

# Tom Lonsdale Veterinary Surgeon

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Mr Martin Alder, Editor  
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## FOR PUBLICATION

Dear Editor,

### Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons elections 2003

Thank you to the 9.6 per cent of voters who cast their vote for an end to veterinary endorsement of canned and dry junk-food for pets.

Slowly poisoning pets via their diet and then coming up with all manner of elaborate treatments — when prevention would work much better — cannot be condoned. At the extreme, some young cats whose diet-induced disease is not yet manifest, will be required to ‘donate’ their kidneys for transplantation into elderly animals suffering diet-induced kidney failure — with the full endorsement of the Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS).

Some voters have expressed concerns regarding the ethical, moral and legal implications of the RCVS stance. Some are concerned at the cover-up and refusal to permit debate by the veterinary press of the diet-cruelty issues.

Close to ten per cent of RCVS voters supported the proposition: ‘Let’s be honest, mainstream veterinary opinion and its supporting institutions pose considerable threat to the health and comfort of the world’s pets. At all levels vets endorse, promote and sell artificial pet foods — the source of so much disease and ill-health.’

As a profession we have blood on our hands — the blood of millions of defenceless pets. It’s time for clean hands; it’s time for the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to initiate an *independent* investigation of these serious allegations.

Signed,

Tom Lonsdale

CC Interested parties

