

If you don't like it, join it – and influence it

Dear editor,

Shams Mir (July 14 issue) describes SPVS as “an elite club of veterinary employers” and uses this view to demean its role and value within the profession. SPVS is for practising veterinary surgeons, not just for employers. It is not elitist. SPVS plays a significant role in watching and advising authorities that affect veterinary practice. Through its email discussion group, information on all aspects of practice is shared and warnings about proposed regulations are promulgated.

Last year, an RCVS committee announced that all general anaesthetics in veterinary practice would have to be monitored by qualified veterinary nurses. This was plainly ludicrously impractical, but was about to be passed to the rubber-stamping committee of the RCVS before the profession, in general, was made aware. The matter was reported on SPVS' email group and many members wrote to the committee chairman to complain about this. It was subsequently put on a back-burner. If SPVS is not to your liking as it is, but you are a vet in practice, join and influence it. You will feel far more a member of SPVS than you do of the RCVS.

Yours faithfully,

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