

**Nursing and Midwifery Council  
Fitness to Practise Committee**

**Substantive Meeting  
Wednesday, 9 October 2024 – Friday, 11 October 2024**

Virtual Meeting

**Name of Registrant:** Andrew James Walker

**NMC PIN:** 09A0072W

**Part(s) of the register:** Teacher – (May 2018)  
Registered Nurse – Sub Part 1  
Mental Health Nursing – (March 2009)

**Relevant Location:** Colwyn

**Type of case:** Misconduct and Conviction

**Panel members:** Nicola Dale (Chair, Lay member)  
Pamela Campbell (Registrant member)  
Fiona Abbott (Lay member)

**Legal Assessor:** Angus Macpherson

**Hearings Coordinator:** Samantha Aguilar

**Abuse of Process Application:** Rejected

**Facts proved:** Charges 1 and 2 (Misconduct charges)  
Charge 1 (Conviction charge)

**Facts not proved:** N/A

**Fitness to practise:** Impaired

**Sanction:** Striking-off order

**Interim order:** Interim suspension order (18 months)

## **Decision on facts**

The panel found all charges in relation to both misconduct (2 charges) and conviction (1 charge) proved.

## **Decision on misconduct**

The panel determined that the facts found proved amounted to misconduct.

## **Decision on impairment**

The panel is of the view that there is a risk of repetition based on the nature and seriousness of the charges. The panel therefore decided that a finding of impairment is necessary on the grounds of public protection.

The panel bore in mind that the overarching objectives of the NMC are to protect, promote and maintain the health safety and well-being of the public and patients, and to uphold/protect the wider public interest, which includes promoting and maintaining public confidence in the nursing and midwifery professions and upholding the proper professional standards for members of those professions.

The panel determined that, in this case, a finding of impairment on public interest grounds was also required. A well-informed member of the public, apprised of the facts of this case, would be appalled if the panel had not found Mr Walker impaired on public interest grounds.

## **Decision on sanction**

The panel determined that the appropriate and proportionate sanction is that of a striking-off order. Having regard to the matters it identified, in particular the effect of Mr Walker's actions in bringing the profession into disrepute, adversely affecting the public's view of how a registered nurse should conduct himself, the panel has concluded that nothing short of this would be sufficient in this case.

The panel considered that this order was necessary to mark the importance of maintaining public confidence in the profession, and to send to the public and the profession a clear message about the standard of behaviour required of a registered nurse.

### **Decision and reasons on interim order**

The panel imposed an interim suspension order for a period of 18 months on the grounds of public protection and the wider public interest.

If no appeal is made, then the interim suspension order will be replaced by the substantive striking off order 28 days after Mr Walker is informed of this decision.