

Farriers Registration Council



Established under the  
Farriers (Registration) Act 1975

# **Your Disciplinary Hearing**

A Guide to assist Registered Farriers with  
understanding the sanction given by the  
Disciplinary Committee

**REPRIMAND AND/OR WARNING  
AS TO YOUR FUTURE CONDUCT**

September 2025

## ***Introduction***

The purpose of this guide is to assist you to understand the stages taken by the Disciplinary Committee of the Council (the Committee) in reaching their decision, the sanction directed by the Committee and the way forward following your hearing.

## ***What is the Standard of Proof applied at my hearing?***

The standard of proof is the standard applied in civil cases, namely the Committee must be satisfied on the balance of probabilities that the alleged facts have been proved.

## ***Your hearing***

The Committee met and considered the complaint against you. Your hearing consisted of three successive stages: first; the facts, second; serious misconduct in any professional respect, and third; sanction. What the Committee decided at each stage will have determined whether the hearing progressed to the next stage.

## ***Stage One – The Facts***

- The Committee found some or all of the facts (the charges) as set out in the Notice of Inquiry were admitted or proved to the civil standard, that is on the balance of probabilities.

## ***Stage Two – Serious Misconduct in a professional respect***

- The Committee decided that the facts found proved amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

- The Committee may have considered the submissions, the mitigating and aggravating factors (insofar as they related to the conduct found proved) when determining the issue of serious misconduct and any breaches of the 'Farrier, Approved Training Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct' when reaching its decision.

### ***Stage Three – Sanction***

Having found that some or all of the facts which were found proved amounted to Serious Misconduct in a professional respect, the Committee considered what sanction to impose. The Committee then considered the available sanctions in ascending order of severity beginning with the option of making no sanction. The purpose of a sanction is not to punish but to protect the public interest, the reputation of the profession and the welfare of animals.

The options/sanctions below were available to the Committee:

- make no direction / take no further action.
- postpone judgment until a later date set by the Committee.
- issue a reprimand and/or a warning as to your future conduct.
- suspend your registration for a specified period of time, usually not exceeding a period of two years.
- direct that the Registrar should remove your name from the Register.

***What sanction did I receive, what does it mean and how does it affect my ability to carry out farriery?***

The Committee directed the sanction of a reprimand and/a warning as to your future conduct.

This decision means that you may continue to carry out farriery, although, as with all Registered Farriers, you must ensure that your registration to practise farriery is maintained through the payment of the annual retention fee on time.

Records relating to this matter will be retained on file indefinitely.

***What happens after the hearing?***

Following the hearing you will receive a written Notice of Determination from the Council's solicitor and the FRC, which will confirm the decision of the Disciplinary Committee and advise that the matter is now closed.

***Will the outcome of the hearing be published?***

Yes. The determination and decision of the DC shall be published on the FRC website and in the FRC Bulletin and (anonymously as part of statistical data) the FRC Annual Report.

Elements of the determination and decision may be redacted from the published version where it includes information about minors, the registrant's health, the health of others, or any other sensitive information, but such issues are likely to have been heard in private and will not form part of the public determination or public decision in any event.



The determination and decision will remain on the FRC website for the relevant period, as set out in the summary table, from the date of the DC’s determination and decision.

**FRC Website**

The Council shall publish the determination and decision on the website following the DC hearing for a period of seven months.

**FRC Bulletin**

The Council shall publish the determination and decision in the next Bulletin publication following the hearing.

**FRC Annual Report**

The FRC Annual Report shall set out anonymised data in respect of the work of both statutory committees (including outcomes of disciplinary hearings). The purpose of so doing is to provide a record of the business of both committees.

**PUBLICATION SUMMARY TABLE**  
**REPRIMAND AND / WARNING AS TO YOUR FUTURE CONDUCT**

OUTCOME	PUBLICATION TIMESCALE	PUBLICATION LOCATION
Reprimand or Warning as to Future Conduct	7 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FRC Website</li><li>• FRC Bulletin</li><li>• FRC Annual Report (Anon)</li></ul>

***Will the outcome of the hearing remain on my record?***

Yes. Findings of fact found proved by the Disciplinary Committee (and the ensuing decisions on serious professional misconduct and sanction) will remain on your record permanently.

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