

FARRIERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL

Bulletin

REGULATING THE PROFESSION OF FARRIERY



*Staying Professional
on Social Media*

Foreword



Winter may have taken some time to pass but the temperature is inching up, the grass is growing and, perhaps unsurprisingly, reports of laminitis are plentiful. In this edition of the Bulletin we focus on three very different topics all of which impact Registered Farriers in very different ways.

First, we feature an article written by the Chair of the Approvals Committee of the Council, Martin Peaty, and which explains in detail the work they carry out on behalf of the Council. The work carried by the Approvals Committee is rooted in statute and requires the Council to explicitly approve: (1) Courses of Training – in effect the apprenticeship; (2) Qualifications – in effect the End Point Assessment which assures that those passing it meet the standard for registration, and delivery of the End Point Assessment, and (3) Training Institutions – in effect the colleges that deliver the farriery apprenticeship. The work of the Approvals Committee is of much significance and the article sets out in detail how they go about their work.

Second, Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Registrants will know that 2023 is the first year of 'CPD for all' and that the audit of this years' achievements will take place in 2024. It is of interest that many seem to be of the view that they must pay to undertake CPD activity. This is incorrect, and is made clear in the Guide to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Registered Farriers on pages 2 and 3, CPD need not take place at a structured learning event and, for example, your own private study or reading is perfectly acceptable where there is a learning benefit.

Third, social media. It is no exaggeration to say that social media, while it has clear benefits when used responsibly, can be a hazard to health when used irresponsibly. We carry a piece in this edition that sets out some of the pitfalls and hazards of using social media, and also some advice or 'top tips' to keep you safe, and compliant, when using it. It is nothing short of tragic to learn of how lives have been brought to a premature end or otherwise blighted by the worst excesses of online abuse via social media.

Finally, some dates for your diary later in 2023:

- Farrier Focus at Stoneleigh – 28 & 29 October 2023
- Your Horse Live at Stoneleigh – 10, 11 & 12 November 2023

David Greenwood, Registrar

Annual Report

The Annual Report for 2022 is now available to view on the Council's website www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

Hard copies of the Annual Report are available to be sent to Registered Farriers upon request to the FRC Offices.



Contents

Guidance

2023 - Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for all Registered Farriers	8
--	---

Social Media - Think before you write...	9
--	---

Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 April 2023	5
---	---

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 April 2023	6
--	---

Featured Article

The Role of the Approvals Committee (AC)	3
--	---

Updates

Disciplinary Committee Hearings	10
---------------------------------	----

Notices

Annual Report	2
---------------	---

Council Meeting Dates for 2023	7
--------------------------------	---

Policy Statement on the Abuse, Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation	9
--	---

Temporary Licence Applications	25
--------------------------------	----

Overseas Application	25
----------------------	----

Overseas Registrations	25
------------------------	----

New Registrations	25
-------------------	----

Higher Qualifications Achieved	25
--------------------------------	----

ATF Approvals	25
---------------	----

Restorations	25
--------------	----

The Role of the Approvals Committee By Martin Peaty, Chair of the Approvals Committee

Professional regulators such as the FRC are charged by Parliament with several functions to maintain standards. They must maintain a register of working professionals and set standards of behaviour, usually outlined in a code of professional conduct, which registered professionals must adhere to in order to stay registered. Most regulators, including the FRC are also responsible for approving the training, examinations and qualifications of the next generation of professionals.

The FRC is charged under Section 11 (1) of the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 with approval of:

- Any course of training which the Council considers is designed to confer on persons completing it sufficient knowledge and skill for carrying out the shoeing of horses.
- Any qualification which, as the result of an examination taken in conjunction with a course of training approved by the Council under this section, is granted to candidates reaching a standard at the examination indicating, in the opinion of Council, that they have sufficient knowledge and skill to carry out the shoeing of horses.
- Any institution which the Council considers is properly organised and equipped for conducting the whole or any part of a course of training approved by the Council.

Under Section 12 of the Act the FRC is required to keep itself informed of the nature of the instruction given at institutions approved under the Act to persons attending approved courses, and of examinations the passing of which may be prescribed by the Council as a condition for registration.

The FRC may refuse its approval or withdraw approval which has previously been given.

The FRC carries out these functions through the Approvals Committee (AC). The AC reports to the Council which is the ultimate decision-making body and is comprised of individuals with a range of knowledge, skills and experience in farriery, education, assessment and regulation.

The FRC sets the policies and procedures for the AC stating that the committee has 'specific delegated functions in relation to the Council's responsibilities' in respect of farriery courses, qualifications and training institutions.

The three farriery colleges in Great Britain (Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire College, Myerscough College and Warwickshire College Group) and the Defence Animal Training Regiment (DATR) are visited by the AC on a rotational basis with visits commencing once any training institution and course has been approved. The committee visits are designed to verify that standards are sufficient to ensure animal welfare and that the public interest is served by the delivery of well-trained farriers.

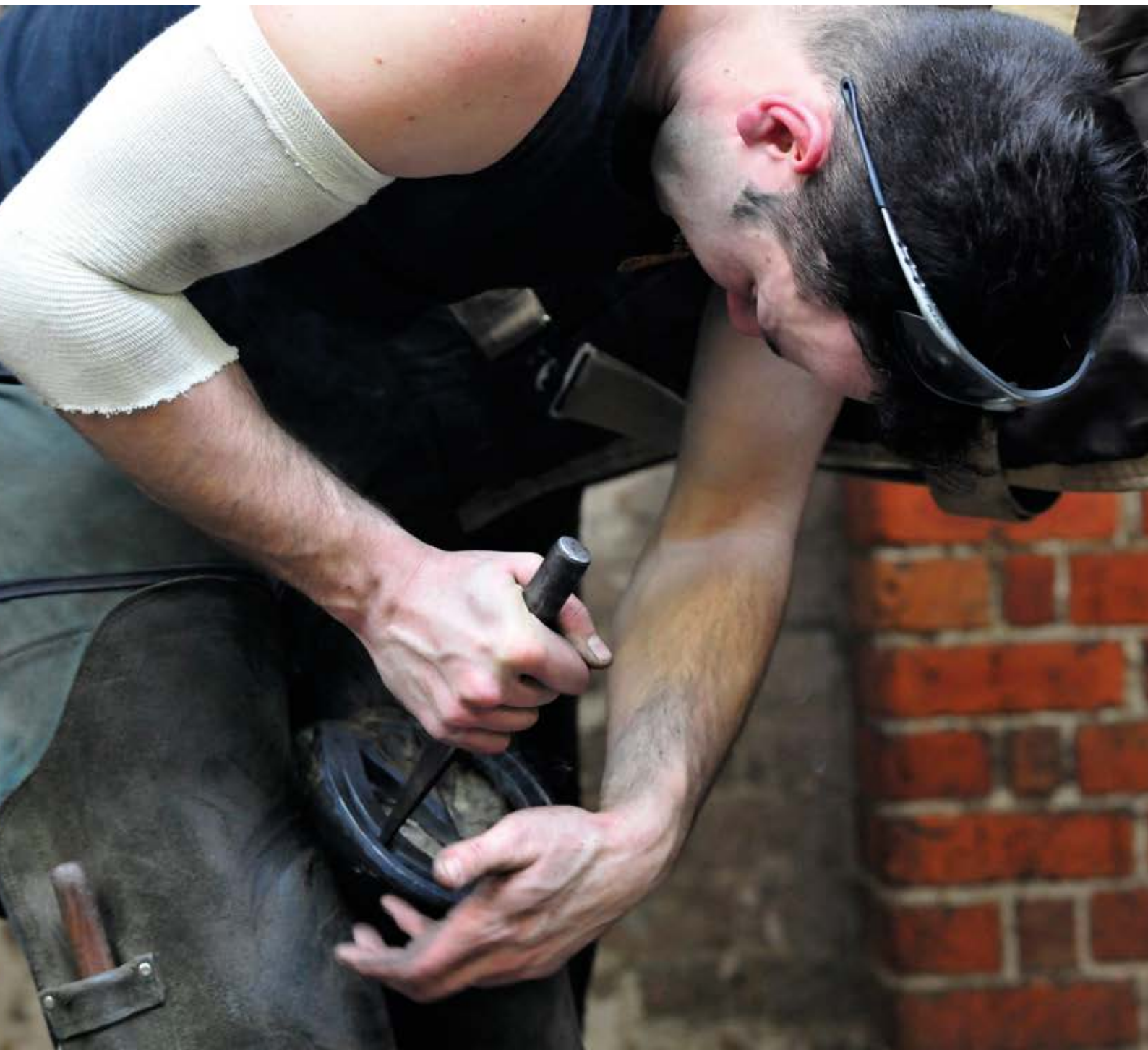
The AC observes lectures and practical sessions, and assesses the quality of the teaching and learning support. Internal and external quality assurance including the institutions examination results are examined. The committee check that staff, particularly the farriery tutors, have appropriate professional qualifications and have Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to support them both as farriers and educators. Resources in the forges and shoeing areas, including the availability of horses, and health and safety matters are also checked. Student welfare and support, the work of the field placement officers and the college's relationship with the Approved Training Farriers (ATFs) are scrutinised.

The Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (DipWCF), awarded following successful completion of the End Point Assessment (EPA), is the entry qualification taken by apprentice farriers in Great Britain, but the AC is also responsible for approving the Certified Military Farrier Examination taken by farriers trained in the British Army and the Certified Journeyman Farrier (CJF) award of the American Farriers Association (AFA). Possession of any of these three qualifications allows registration with the FRC and the ability to practice farriery in Great Britain.

The Role of the Approvals Committee cont/d

The AC ensure the validity of the examination, that it assures the standard for registration to practice farriery in GB and that all areas of the apprenticeship standard or syllabus are examined. The reliability of the examination will be appraised – every candidate must have an equal chance of passing the examination irrespective of examination centre or examiner. The AC will look at the written, practical and oral examinations including the examiners' meetings and appeals procedures.

The AC has benchmarked the wide variety of higher farrier qualifications, examinations and awards so that members of the public and the farriery profession and allied professions can be clear what each means. This information is available on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk/farrier-qualifications-examinations-and-awards



Council Meeting Minutes >>>

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 26 April 2023



1. Apologies for Absence and Welcome

Apologies were received from Mr Potter.

The Chair welcomed Council Members to the meeting.

Council members were reminded of the importance of following conference call meeting etiquette which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Council Members were thanked for maintaining the confidence of meeting papers published on the FRC intranet that were confidential to the Council and not to be copied or shared.

2. Declarations of Interest

Council Members declared possible conflicts of interest as follows:

Mr T Smith – member of the BFBA and WCF Freeman

Mr Y Breisner – BHA representative, recipient of farriery services from Mr Elliott

Mr A Charlwood – appointed by the WCF and WCF Liveryman
Operations Superintendent K Colman – RSPCA and horse owner

Mr T Daniels – member of the BFBA

Mr I Davidson – appointed by Scottish Enterprise

Mr G Elliott – Contractor for British Equestrian

Mr D Gardner – member of the BFBA

Mr D Harman – WCF Liveryman, member of the BFBA and BFBA Executive Committee

Mr R May – appointed by the WCF, WCF Liveryman and member of the BFBA

Mr S Moore – appointed by the BFBA and member of the WCF Examination Board and Examination Executive Group

Mr M Peaty – appointed by the RCVS and horse owner

Dr M Smith – appointed by the RCVS and Independent Veterinary Consultant for World Horse Welfare

Dr J Sutton – appointed by the WCF, Member of WCF Examinations Board, FEI Anti-Doping Official and Equine Insurance Underwriter

Mr M Weston – employed by BHS, appointed by BEF

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – 27 April 2022

The approved minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 April 2022 were noted.

4. Matters Arising from the AGM which are not Agenda items and which have not been progressed at ordinary Council Meetings

There were no matters arising.

5. To Approve:

5.1 Committee Membership 2023

The Council considered membership of its committees for 2023 and decided as follows:

Registration Committee (RC) – The Council **APPROVED** the continued appointment of Mr Y Breisner as Chair and the membership of the RC.

Approvals Committee (AC) – The Council **APPROVED** the continued appointment of Mr M Peaty as Chair and the membership of the AC.

Finance Committee (FC) – The Council **APPROVED** the continued appointment of Mr A Charlwood as Chair and the membership of the FC.

A list of Council Committee membership and Council representatives to the Farriery Apprenticeship Steering Group (FASG) set out at Appendix A to the Council papers was considered and **APPROVED** by the Council.

The Chair thanked all Committee Members and the Committee Chairs for their continued commitment to the Council.

5.2 2022 Audited Accounts

Mr Charlwood presented the Audited Accounts for 2022 for Council approval. The Council noted that the recorded surplus would assist with rebuilding the Council's depleted reserves incurred from increased expenditure incurred on delivering statutory functions over recent years. Mr Charlwood thanked Mrs Finck for her continued hard work in ensuring the accounts were maintained appropriately, recognised by the Auditors who, again, did not submit any management observations within their auditors report.

The Council **APPROVED** the Audited Accounts for 2022.

5.3 2022 Annual Report

The Council considered the draft Annual Report for 2022.

The Council **APPROVED** the draft Annual Report for 2022 for publication. The Council was reminded the report, including the audited accounts, would be published on the FRC website and hard copies made available on request.

Council Meeting Minutes >>>

6. To Note:

6.1 Annual Declarations and Confidentiality

It was noted that in accordance with the 'Countering Financial Crime Risks' policy, all Office Holders and Council employees had completed an Annual Declaration for 2023. Additionally, all Office Holders had submitted annual confidentiality statements.

7. Any Other Business (AOB)

There were no matters of AOB.
The meeting concluded at 10.42am

Annex A: FRC Policy and Guides APPROVED during this meeting

- 2022 Audited Accounts
- 2022 Annual Report

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 April 2023



1. Apologies for Absence and Welcome

Apologies were received from Mr Potter.

2. Declarations of Interest

Council Members declared possible conflicts of interest as follows:

Mr T Smith – member of the BFBA and WCF Freeman

Mr Y Breisner – BHA representative, recipient of farriery services from Mr Elliott

Mr A Charlwood – appointed by the WCF and WCF Liveryman
Operations Superintendent K Colman – RSPCA and horse owner

Mr T Daniels – member of the BFBA

Mr I Davidson – appointed by Scottish Enterprise

Mr G Elliott – Contractor for British Equestrian

Mr D Gardner – member of the BFBA

Mr D Harman – WCF Liveryman, member of the BFBA and BFBA Executive Committee

Mr R May – appointed by the WCF, WCF Liveryman and member of the BFBA

Mr S Moore – appointed by the BFBA and member of the WCF Examination Board and Examination Executive Group

Mr M Peaty – appointed by the RCVS and horse owner

Dr M Smith – appointed by the RCVS and Independent Veterinary Consultant for World Horse Welfare

Dr J Sutton – appointed by the WCF, Member of WCF Examinations Board, FEI Anti-Doping Official and Equine Insurance Underwriter

Mr M Weston – employed by BHS, appointed by BEF

3. Notification of any items to be raised under 'Any Other Business'

There were no items of Any Other Business to be considered.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 October 2022 were noted for reference purposes only; the minutes had previously been approved by Council members out of committee.

5. Matters Arising which are not Agenda Items

There were no matters arising to be considered.

6. To Receive and Consider the following Reports, Council Committee Minutes and Associated Papers: 6.1 Minutes of the Registration Committee (RC) Meeting of 1 March 2023

The Council noted the minutes of the RC held on 1 March 2023. Mr Breisner, Chair of the RC, reported that enquiries had been initiated concerning recent reports that equine grooms were being taught how to remove a shoe as part of the Senior Groom Apprenticeship standard. The Council noted the concerns that this appeared to be outwith Section 16 of the Act which only permitted for first aid to be given by unregistered persons in an emergency situation. **In addition to the Council's on-going correspondence it was AGREED that a communication piece to set out the position, released via the equine press, would be beneficial.**

The Council noted the State of the Register information previously considered by the RC, the register was continually monitored by the RC but Council members were reminded that a number of external forces affected the Register which were out of the Council's control.

The Chair noted that new advertisements had been published to promote the profession across various publications and thanked the staff for securing extensive circulation across different media.

[The Chair concluded the open session of the Council Meeting]

7. THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5 & 7.6 WERE CONDUCTED IN CLOSED SESSION OF THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER MATTERS OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIAL SENSITIVITY

- 7.1a Report of the Approvals Committee (AC)
- 7.1b WCF Diploma and EPA Approvals Committee Concerns
- 7.1c DipWCF Examination Results by College - 2020-2022
- 7.2 Farriery Apprenticeship Steering Group (FASG)
- 7.4 Minutes of the Finance Committee (FC) Meeting of 22 March 2023
- 7.4 Office Holders Code of Conduct
- 7.5 Investigating Committee Manual
- 7.6 Countering Financial Crime Risks Policy and Money Laundering Risk Assessment

8. Any Other Business:

There were no items of any other business.

The meeting concluded at 1.15pm

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 17 October 2023

Annex A: FRC Policy and Guides APPROVED during this meeting

- Office Holders Code of Conduct
- Investigating Committee Manual
- Countering Financial Crime Risks Policy and Money Laundering Risk Assessment

Council Meeting Dates for 2023

The Farriers Registration Council (FRC) meets twice a year. The next Council Meeting for 2023 is scheduled for Tuesday 17 October 2023.

Agendas will be posted on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk



2023 – Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for all Registered Farriers

Registrants will be aware that as of 1 January 2023 CPD is mandatory for Registered Farriers, with the first audit taking place in 2024 in respect of learning undertaken during 2023.

ATFs and Registered Farriers who have been selected for the FRC's audit of 2022 CPD activity will recently have received a request to make their annual submissions. We take this opportunity to remind registrants (and in particular those registrants selected for audit who have yet to make their submissions) of the following CPD requirements.

The requirement is to obtain a minimum of 10 CPD points annually, with demonstration of 30 points over the last 3 years accepted when the annual 10 points requirement is not achieved. Points allocation is based on a scale of time invested in learning.

The allocation works on a formula of **0.5 points per hour** as follows:

Duration of CPD activity	CPD Point Allocation Guide
1 hour	0.5
2 hours	1
3 hours	1.5
4 hours	2
5 hours	2.5
6 hours	3
7 hours	3.5
8 hours	4



It is important to note that CPD learning does not have to be achieved by taking part in a structured learning event that necessitates travel or cost. The main consideration should be that an individual takes part in and records different types of learning relevant to professional farriery and that there is a learning benefit from the activity. The focus should be on relevant subjects that build and develop professional knowledge, skills and behaviours, and this may differ from individual-to-individual relative to their level of experience and other factors.

Registered Farriers must maintain an annual record of CPD entries for the review period, January to December. This must be legible and may be kept online using the CPD tools within the **My FRC** area of the FRC's website (www.farrier-reg.gov.uk), electronically on a computer, or as a hardcopy on paper. It is essential that if an event or activity is recorded as part of a registrant's CPD taking part in that activity will allow the registrants to complete the following statement:

"By taking part in this activity I learned....." and that this explanation is provided to the FRC as part of the Annual Submission.

Registrants must make a submission of their annual CPD records to the FRC when requested to do so.

Further information on how to achieve, record and submit annual CPD learning can be found within the **MY CPD** area of **My FRC** at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

Social Media - Think before you write...

Social media is a term used to describe websites and online applications that encourage social interaction between users and content creators. Social media covers a number of internet-based tools including, but not limited to, blogs, internet forums, content communities and social networking sites such as Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Pinterest.

These interactive technologies can offer great benefits personally and professionally. Used responsibly they are effective communication tools for marketing businesses, developing and sharing skills and knowledge and raising the profile of the farrier profession. However, the use of social media is not without risk and Registered Farriers should be aware of the consequences that may arise from its misuse. Registered Farriers may put their registration at risk if they demonstrate inappropriate behaviour when using social media as the standards expected of Registered Farriers in the virtual world are no different to the standards expected in the real world.



The FRC's 'Farrier, Approved Training Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct' states that 'Farriers have a responsibility to behave professionally and responsibly when offline and online, whether as themselves or in a virtual capacity (e.g. as an avatar or under an alias)'.

The FRC recommends considering the following when using social media:

- Remember that the Code of Professional Conduct must be followed at all times, even under the anonymity of social media.
- Maintain and protect client confidentiality by not disclosing information about a client that could identify them on social media, unless the client gives their express consent.
- Be respectful and protect the privacy of others.
- Be proactive in removing content that could be viewed as unprofessional.
- Avoid making, posting or facilitating (such as reposting or forwarding) statements, images or videos that may cause undue distress or offence.
- Remember that online information once published can be difficult, if not impossible, to remove and in many cases can be traced back to the original author.

Finally, remember social media activity outside of your work may still be connected to you as a registered professional; it may affect your registration, damage your reputation and may harm the public perception of the profession.

Policy Statement on Abuse, Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation

The FRC staff are committed to providing you with the highest level of service on behalf of your regulatory body at all times; the FRC staff have the right to provide that service in a safe environment.

The FRC will not tolerate abuse, bullying, harassment and intimidation aimed at the FRC staff. This includes threats of violence and includes actions made in person, on the telephone or via any electronic means. Should such behaviour take place the FRC staff may refer the incident to appropriate law enforcement or civil authorities, and staff may refer the incident to the Investigating Committee of the FRC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Disciplinary Committee Hearings

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr A J Davies DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the Disciplinary Committee (DC) in respect of Mr Davies; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE

“That, being registered under the Farriers Registration Act 1975 (as amended) (“the Act”):

On 14 April 2021, at the Leicester Magistrates’ Court, you were convicted, following a guilty plea, of the following offence:

On 26 March 2021, when suspected of having driven a vehicle and having been required to provide a specimen or specimens of breath for analysis by means of a device of a type approved by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 7 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 in the course of an investigation into whether you had committed an offence under section 3 A, 4, 5 or 5 A thereof, failed without reasonable excuse to do so, contrary to section 7(6) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988;

And that in relation to the above, you were disqualified from holding or obtaining a driving licence for 22 months (reduced by 22 weeks upon satisfactory completion of a drink drive rehabilitation course) and ordered to comply with an unpaid work requirement of 140 hours unpaid work by 13 April 2022.

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect”.

Ms. Nicole Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council; Ms. Aleksandra Manning-Rees appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Respondent admitted the conviction alleged. The documents presented to the Committee included the Certificate of Conviction from the Leicester Magistrates’ Court. The Committee found the facts proved.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis submitted that the nature of the conviction was such as to amount to serious misconduct in a professional respect, particularly when considered in conjunction with three previous convictions for driving or being in charge of a vehicle when alcohol

had been consumed in excess of the prescribed limit. She told the Committee that the police had become involved in the present case when officers were called to the scene of a collision involving the Respondent’s vehicle. A police officer noticed that the Respondent smelt of alcohol and that his speech was slurred. A roadside breath test was positive for alcohol. The Respondent was taken to the police station where he was asked to provide a sample of breath by using an approved device. He made four attempts to provide a sample but failed to do so despite repeated warnings from officers.

The Committee concluded that a conviction of this kind was likely to bring the profession into disrepute. Driving a motor vehicle was an integral part of the business of all or almost all farriers and the Committee was satisfied that a reasonable and fully informed member of the public would be concerned that a Registered Farrier involved in an accident had failed without reasonable excuse to provide a specimen of breath and the more so when such a failure followed previous convictions for alcohol-related driving offences in 2002, 2004, and 2009.

The Committee therefore concluded that the Respondent’s admission to serious misconduct in a professional respect was correctly made and was satisfied that such a finding was appropriate in this case.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Manning-Rees emphasised to the Committee that the Respondent appeared before the Committee as a chastened man. She pointed out that the previous convictions occurred before he was admitted to the Register and were now so old that they had not restricted the sentencing discretion of the Magistrates’ Court. Those offences were committed when the Respondent was a much younger man. She drew attention to the Respondent’s family circumstances, as set out in his witness statement and the correspondence from his wife and said that any period of suspension would have a very serious impact not only upon the Respondent but also upon his wife and children. The Respondent apologised through her for his conviction.

In relation to mitigating circumstances, the Respondent had been registered since 2011 and there were no previous regulatory findings. He had undertaken an approved rehabilitation course. He had made a full and early admission to the offence and had declared the conviction on his Annual Return. There has been no repetition of the conduct since the conviction and the Committee noted that the Respondent said in his witness statement that he had now changed his attitude to drinking and that he no longer

drank if he was due to work the following day. He had also shown remorse for his conduct.

The Committee was satisfied that the Respondent had shown some insight into the seriousness of this conviction, albeit it was difficult to gauge the precise extent of his insight as he had not given oral evidence to the Committee.

The Committee was satisfied that it would not be appropriate to take no action. Such a course was reserved for exceptional circumstances and there were no exceptional circumstances which would justify that in this case. No useful purpose would be served by postponing sanction.

The Committee next carefully considered whether a reprimand and/or warning would be sufficient to satisfy the public interest. However, in view of the seriousness of the conviction and the important role that safe driving plays in the professional activity of a Registered Farrier, the Committee concluded that a reprimand or warning would not be sufficient to mark the gravity of the misconduct. The Respondent had been involved in a collision and, in the Committee's judgment, a failure, without reasonable excuse, to provide a specimen of breath was at least as serious a conviction as a conviction for driving with excess alcohol.

The Committee was satisfied that a period of suspension was required to mark the gravity of the Respondent's misconduct. The Committee determined that a short period of suspension would be sufficient to satisfy the public interest by sending a clear message to the profession as to the standard of conduct expected of Registered Farriers in this respect.

Accordingly, the Committee directed that the Respondent's registration be suspended for a period of six weeks.

Disciplinary Committee, 23 January 2023

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr R P Darbyshire DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Mr Darbyshire; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE (AS ORIGINALLY FORMULATED. PARAGRAPHS 1 A) AND 2 WERE WITHDRAWN AT THE OUTSET OF THE HEARING)

That being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended) ("the Act"), you:

1. *used or allowed to be used a social media account which contained reference to your professional position as a farrier to:*

[Redacted]

b. *follow a social media account which posted sexual images; and/or*

c. *"like" a sexually explicit photograph posted on social media;*

[Redacted]

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in any combination, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect.

Ms. Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council; Ms. Sarginson appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

Preliminary

At the outset of the hearing Ms. Curtis indicated to the Committee that the Council proposed to apply to withdraw Charge 1 a) and Charge 2. She told the Committee that the Council was now aware that the Respondent had not posted or published the image referred to at Charge 1 a) and that the material referred to in Charge 2 was only available on a subscription basis, thereby removing the risk of inadvertent contact with such material. The Committee accepted Ms. Curtis's application for the reasons which she had given.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Respondent admitted the factual element of Charge 1 b) and 1 c).

The Committee found Charge 1 b) and c) proved by way of admission.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that this matter had come to the Council's attention as the result of communications from members of the public who wished to remain anonymous, which showed two screenshots from an Instagram site which displayed sexually explicit material. The screenshots included in one case text which stated, "*followed by ryandarbyshire_farrier practice*" and in the other "*Liked by ryandarbyshire_farrier practice*". There was thus an express linkage between the content of these sites and the Respondent's profession of Registered Farrier.

Ms. Curtis reminded the Committee of a guiding principle of the "Farrier, Approved Training Farrier and Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct" ["the Code"] that Registered Farriers were expected to fulfil their professional responsibilities by, among other things, upholding the good reputation of the farriery profession. She submitted that the linkage of the Respondent's professional status to material of this kind breached that expectation and amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

On behalf of the Respondent Ms. Sarginson accepted that the Respondent's admissions amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

The Committee recognised that the question of serious misconduct in a professional respect was one for its judgment. It noted the association of the Respondent's profession with sexually explicit material which could be accessed by anyone who was following, on social media, the Respondent's own Instagram account. It was in no doubt that the Respondent's association of his professional status with material of this kind was highly inappropriate and such as to bring the profession into disrepute.

In reaching this conclusion, the Committee had regard in particular to paragraph 71 of the Code which includes the statement that "... farriers must uphold the reputation of the profession at all times. Farriers should remember that social media activity outside of work may still reflect on the public perception of the profession".

The Committee concluded that the facts admitted by the Respondent amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that the Respondent had been admitted to the Register on 1 September 2012 and that there was

no previous regulatory history.

On the Respondent's behalf, Ms. Sarginson said that the Respondent accepted full responsibility for his actions. He had made full admissions to the charges and was deeply sorry. His "liking" and "following" of these images had been the subject of anonymous disclosure to members of his family and others and this had caused him considerable distress and embarrassment. When he became aware of the anonymous disclosures, he had immediately removed reference to the site in question from his own account and would ensure there was no repetition of his misconduct.

Ms. Sarginson reminded the Committee that there was nothing unlawful about the images themselves and that the mischief with which the Committee was concerned was the linkage of the profession of farriery to material of this kind. She also put before the Committee two testimonials to the high regard in which the Respondent was held by his clients and referred to YouTube training videos for farriers which he had made.

In mitigation it could be said that the Respondent had not thought through the implications of his linkage of his profession to this kind of material and that he had taken appropriate steps to remove references to this site from his own social media account. By so doing and by his admissions in these proceedings he had shown insight. He had a long and, until now, unblemished career and the Committee gave considerable weight to the testimonial evidence which he had submitted, not least because it spoke to the regard in which he was held as a person as well as to his abilities as a farrier.

The Committee first considered whether to take no further action but concluded that the serious misconduct needed to be marked by a sanction. No useful purpose would be served by postponing sanction.

The Committee next considered whether a reprimand or warning would be sufficient. After careful consideration, the Committee concluded that, in this particular case, a reprimand and warning would satisfy the public interest. In reaching that conclusion it gave weight to the remorse and insight shown by the Respondent and to the fact that it was concerned with one "follow" of a social media account and one "like" of a sexually explicit image involving an adult. It also assessed the situation as having arisen through culpable carelessness, or possibly recklessness, rather than through any deliberate wish to associate the profession with material of this kind. Finally, it assessed the risk of any repetition as unlikely.

The Committee also reminded itself that there was nothing illegal about the images themselves; it was their linkage to the profession of farriery which gave rise to these proceedings.

In accordance with its usual practice, the Committee also considered the sanction of suspension but concluded that this would be disproportionate in view of the factors identified in the preceding paragraph.

The Committee therefore reprimanded Mr. Ryan Darbyshire DipWCF and also warned him that his use of social media sites on the internet must in future be undertaken with proper regard for his responsibilities as a Registered Farrier. These responsibilities are fully set out in the Code at paragraphs 69-74.

Disciplinary Committee, 24 January 2023

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr A Mansfield DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Mr Mansfield; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE

That, being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended) ("the Act"):

- On 21 September 2021, during an appointment to trim and/or shoe horses belonging to Ms. SJ and Ms. GJ, you:*
 - used unnecessary force towards a horse named L, more particularly by kicking and/or punching and/or slapping and/or pushing L;*
 - used offensive language and/or swear words when speaking to or in the presence of Ms. SJ and/or Ms. GJ;*
- Between 1 January 2016 and 21 May 2022, you failed to submit any or all required Annual Returns to the Council*

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in any combination, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect."

Ms. Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council; Ms. Manning-Rees appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

The Respondent denied Charge 1 a). In respect of Charge 1b), he accepted that he had sworn during the course of an argument with Mrs. SJ but not that he had behaved in the way alleged by the Council. With the agreement of all parties, the Committee treated this as a denial of Charge 1 b).

The Respondent admitted Charge 2 and the Committee found it proved on the basis of his admission.

Background to Charge 1

On 21 September 2021 the Respondent was booked to trim and shoe Mrs. SJ's 24-year-old pony, Lucy. The appointment did not go well, and Mrs. SJ subsequently submitted a complaint to the Council about the Respondent's conduct. In her complaint form, dated 17 October 2021, Mrs. SJ wrote that the Respondent had lost his temper while shoeing her pony, and had kicked and punched Lucy during the course of a violent attack. She also alleged that, during the heated argument which ensued, the Respondent was abusive towards her and called her, among other things, "a d*****d".

Evidence

Mrs. SJ told the panel that when the Respondent arrived to shoe her pony, he seemed quite "short and snappy". However, Lucy's front feet were shod without difficulty. That was not the case with the near side hind foot. Mrs. SJ, who was holding Lucy at the time and, she maintained, standing on the pony's near side, said that she asked the Respondent to be gentle, but he yanked up the hind foot which caused the pony to fidget and pull her foot back. Mrs. SJ said she became anxious and suggested that the Respondent "stop for a bit". She said that he said words to the effect of "I don't think she's being naughty, I think it's discomfort" and he continued to pull up her near hind foot. Mrs. SJ said that she then asked him, at least four or five times, to stop as the pony was continuing to pull her leg away. On the last of these occasions, Lucy stretched her rear leg out when the Respondent let go of it. According to Mrs. SJ the Respondent then stepped away from the pony and then towards her and launched a kick at her ribcage and belly with all of his right leg. This was repeated three or four times in quick succession after which he punched Lucy on the shoulder and said, "you're a f*****g c**t, pony". Mrs. SJ said that she saw the Respondent's knee connect with Lucy's ribcage during these kicks and assumed, though she could not see, that his foot connected with Lucy's stomach. She said the pony looked terrified.

Mrs. SJ said she was completely shocked at what had happened and started to scream at the Respondent, telling him to get away from her pony. A loud verbal argument followed, during which Mrs.

SJ said both she and the Respondent were swearing. She told the Committee that the Respondent called her a “d*****d” and also a “c**t” a few times. She called him a disgrace to his profession. The Respondent finished trimming Lucy’s hind foot, which he said was necessary if the pony was not to become unbalanced, after which, Mrs. SJ said “go away now, you need to f**k off, take your money and just go. I don’t want to see you anywhere here again”. The Respondent replied, “don’t worry I’m f*****g going, I don’t want your f*****g money, shove it up your arse, you’re a f*****g a*****e”.

Ms. GJ was standing holding another pony in the adjoining field while the Respondent was working on Lucy. She said she was a few steps away and able to see the Respondent working. According to her, after Lucy had lifted her back leg up slightly higher than on previous occasions and tried to put it back on the ground, the Respondent took one big step backwards and then kicked Lucy hard with his right leg three times. She said the kicks were in quick succession after which the Respondent punched Lucy in the ribs in the same place that he had kicked her. She said that he punched her twice. She said that she was shocked and started sobbing. She said that during the course of the subsequent argument the Respondent “called us stupid b*****s” and “stupid d*****s”.

Major CB, an experienced equine veterinary surgeon, examined Lucy on 24 September. She was familiar with the pony and noted a swelling approximately 30 cm by 12 cm over Lucy’s ribcage. The swelling felt firm to her and she diagnosed a haematoma consistent with mild to moderate external trauma. Her opinion was that it was unlikely that one blow would have caused the trauma, but several might. She did not see anything in the field occupied by Lucy which might have caused the trauma and considered that it was unlikely to have been caused by a kick from another horse. She found no evidence of a hoofmark on the skin and the pair of horses in the field, Mickey and Lucy, were a well-established pair and unlikely to kick each other.

The Respondent told the Committee that this was an extremely dangerous situation for him and he “had no choice but to try and kick the horse just behind the front leg, to try and get some response and get the horse to move to a safe position where I was not in line to be crushed”. He accepted that he kicked the horse once to protect his own safety and so as to move the horse towards a safe position. He denied striking or punching the horse.

The Respondent accepted that a heated argument did develop between himself and Mrs. SJ. He accepted “swearing and name-calling between the pair of us”. He regretted this but said that he

had been placed in a very frightening situation and he could not understand why Mrs. SJ did not appreciate his predicament. He admitted telling Mrs. SJ to “stick your money up you’re a**e”.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

In relation to Charge 1 a) the Committee concluded that the text messages sent shortly after the incident by Mrs. SJ were consistent with her account of events and consistent with the complaint she made to the Respondent’s professional colleague that evening. The Committee noted that the episode had been sufficiently distressing to Mrs. SJ, who had owned horses for many years, for her to complain to the Farriers Registration Council within a month of the incident. Mrs. SJ was in a good position, holding the head of the pony, to be aware of exactly what the Respondent was doing, and the Committee considered her to be both an honest and reliable witness. It seemed to the Committee highly unlikely that she would invent an account of a violent attack on her horse when she had nothing to gain by so doing.

The Committee also considered her account to be substantially supported by the evidence of her daughter, Ms. GJ. The Committee noted the discrepancies in detail drawn to its attention by Ms. Manning-Rees but did not consider that these differences of detail undermined the central part of Ms. GJ’s account which was that more than one kick had been delivered and that the Respondent had also punched the pony. The Committee did not consider that Ms. GJ had, as was suggested in cross-examination, fabricated her account. The Committee found her to be an honest witness who was reliable on the crucial feature of her account which was that she had seen the Respondent kick and punch Lucy.

The Committee also noted that the evidence of Major CB was consistent with the accounts given by Mrs. SJ and Ms. GJ, as was the fact that Lucy had developed a haematoma in the area which, they said, had been the focus of the kicking.

The Committee took into account the character evidence submitted on behalf of the Respondent but did not consider that this was sufficient to displace the evidence given by Mrs. SJ and her daughter as to what had actually occurred on 21 September 2021.

Turning to the specific matters alleged in Charge 1 a) the Committee was sure that the Respondent had used unnecessary force towards a horse named L by kicking and punching L. In particular the Committee was satisfied that the Respondent had kicked L more than once and had also punched L. The Committee was also satisfied that the Respondent behaved in this way because he had

lost his temper. He was not in a position of immediate peril. Had he wished to do so he could, as Mrs. SJ said, have simply stepped away from the pony.

The Committee was not satisfied that the Respondent had slapped Lucy. There was no persuasive evidence to that effect. The evidence of Mrs. SJ and Ms. GJ was of kicking and punching.

The Committee was also not satisfied that the Respondent had used unnecessary force by pushing Lucy. Pushing a horse can be an integral and appropriate part of any farrier's work and there was no evidence that the pushing which had occurred involved unnecessary force.

The Committee was also sure that the Respondent had used offensive language when speaking to or in the presence of Mrs. SJ and/or Ms. GJ. The Committee was satisfied that the expression "d*****d" had been used by the Respondent and also that the words "c*t", "t*t" and "f*****g a*****e" had been used. The Committee accepted Mrs. SJ's evidence with regard to the parting exchange between her and the Respondent in relation to the money she had offered him.

The Committee has borne in mind that the Respondent was in a professional position, dealing with a client. It was satisfied that the words used, as described by Mrs. SJ, were both offensive and swear words, and said in the presence both of her and of her daughter.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis submitted that the Respondent was guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect. In her written submissions, she drew the Committee's attention to the "Farrier, Approved Training Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct 2021" ("the Code") and in particular the guiding principle that Registered Farriers are expected to:

"make horse welfare their first concern.....and to fulfil their professional responsibilities by upholding the following principles:

- ensure that all horses under your care are treated humanely and with respect....
- uphold the good reputation of the farrier profession
- communicate openly with clients and behave professionally at all times
- foster and maintain a good relationship with your clients, earning their trust, respecting their views....

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the specific provisions in the Code which required Registered Farriers to observe these guiding principles. She also noted that the Code included a specific provision which stated that the farrier should treat the client:

"with respect and observe professional courtesies. This would include the use of appropriate and respectful language and behaviour" (Paragraph 34)

In relation to the admitted failure to submit the Annual Returns required to the Council, Ms Curtis referred to Paragraph 84 of the Code which stated that:

"As from 1 January 2016, Registered Farriers must complete an Annual Return...."

Ms. Curtis pointed out that the Respondent's failure in this respect had extended over a six-year period.

Ms. Manning-Rees made no further submissions at this stage. She had indicated at the outset of the case that the Respondent accepted that his failure to file an Annual Return over a six-year period amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect and Ms. Manning-Rees told the Committee that the Respondent also accepted that the Committee's findings of fact in respect of Charge 1 amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

The Committee found that during the course of the appointment on 21 September 2021 the Respondent kicked a horse more than once and also punched the horse. He did so because he had lost his temper. Such behaviour was far below the standard expected of a Registered Farrier and amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect. The same was true of the language used during the altercation with Mrs. SJ. There could never be any justification for a Registered Farrier to use such language, directed towards a client in a professional context.

The obligation to complete an Annual Return was an important one as it was designed to protect the public by providing assurance that the farrier completing the return had not been convicted of a criminal offence in the 12 months between the period of each return and carried appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Annual Return played an important role in enabling the Farriers Registration Council to exercise its supervisory jurisdiction over the profession and so protect the public. In the Committee's judgment the Respondent's repeated failure to complete a return amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

The Committee heard oral evidence from Mr. Andrew Brown who was the owner of the business in which the Respondent worked. Mr. Brown was himself a Registered Farrier. He told the Committee that he held the Respondent in high regard as a farrier and that he was very popular with clients. The business dealt with many temperamental horses and the Respondent was known for his skill in dealing with them. Mr. Brown explained that he was easing himself back into work after some medical treatment and the Respondent had been doing the major share of the farriery work. If he was unable to do that the consequences for the business would be serious.

Ms. Manning-Rees submitted that a short period of suspension was the appropriate and proportionate sanction in this case. She emphasised that the fact that the Respondent had contested Charge 1 did not mean that he lacked insight into the significance and implications of the Committee's findings of fact. She drew the Committee's attention to the Respondent's witness statement and pointed to the evidence of reflection that it showed. She also reminded the Committee of the testimonial evidence and asked the Committee to remember that this was a single, isolated incident. She also referred to the Respondent's family circumstances and the fact that the Committee's findings had clearly had a devastating impact on the Respondent.

The Committee first considered the aggravating features of the case. The case involved actual injury to an animal, recklessness, and a breach of the trust that a client would naturally place in a Registered Farrier. A vulnerable client was also involved as Ms. GJ was aged 17 at the time of the incident and became obviously distressed at what she had seen and the Respondent's subsequent altercation with her mother.

The Committee then considered mitigating factors. The Committee recognised that farriers were on occasion working in far from ideal conditions and that this was a single, isolated incident. The Respondent's behaviour was not the product of pre-meditated decision-making but resulted from a loss of temper. He had had a long and unblemished career and there was evidence of some emerging insight into the implications of his misconduct in his witness statement.

Standing back however, and taking into account the mitigating features, this remained an extremely serious case. It involved an attack upon a horse by a farrier engaged to shoe the horse and sustained, foul-mouthed abuse directed at a client who was upset.

The abuse was delivered in the vicinity of the client's 17-year-old daughter. The failure to submit Annual Returns had been prolonged, despite reminders.

The Committee considered sanction in ascending order.

The case was plainly much too serious for the Committee to take no further action. No purpose would be served by postponing sanction.

The Committee also considered that the case was too serious to be addressed by means of a reprimand or warning.

The Committee next considered the sanction of suspension. Although the Committee considered that the risk of any repetition was low, the Committee did not consider that a period of suspension was sufficient to satisfy the public interest. In the Committee's view a reasonable and fully informed member of the public would regard the misconduct in this case as fundamentally incompatible with continued registration.

The Committee concluded that the only appropriate and proportionate sanction in this case was one of removal from the Register.

The Committee had regard to the terms of section 15(7) of the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended). That section permits a farrier whose name has been removed from the Register in consequence of a direction from the Disciplinary Committee to apply to the Disciplinary Committee to be considered for registration again. The Disciplinary Committee is empowered to prohibit any such application for a specific period from the date of the direction for removal that it has given.

In the present case, the Committee has decided to give a direction under section 15 (7) and to direct that any application for registration again shall not be made until a period of nine months has elapsed from the date of this direction. The Committee considered this to be a proportionate period having regard to the seriousness of the case but also to the mitigating features which it identified.

Disciplinary Committee, 27 January 2023

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr T G Hartgrove DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Mr Hartgrove; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

Ms. Nicole Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council; the Respondent was present and unrepresented.

THE CHARGE

That, being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended) ("the Act"), you:

- 1. On 6 November 2018, at the Northampton Crown Court, were convicted of conspiracy to supply a Class A Controlled Drug in relation to which offence, on 1 November 2019, you were sentenced to 5 years imprisonment and on 24 September 2020 you were ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £170 and £1,180 under a confiscation order;*

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in any combination, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect".

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Respondent admitted the fact of the conviction alleged.

The Committee was referred to the Certificate of Conviction and the sentencing remarks of the Crown Court Judge.

The Committee found the fact of the conviction proved.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis submitted that the conviction with which the Committee was concerned was extremely serious. She referred the Committee to the Crown Court Judge's sentencing remarks which had categorized the seriousness of the offence as at the bottom of Category 1 harm by reason of the quantity, value and purity of the Class A drug. The value of the drug had been estimated at £40-50,000 and, she submitted, the seriousness of the offence was reflected in the sentence of five years imprisonment imposed after the appropriate reduction for a plea of guilty had been given.

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the Farrier and Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct 2017 ("the Code") and the expectation that Registered Farriers would uphold the good reputation of the profession and the reference in the Code to the

potential involvement of the Disciplinary Committee in cases where a farrier had been convicted of an offence which was liable to endanger the public or bring the profession into disrepute.

Ms. Curtis referred to the fact that Mr Hartgrove might wish to argue that, as his registration had lapsed at the time of the offence, the Committee had no jurisdiction to deal with the matter. She referred the Committee to *R v Prosthetics and Orthodontists Board, ex p. Lewis [2001] EWCA Civ.83* and *Swanney v General Medical Council [2008] CSIH 35* in support of her submission that the crucial question was whether the Respondent was now subject to the jurisdiction of the Committee and not whether the offence had been committed during a gap in his registration.

The Committee considered that the conviction was very serious. The Respondent had been convicted of involvement in a conspiracy with others to supply a significant quantity of a Class A controlled drug. This was conduct which fell far short of the standards of behaviour expected of a Registered Farrier, as set out in the parts of the Code to which Ms. Curtis had referred and was liable to damage confidence in the profession. Such damage was liable to occur even though the Respondent had allowed his registration to lapse at the time of the offence.

The Committee concluded that Mr. Hartgrove had been guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that Mr. Hartgrove had first been registered in 1983 and had renewed his registration following his release from prison, on licence, after serving a proportion of his custodial sentence. She reminded the Committee that the sentence of imprisonment did not expire until November 2024 and of the general principle set out in *CHRE v GDC & Fleischmann [2005] EWHC 87 (Admin)* that a professional convicted of a serious criminal offence should not generally be permitted to resume their profession until the sentence had been satisfactorily completed.

The Legal Assessor reminded the Committee of the need to have regard to the Indicative Sanctions Guidance and that the function of sanction was not to punish a registrant but to arrive at a proportionate outcome to the case having regard to the need to maintain public confidence in the profession.

The Committee first considered aggravating features in relation to the conviction. In the Committee's judgment, the offence carried a risk of potential injury to humans by way of the supply of a Class A

controlled drug, namely cocaine. It was premeditated and reckless conduct. The Committee was also concerned that Mr. Hartgrove showed little if any insight into the wider damage to the reputation of the profession that a conviction for an offence of this kind could cause.

The Committee considered sanction in ascending order. It concluded that this was much too serious a case in which to take no further action, to postpone sanction or to issue a reprimand or warning. None of these steps would be a proportionate regulatory response to a conviction as serious as this.

The Committee next considered whether a period of suspension would be proportionate. The Committee did not consider that a period of suspension would be sufficient to satisfy the public interest having regard to the seriousness of the conviction. The Committee further noted that the Indicative Sanctions Guidance stated that a suspension might be appropriate when the respondent Registered Farrier had insight into the seriousness of the misconduct. The Committee was not satisfied that Mr. Hartgrove really appreciated the seriousness of his criminal conviction in the specific context of his professional obligations as a Registered Farrier. His view that his conviction was not liable to damage confidence in the profession was not shared by the Committee. Further, the Committee noted that a period of suspension would imply that the Committee was satisfied that the respondent Registered Farrier was fit to return to practice at the end of the period of suspension.

The Committee concluded that the only proportionate sanction in this case was one of removal from the Register. It considered that this was the only course which was sufficient to protect the reputation of the profession and the wider public interest. It recognised the adverse consequences to Mr. Hartgrove, which this decision would inevitably entail but considered that the interests of the profession had to take precedence over those of Mr. Hartgrove. In view of the seriousness of the conviction and the need to safeguard the reputation of the profession, the Committee directed, pursuant to section 15(7) of the Farriers Registration Act 1975, as amended, that no application for restoration to the Register should be made until 24 months have elapsed from the date of this direction. If and when such an application is made it will be considered by the Disciplinary Committee in the normal way, based on an assessment of the merits of such an application at that time.

Disciplinary Committee, 9 May 2023

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr J T Welling DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Mr Welling; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE

"That, being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended) ("the Act"), you:

- 1. On 6 November 2021 committed the offence of criminal damage to a vehicle, and on 26 April 2022, accepted a police formal conditional caution in relation to that offence.*
- 2. Between 30 August 2018 and 4 October 2022 failed to submit any or all required Annual Returns to the Council:*

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in any combination you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect".

Ms. Nicole Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council. Ms. Aleksandra Manning-Rees appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Respondent admitted both charges in their entirety.

The Committee was referred to the Certificate of Conditional Caution and the correspondence in relation to the failure to supply Annual Returns.

The Committee found both charges proved.

Factual Background

Ms. Curtis told the panel that the behaviour which led to the Conditional Caution occurred on 6 November 2021 after Mr. Welling had attended a hunt in Priddy Green, Somerset. During the course of the day, according to witness statements obtained by the police, there had been a number of exchanges between those who supported the hunt and hunt monitors who were attending to observe the way in which the hunt was being conducted. The incident in question occurred, according to statements obtained by the police, when two hunt monitors were sitting in their stationary car in a car park at the end of the day. Mr. Welling drove into the car park and his vehicle approached the vehicle in which the hunt monitors were sitting and made slight contact with it. Mr. Welling then got out of his vehicle, took photographs of the two vehicles,

approached the driver's side door of the hunt monitors' vehicle and tried to open it. He was unable to do so as the driver had locked the door. Mr. Welling appeared to be angry. He bent further an already damaged wing mirror on the monitors' vehicle, pulled off one of the windscreen wipers and drove off, after throwing, he said, a water bottle at the hunt monitors' vehicle.

Mr. Welling accepted a conditional caution in respect of criminal damage to the monitors' car on 26 April 2022.

While considering the concerns raised by this incident, the Council noted that Mr. Welling had failed to complete an Annual Return for several years. Letters asking him to do so had been sent, dated 30 August 2018, 15 April 2019, (in relation to the 2019 return), 30 August 2019 (in respect of the 2020 return), 3 September 2020 (in respect of the 2021 return) and 18 August 2021 (in respect of the 2022 return). The Annual Returns ask farriers to disclose any unspent police cautions or criminal convictions, to provide or confirm up to date contact details and to confirm that they hold Professional Indemnity insurance.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the "Farrier, Approved Training Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct" ("the Code"), 2021 edition, which was in place at the time of Charge 1. She drew attention, in particular, to the guiding principles which include an expectation that Registered Farriers "will uphold the good reputation of the profession". This principle was included in the earlier 2017 edition of the Code.

Ms. Curtis submitted that the behaviour which led to the caution was unacceptable and liable to bring the profession into disrepute. It fell far below the standard of behaviour expected of a Registered Farrier.

In relation to the failure to provide Annual Returns, Ms. Curtis pointed out that this failure was repeated over a number of years. The Annual Return was an essential part of effective regulation of the profession and failure to provide an Annual Return, particularly if that failure occurred over a significant period of time, was in itself a serious concern.

The Committee first considered the issue in relation to the Conditional Caution. The Caution, which was accepted by Mr. Welling, was administered because he had committed an act of criminal damage. Such conduct was self-evidently far below the

standards of behaviour expected of a Registered Farrier. It was liable to bring the profession into disrepute and to affect public confidence in the profession. It amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

In the Committee's judgment the issue in relation to the failure to provide an Annual Return was also straightforward. The obligation to provide such a return had been in place since January 2016 and the purpose of such a return was obvious. Provision of the required information on an annual basis to the Council was essential to the proper regulation of the profession and proper regulation of the profession was essential to protect the public. Failure to provide the necessary information over an extended period of time could only therefore be regarded as serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that Mr. Welling had been a Registered Farrier since 2015 and that there had been no previous regulatory concerns. She referred the Committee to the Indicative Sanctions Guidance. She submitted that the conduct which led to the Conditional Caution showed an element of recklessness and that the failure to submit Annual Returns showed a blatant disregard of the role of the FRC and the systems that regulate the farriery profession.

Mr. Welling gave oral evidence to the Committee. He told the Committee that he accepted the Conditional Caution and regretted his behaviour. However, he did not accept all of the contents of the witness statements obtained from the hunt monitors by the police. He told the Committee that he and his family, including his baby son, had been subjected to a campaign by hunt monitors, or, as he referred to them, hunt saboteurs, who posted stickers outside his property and through his letter box and on occasion congregated outside his house, pointing, and taking photographs. He attributed this to the fact that he lived in the same village as an active hunt monitor who knew that he was at that time a keen follower of the local hunt. Mr. Welling produced photographs, which he said showed the activity of hunt monitors immediately outside his house, and a letter from his former partner which supported his account in this respect.

Mr. Welling told the Committee that he had not really appreciated until now the importance of the Annual Returns or that they were compulsory and that providing an Annual Return was a job that he had in the past put to one side and never got round to doing. He was not good with paperwork. However, he now appreciated the

need to do so and had programmed his phone to remind him to do so. After some questioning from the Committee, he acknowledged the role which the Annual Return played in enabling the Council to carry out its functions and protect the public. He assured the Committee that there would be no repetition of his previous failures in this respect.

Ms. Manning-Rees submitted that the Committee needed to concentrate on the matters which had been admitted by Mr. Welling, rather than becoming distracted by the emotive issues which were liable to arise in relation to hunts and the activities of those opposed to hunting. In particular in relation to the Conditional Caution, she emphasised that the conduct was not pre-meditated, and was a single incident which occurred 18 months ago. There had been no repetition of similar conduct. She referred the Committee to four supportive testimonials which spoke highly of Mr. Welling. She pointed out that there had been compliance with the caution and a change in behaviour since the caution. She reminded the Committee of the difficult circumstances about which Mr. Welling had given evidence and submitted that this was a case in which any sanction should be at the lowest end open to the Committee.

Conduct as described in this instance which resulted in criminal damage and a Conditional Caution could not be condoned. However, there were relevant mitigating features in the difficult circumstances to which Mr. Welling and his family had been exposed: the lack of pre-meditation: the fact that it was a single, isolated incident: and the significant efforts made since to avoid any repetition of this type of behaviour. The Committee accepted that Mr. Welling appreciated the damage to the reputation of the profession which this kind of behaviour could cause and the sincerity of his assurance that it would not be repeated.

The misconduct was too serious for the Committee to take no action. However, having regard to all the circumstances, the Committee was satisfied that a reprimand was the appropriate and proportionate response to this regulatory concern. It attached weight to Mr. Welling's previous good character and considered that there was unlikely to be any repetition of similar conduct in future.

The Committee considered the prolonged failure to submit an Annual Return to be a significant matter. It amounted to a blatant disregard of the FRC. Without such returns being provided the Council could not do its job properly and the profession would thereby fall into disrepute. The Committee accepted Mr. Welling's evidence that he had in the past not appreciated the importance of

providing an Annual Return and also his assurance that in future he would always provide one. The Committee needed to take action in respect of Mr. Welling's past failures in this respect. It felt able to deal with the matter by way of warning on this occasion. However, it needed to be clearly understood by all members of the profession that the obligation to provide an Annual Return was an essential component of registration.

The Committee therefore warned Mr. Welling that in future he needed to complete and provide his Annual Return within the appropriate timescale. This Warning will be taken into account if there are any future defaults in this respect.

Having considered the two charges separately, the Committee reviewed the case as a whole so as to ensure that the overall sanction of Reprimand and Warning remained proportionate. It was satisfied that it was, and that the higher sanction of suspension would, in the particular circumstances of this case, be disproportionate.

Disciplinary Committee, 10 May 2023

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Miss D L Gray DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Miss Gray; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE

"That, being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act (as amended) ("the Act"), you:

- 1. Between 19 April 2022 and 4 October 2022, failed to respond adequately or at all to reasonable requests from the Council for details of your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) record and/or*
- 2. With regards to Annual Returns to the Council*
 - (a) Between 30 August 2018 and 4 October 2022, failed to submit any or all required Annual Returns to the Council; and/or*
 - (b) Between 6 October 2022 and 3 November 2022, failed to respond to a request from the Council, by letter of 6 October 2022, for an Annual Return to be completed and returned within 28 days.*

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in

any combination, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect.”

Ms. Nicole Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council. Ms. Gray did not attend and was not represented.

SERVICE OF NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Ms. Curtis drew the Committee's attention to the Notice of Inquiry dated 6 March 2023 and sent to the Respondent's last known address by first class post and special delivery. She noted that the communication sent by special delivery had been returned but pointed out the obligation on the Council was to send a Notice containing the prescribed information to the Respondent's last known address.

The Legal Assessor referred the Committee to Rules 2 and 15 of the Farriers Registration Council Disciplinary Committee (Procedure) Rules 1976 (“the Rules”) and confirmed that the Council's obligations with regard to service were as stated by Ms. Curtis.

The Committee accepted the submission of Ms. Curtis and decided that the Notice of Inquiry had been properly served in accordance with the Rules.

PROCEEDING IN THE ABSENCE OF THE RESPONDENT

Ms. Curtis invited the Committee to proceed in the Respondent's absence. She produced a bundle of documents which evidenced correspondence sent to the Respondent by the Council. From 6 October 2022 until the date of today's hearing, 11 May 2023, the Council, either itself or through its solicitors, had sent nine letters to the Respondent relating to the matters which form the subject of today's meeting of the Disciplinary Committee. In addition to these letters, the Council's solicitors had sent eight emails to similar effect. None of this correspondence had produced any response. Nor had there been any response to telephone calls and messages left on 8 February and 28 March 2023.

Ms. Curtis submitted that the Council had made every effort to secure the Respondent's attendance at this hearing but without success. She referred the Council to the leading case of *Adeogba v GMC [2016] EWCA Civ 162* in support of her submission that the balance which the Committee had to strike now came down firmly in favour of proceeding in the Respondent's absence.

The Committee noted the absence of any response from the Respondent to the correspondence, whether by post or email, sent by or on behalf of the Council. It also noted the contents of the telephone conversation referred to by Ms. Curtis. The Committee

was satisfied that the Respondent was likely to be aware of today's hearing and had chosen not to involve herself further in these proceedings. If she was in any doubt about the content of these proceedings, she had had ample opportunity to discuss the matter with the Council or its solicitors. The Committee concluded that it was most unlikely that any adjournment of the proceedings today would secure her attendance in future.

The Committee concluded that the public interest in resolving the issues raised in the Notice of Inquiry, and the Respondent's persistent failure to respond to communications sent about today's case, justified proceeding today in the absence of the Respondent.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Committee heard oral evidence from Ms. Tracy Woudberg and Ms. Denise Woodward. Both witnesses were employed in an administrative capacity by the Council and had accessed the Council's records for the purpose of preparing their evidence in this case.

Ms. Woudberg confirmed the contents of her witness statement and in particular that consideration of the Council's electronic records revealed that there had been no correspondence from the Respondent in relation to her Annual Returns and no returns submitted between 30 August 2018 and 4 October 2022. Nor was there any response to a request from the Council, made on 6 October 2022, for an Annual Return to be completed and returned within 28 days.

Ms. Woodward produced correspondence from herself and from the Registrar seeking details of CPD undertaken by the Respondent. Letters seeking these details were sent on 19 April 2022, 9 May 2022, and 30 May 2022. On 29 June 2022 Ms. Woodward also left a voicemail message on the Respondent's telephone asking her to submit these details. A further letter from the Registrar was sent on 11 August 2022. No response to any of this correspondence was received before 4 October 2022 when the Investigating Committee met and decided to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee.

The Committee accepted the evidence of Ms. Woodward and found Charge 1 Proved.

The Council also accepted the evidence of Ms. Woudberg and found Charge 2 (a) and Charge 2(b) Proved.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the *Farrier, Approved Training Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct* ("the Code") and reminded the Committee that a guiding principle of the Code was an expectation that Registered Farriers "*will uphold the good reputation of the farriery profession.*"

Ms. Curtis also referred the Committee to a number of relevant paragraphs in the Code. Paragraph 15 (c) required farriers to respond promptly and constructively to any request from the FRC. Paragraphs 76,78 and 80 set out a requirement to complete at least 10 CPD Points each year and warned that failure to do so, or to provide proof of doing so, could lead to a referral to the Investigating and possibly the Disciplinary Committee. Paragraph 84 imposed a requirement to complete an Annual Return, which covered the matters referred to by Ms. Woudberg in her evidence.

Ms. Curtis submitted that these obligations were of fundamental importance to the protection of the public. She further submitted that the Respondent's failures amounted to a blatant and wilful disregard of the role of the FRC and the systems that regulate the profession.

The Respondent had failed to submit an Annual Return over a four-year period between August 2018 and October 2022. During this period, she had been requested to submit an Annual Return on at least five occasions. She did not respond to any of these requests. She also failed to respond to a request for an Annual Return made on 6 October 2022.

The Committee concluded that the Respondent's failures amounted to a blatant and wilful disregard of the FRC and the systems that regulate the profession. Regulation becomes impossible if regulated persons choose to ignore correspondence received from the regulator. The public thereby loses the protection given by effective regulation and the reputation of the profession is undermined. The facts which the Committee has found proved amount to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that the Respondent was first registered in May 2016 and that there were no previous regulatory concerns. She submitted that the Respondent's blatant and wilful disregard of the regulator was an aggravating factor.

The Committee considered that there were a number of aggravating factors. The Committee has already referred to blatant and wilful disregard of the systems that regulate the profession.

In addition, the Committee considered the Respondent's conduct to be reckless, premeditated and sustained and repeated over a significant period of time. In the Committee's assessment the Respondent had shown no insight into the implication of her misconduct.

The Committee was unable to find any mitigating factors.

The Committee considered that this was much too serious a case in which to take no action, to postpone sanction or to issue a reprimand or warning.

The Committee next considered a suspension order. However, there was no evidence to suggest that the Respondent had any insight into the seriousness of her misconduct and the risk of repetition was high. The Committee could not be satisfied that the Respondent would be fit to return to practice after a period of suspension. Further, the Committee did not consider that a period of suspension would be sufficient to meet the seriousness of this case.

The Committee concluded that the only appropriate and proportionate sanction in this case is removal from the register.

The Committee directed, pursuant to its power under section 15(7) of the Farriers Registration Act 1975, as amended, that no application for restoration to the register may be made by the Respondent until 18 months has elapsed from the date of this direction. If and when any such application is made, it will be considered by the Disciplinary Committee in the normal way, based on an assessment of the merits of such an application at that time.

Disciplinary Committee, 11 May 2023



DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC): Mr G W Brinkworth DipWCF
Set out below is a summary of the determination and decision of the DC in respect of Mr Brinkworth; the determination and decision may be read in full on the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk

THE CHARGE

"That, being registered under the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 (as amended) ("the Act"), you:

- 1. Between 19 April 2022 and 4 October 2022 failed to respond adequately or at all to reasonable requests from the Council for details of your Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") records;*

And that in relation to the facts alleged above, whether individually or in any combination, you are guilty of serious misconduct in a professional respect".

Ms. Nicole Curtis appeared on behalf of the Council. The Respondent did not appear and was not represented.

SERVICE OF NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the Notice of Inquiry dated 6 March 2023, sent by first class post, special delivery to the Respondent's registered address. The Notice of Inquiry was also sent by email. Ms. Curtis submitted that the Notice contained the prescribed information in relation to today's hearing and that effective service had taken place having regard to the requirements imposed by Rules 2 and 15 of The Farriers Registration Council Disciplinary Committee (Procedure) Rules 1976 ("the Rules"). The Legal Assessor confirmed that the obligation under the Rules was to send a Notice of Inquiry containing the prescribed information by post to the last known address of the Registrant at least 28 days before the date of the hearing. The Committee was satisfied that effective service of the Notice of Inquiry had taken place.

PROCEEDING IN THE ABSENCE OF THE RESPONDENT

Ms. Curtis invited the Committee to proceed in the absence of the Respondent. She reminded the Committee of the principles set out in the leading case of *Adeogba v GMC [2016] EWCA Civ 162* and referred the Committee to a bundle of documents evidencing the correspondence between the Council and Respondent in relation to the arrangements made in respect of today's hearing. She drew attention in particular to the records of two telephone conversations with the Respondent on 13 April 2023 in each of which the Respondent made clear that he did not intend to attend

this hearing. One of these conversations was held with the Council's solicitor, the other with an employee of the Council.

The Committee had regard to the bundle of documents to which it had been referred by Ms. Curtis. It was satisfied that the Respondent knew of today's hearing and had decided not to attend. It concluded that the Respondent had voluntarily absented himself from today's hearing and that the chances of securing his attendance on a future date if the hearing today was adjourned were remote.

The Committee had regard to the public interest in resolving the allegations which were the subject of today's hearing and concluded that the balance it had to strike came down clearly in favour of proceeding in the absence of the Respondent.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON THE FACTS

The Committee heard oral evidence from Ms. Denise Woodward, who was employed by the Council as a PR & Professional Skills Assistant. Ms. Woodward had accessed the Council's electronic record system for the purpose of preparing her evidence and produced the relevant records.

Ms. Woodward told the Committee that she had written to the Respondent on 19 April 2022 asking him to provide a copy of his CPD record by 3 May 2022. There was no response to this letter and no response to further letters sent by the Registrar on 9 and 30 May 2022.

The Legal Assessor reminded the Committee of the burden and standard of proof. The burden lay upon the Council to prove the allegation so that the Committee was sure.

The Committee accepted the evidence of Ms. Woodward and found the factual aspect of the allegation proved.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN A PROFESSIONAL RESPECT

Ms. Curtis referred the Committee to the *Farrier and Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct 2021* ("the Code") and noted that a guiding principle of the Code was an expectation that farriers will "*uphold the good reputation of the profession*". She drew the Committee's attention to Paragraph 93 which stated that "*failure to respond to written requests from the FRC*" could amount to serious professional misconduct. She also drew the Committee's attention to sections of the Code which imposed a mandatory requirement to complete the equivalent of 10 CPD Points each year. Ms. Curtis stated that

the programme of CPD requirements was in place to ensure that farriers kept their professional knowledge and skills up to date so that horses were not placed at risk of harm from farriers who were unaware of modern developments. This was extremely important, both from the point of view of equine welfare and in terms of public confidence in the profession.

The Committee had regard to the various letters written to the Respondent which made it absolutely clear that if the Respondent failed to supply the information sought the matter would be referred to the Investigating Committee for that Committee to consider whether a referral to the Disciplinary Committee was warranted. None of these letters had had any effect. The Committee noted that in one of the telephone conversations of 13 April 2023, more than six months after the matter had been referred to this Committee, the Respondent had claimed that he had been unable to submit his CPD online because, he said, the programme wouldn't work properly so he just, in his words, said "S*d i*". He also claimed to have requested a written letter from the Council to be sent to him so that he could fill in details of his CPD in writing.

The Committee did not regard either of these unsupported assertions, even if true, as mitigating, to any significant extent, the Respondent's conduct. The obligation to provide a record of CPD, whether online or in writing, when asked to do so by the Council could not be described as something which was difficult to do. Persistent failure to do so, over several months and in the face of multiple reminders, could only be regarded as serious misconduct in a professional respect. For the reasons advanced by Ms. Curtis, it prevented the Council from fulfilling its obligation to protect both horses and the public from practitioners who were unconcerned about keeping their practice up to date.

The Committee concluded that the Respondent's failure to respond to requests for information about his CPD amounted to serious misconduct in a professional respect.

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE AS TO SANCTION

Ms. Curtis told the Committee that the Respondent was first registered in December 2019. Ms. Curtis submitted that an aggravating factor in this case was that the Respondent's conduct amounted to a blatant and willful disregard of the role of the FRC and the systems that regulate the farriery profession.

Ms. Curtis also informed the Committee that the Respondent had previously appeared before the Disciplinary Committee in connection with a conviction, on 7 October 2020, for driving with

excess alcohol. The Respondent had been involved in a collision with a motorcycle and was subsequently found to have 45 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, the applicable limit being 35 microgrammes. He was disqualified from driving for 12 months (reduced by three months on successful completion of a drink/drive rehabilitation course), fined and ordered to pay a surcharge and costs.

When the Respondent appeared before this Committee in relation to that matter he was reprimanded and warned that he must in future comply with the Code and that the reprimand and warning given on that occasion could be taken into account if he faced any future disciplinary proceedings.

The Committee was unable to identify any mitigating factors.

The Committee first considered whether to take no action. The case was much too serious for that, and particularly so in relation to the previous reprimand and warning.

No useful purpose would be served by postponing sanction.

The Committee did not consider that a reprimand or warning was appropriate or proportionate. The Respondent had been previously reprimanded and warned about his conduct and the need to comply with the Code. The correspondence sent to him in connection with the Council's requests for information also contained warnings as to the consequences of a failure to supply the information requested.

The Committee moved on to consider a suspension order. Although the Respondent's case contained some worrying features, particularly in relation to his lack of insight, the Committee nonetheless reached the view that, at this stage, a period of suspension was the appropriate and proportionate sanction.

The Committee carefully considered the sanction of removal but decided that removal from the register for a failure to supply appropriate CPD information over a six-month period would be disproportionate. If similar misconduct occurred in future, however, different considerations might well arise.

The Committee concluded that a three-month period of suspension from the Register was the appropriate and proportionate sanction. In reaching this conclusion it had had regard to the existence of the previous reprimand and warning and taken it into account.

Disciplinary Committee, 12 May 2023

Temporary Licence Applications

Since the previous edition of the Bulletin the Council has received Fixed Term Temporary Licence applications from the following:

- Mrs A Franco of the USA was granted a temporary licence from 1 May 2023 to 31 October 2023, under the supervision of the ATF, Mr J G Newhouse AWCF.
- Mrs N Eastwood a UK National with professional working experience gained in the USA and New Zealand, was granted a temporary licence from 1 March 2023 to 31 August 2023, under the supervision of the ATF, Mr Y Sharp BSc (Hons) DipWCF.

Overseas Application

- Mr I Harden of the USA submitted an overseas application for registration based on his professional experience and unrecognised training achieved in Ireland and the USA. Mr Harden has since successfully completed the End Point Assessment (EPA) as an aptitude test.

Overseas Registrations

The following persons have been entered into Part 1 of the Register of Farriers on the basis of holding a recognised farriery qualification achieved outside of GB.

Mr D N Dewit DipWCF Mr C J Bogard CJF DipWCF Mr C Fitzgerald DipWCF Mr M Garrett DipWCF

New Registrations

The following persons have now been entered into Part 1 of the Register of Farriers on the basis of holding the DipWCF qualification and having completed a period of apprenticeship:

Mr E Beeston DipWCF	Mr O Gilchrist DipWCF	Mr J Morris DipWCF	Mr L Sutor DipWCF
Mr R Bicknell DipWCF	Mr G Hayter DipWCF	Mr G W Nelson DipWCF	Mr C J Sweeney DipWCF
Mr C Brady DipWCF	Mr J Holgate DipWCF	Mr H L Parry DipWCF	Mr S H Tovey DipWCF
Mr J Buckley DipWCF	Mr R Johnstone DipWCF	Mr A Rowe DipWCF	Mr C Townsend DipWCF
Mr H Chitty DipWCF	Mr J Knight DipWCF	Mr A Sharam DipWCF	Mr K Williams DipWCF
Mr J Downs DipWCF	Mr J Marsden DipWCF	Mr H Smith DipWCF	Mr R D Goodridge DipWCF

Higher Qualifications Achieved

The following farriers have gained higher level qualifications and are warmly congratulated:

Mr T D Arris AWCF	Mr C D Johnson AWCF	Mr H Middleton AWCF	Mr L C O'Hara AWCF
Mr B L Greenham AWCF	Mr R J E Matthews AWCF	Mr G R Moody AWCF	Mr R Wardle AWCF

ATF Approvals

The following farriers have been recognised as Approved Training Farriers:

Mr D S Howden AWCF	Mr A S Prout (AWCF)	Mr J P Somerville BSc (Hons) AWCF
Mr L J Cain AWCF	Mr M G Gilliver (AWCF FdSc)	

Restorations

The following farriers have been restored to the Register since the last issue of the Farriers Bulletin:

Mr L R Ashworth DipWCF	Mr S Clubley DipWCF	Mr J Nicholls DipWCF
Mr J A Bull DipWCF	Mr R R Creedy DipWCF	Mr J Partner DipWCF
Mr R Calderbank DipWCF GradDipELR	Mr C J N M Gregory DipWCF	Mr J E Short DipWCF
Mr A W Chalmers AFCL BI	Mr S A Hunt DipWCF	Mr M W White AWCF
Miss E J Clough DipWCF		





Established under the
Farriers (Registration) Act 1975



Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the whole form including official use box using a ball point pen and send it to:

Farriers Registration Council
14 Swan Court
Forder Way
Cygnet Park
Hampton
Peterborough
PE7 8GX

Service user number

6	3	0	1	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

FOR FARRIERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL OFFICIAL USE ONLY
This is not part of the instruction to your bank or building society.

If you are not the farrier but wish to make payments on their behalf, please add your address details here:

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/building society account number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Branch sort code

--	--	--	--	--	--

Name and full postal address of your bank or building society

To: The Manager	Bank/building society
Address	
Postcode	

Instruction to your bank or building society
Please pay Farriers Registration Council Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with Farriers Registration Council and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature(s)

Date

Reference

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account

DDI1

This guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit the Farriers Registration Council will notify you ten working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request the Farriers Registration Council to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by the Farriers Registration Council or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society
 - If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when the Farriers Registration Council asks you to
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

Appointed Members of the Farriers Registration Council



Chair of the Council

Mr T Smith
FWCF GradDip ELR

Appointing Body:

Appointed by the Election Scheme

Deputy Chair of the Council

Dr J Sutton
BVetMed, Cert EP, MRCVS

Appointing Body:

Worshipful Company of Farriers (WCF)

Appointee Name:

Mr Y Breisner

Mr A B Charlwood

Operations Superintendent K Colman

Mr T B Daniels BSc (Hons) DipHE Farriery

Mr I Davidson

Mr G Elliott GradDipELR AWCF

Mr D T Gardner AWCF

Mr D Harman AWCF GradDipELR

Mr R P May AWCF

Mr S Moore FWCF

Mr M Peaty BVSc CertEP CertES MRCVS

Mr M Potter

Dr M Smith

Mr M Weston

Appointing Body:

British Horseracing Authority (BHA)

Worshipful Company of Farriers (WCF)

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)

Appointed by Election Scheme

Scottish Enterprise

Appointed by Election Scheme

Appointed by Election Scheme

The British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association (BFBA)

Worshipful Company of Farriers (WCF)

British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association (BFBA)

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

Lantra

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

British Equestrian Federation

