Nursing and Midwifery Council Fitness to Practise Committee

Interim Order Review Hearing Friday, 21 March 2025

Virtual Hearing

Rebecca Jade Howard

NMC PIN: 20I1107E Part(s) of the register: Nurses Sub Part 1 Mental Health Nurse, Level 1 (1 April 2021) **Relevant Location:** Suffolk Panel members: Scott Handley (Chair, Lay member) Sally Shearer (Registrant member) Vicki Harris (Lay member) Nina Ellin KC Legal Assessor:

Name of Registrant:

Hearings Coordinator:

Nursing and Midwifery Council: Represented by Sophia Ewulo, Counsel

instructed by the Nursing and Midwifery

Council (NMC)

Zahra Khan

Miss Howard: Not present and not represented at this

hearing

Interim order to be reviewed: Interim conditions of practice order (18

months)

Outcome of review: Interim conditions of practice order

confirmed

Decision and reasons on interim order

The panel decided to confirm the current interim conditions of practice order.

The panel was of the view that the public would remain suitably protected by the continuation of the following conditions:

'For the purposes of these conditions, 'employment' and 'work' mean any paid or unpaid post in a nursing, midwifery or nursing associate role. Also, 'course of study' and 'course' mean any course of educational study connected to nursing, midwifery or nursing associates

- You must limit your nursing practice to one substantive employer. If that employer is an agency, then any placement should be for at least three months in one ward or single clinical setting.
- 2. You must not be the sole nurse on duty.
- 3. You must not be the nurse in charge of any shift.
- 4. You must meet every month with your line manager, mentor or supervisor (or their nominated deputy) to discuss your clinical practice in relation to:
 - Your management and administration of medication
 - Your management of a deteriorating patient
 - Record keeping
 - Patient observations
 - · Communication skills.

- 5. You must send a report from your line manager, mentor, or supervisor (or their nominated deputy) setting out the standard of your performance to the NMC prior to any review regarding:
 - Your management and administration of medication
 - Your management of a deteriorating patient
 - · Record keeping
 - Patient observations
 - · Communication skills
- 6. You must keep the NMC informed about anywhere you are working by:
 - Telling your case officer within seven days of accepting or leaving any employment.
 - b) Giving your case officer your employer's contact details.
- 7. You must keep the NMC informed about anywhere you are studying by:
 - a) Telling your case officer within seven days of accepting any course of study.
 - b) Giving your case officer the name and contact details of the organisation offering that course of study.
- 8. You must immediately give a copy of these conditions to:
 - a) Any organisation or person you work for.
 - b) Any agency you apply to or are registered with for work.
 - c) Any employers you apply to for work (at the time of application).
 - d) Any establishment you apply to (at the time of application), or with which you are already enrolled, for a course of study.

- 9. You must tell your case officer, within seven days of your becoming aware of:
 - a) Any clinical incident you are involved in.
 - b) Any investigation started against you.
 - c) Any disciplinary proceedings taken against you.
- 10. You must allow your case officer to share, as necessary, details about your performance, your compliance with and / or progress under these conditions with:
 - a) Any current or future employer.
 - b) Any educational establishment.
 - c) Any other person(s) involved in your retraining and/or supervision required by these conditions.'

The panel decided to confirm this interim conditions of practice order and it will run for the remainder of the current interim order.

Unless Miss Howard's case has already been concluded, this interim order must be reviewed before the end of the next six months and every six months thereafter.

Additionally, Miss Howard or the NMC may ask for the interim order to be reviewed if any new evidence becomes available that may be relevant to the interim order.

At any review, the reviewing panel may revoke the interim order or any condition of it, it may confirm the interim conditions of practice order, or vary any condition of it, or it may replace the interim conditions of practice order with an interim suspension order.

In certain circumstances, it may be possible for the interim conditions of practice order to be reviewed by a reviewing panel at an administrative meeting. Miss Howard's case officer will write to her about this in due course.

A panel of the Fitness to Practise Committee has still to deal with the allegations made against Miss Howard. The NMC will keep Miss Howard informed of developments in relation to that issue.

This will be confirmed to Miss Howard in writing.

That concludes this determination.