needed for distance/remote/hybrid working. Learner support - as previously reported - is evident.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

Resources are well structured, clear and accessible.

Response from college requested: **NO**

1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

This programme is well conceived, well established and well run.

Response from college requested: **NO**

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Jill Maddison

Course Director Response:

Thank you for your positive comments

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

As expected, and aligned to PG performance elsewhere (with perhaps a slight - but not significant - sense of generosity).

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

I noted with pleasure the impressive numbers (overall) who have now completed the CertAVP, and the flexibility of the time frame they have in which to do so. This supports access to education for more mature learners.

Response from college requested: **NO**

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Jill Maddison

Course Director Response:

Thank you for this positive comment

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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

I concur with the expressed challenges of (some) learners failing to utilise feedback received on their first attempt into their second attempt, as evidenced in the need for third attempt on occasions. Programme support is robust, with the issue being attributable to a weaker student's ability to embrace remediation. This was discussed with transparency.

Response from college requested: **NO**

Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

Testing methodology was consistently aligned to curriculum objectives - and expectations are clearly signposted to candidates in their course information and assessment summary.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

Yes, no concerns.

Response from college requested: NO

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

Consistent.

Response from college requested: NO

3.4 Standard of marking

The July 2025 Board ratified a range of marks that fell within expected educational norms.

At top end there were some very strong submissions.

Marking was careful, consistent and where required double marked and moderated in line with HE recommended practice.

We noted:

1 x A module fail

1 x C module fail

Both students were notified of the outcome, and directed to the Student Appeals Procedure via the Student Resolution and Compliance team.

Care is taken with all marking decisions, in a clearly learner-focussed way (while meeting the needs of programme standards and reputation).

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Jill Maddison

Course Director Response:

Thank you for your positive comments

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)

Yes, awards are soundly conducted, and fair.

NB - The next Board of Examiners will take place 11:00am – 12:30pm Wednesday 8th October 2025 - thus a week after the given deadline for his report via the central portal. To avoid a breach of deadline any relevant amendments/updates will need to be uploaded as an Appendix.

I commend the professional services/admin team on timely and helpful communications. The summer period exam board was welcoming, well-chaired and inclusive.

Response from college requested: NO

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

N/A; as previously described.

Response from college requested: NO

3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

N/A (next board Oct 2025 pending)

Response from college requested: NO

General Statements

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

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.2 An acceptable response has been made

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

EE communications are timely, clear, informative and intuitive.

Response from college requested: NO

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:

Range was accessible.
Borderline or fail papers for particular review are highlighted.
EEs have full access to the documents necessary to the role.

Response from college requested: NO

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:

Response from college requested: NO

4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

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:

Response from college requested: NO

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:

Response from college requested: NO

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

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

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:

Response from college requested: NO

4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

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

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

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:

As discussed, a limit of number of permitted attempts - particularly where feedback has not been fully embraced - may be prudent.

Good practice is reflected in the range of projects supported, and research focus. References to holistic aspects of practice are particularly welcome.

RVC Learn remains a strong model.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Jill Maddison

Course Director Response:

Thank you for your contribution to the discussion around the number of permitted attempts. The Appeals process has been made more formal in line with other RVC qualifications

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

5.2 External Examiner comments: For College information only (Responses to External Examiners are published on the College's website. Please only use this box to add any comments that you wish to remain confidential, if any)

N/A

Response from college requested: NO