

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE VETERINARY MEDICINES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2008

2008 No. 2648

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1 The Regulation amends the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2008 (SI No. 2297) by providing for a fee of £40 for the registration of veterinary practice premises.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

None.

4. Legislative Background

4.1 This SI aims to correct an omission in the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2008, by adding a paragraph to Schedule 7 regarding charging of fees for the registration of veterinary practice premises.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

5.1 This instrument applies to all of the United Kingdom.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

6.1 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy background

7.1 The 2008 Regulations placed a statutory duty on the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to maintain a register of veterinary practice premises on behalf of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate. They should have included the statutory fee of £40 which was included in the Impact Assessment issued as part of the consultation. The RCVS' response to the consultation asked for the registration fee to be included in the Regulations. We agreed and drafted the relevant text but unfortunately did not notice that this change had not been carried over to the final text.

7.2 The RCVS are due to start populating the veterinary practice register in November 2008 and they need to be able to collect the fees for this work.

8. Impact

8.1 The registration fee was included in the Impact Assessment prepared for the consultation carried out for the 2008 Regulations. The only comment received on this subject was the RCVS' request to include the fee to the Regulations.

9. Contact

John FitzGerald at the Veterinary Medicines Directorate of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Tel: 01932 338303 or e-mail: <j.fitzgerald@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk> can answer any queries regarding the instrument.