

**Hearing held in public****Summary**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>LANGDON, Alexander [Registration no:58023]</b>
<b>Type of case:</b>	<b>Interim Orders Committee (review)</b>
<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Conditions continued</b>
<b>Duration:</b>	<b>For the remainder of the 18-month period</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>9 January 2020</b>
<b>Case number:</b>	<b>CAS-191596</b>

The role of the Interim Orders Committee (IOC) is to undertake a risk assessment based on the information before it. Its role is to assess the nature and substance of any risk to the public in all the circumstances of the case and to consider whether it is necessary for the protection of the public, is otherwise in the public interest, or is in the registrant's own interests to impose an interim order on their registration. It is not the role of the IOC to make findings of fact in relation to any charge. That is the role of a differently constituted committee at a later stage in the process.

This is the first review of an order for interim conditional registration made on 15 July 2019 for a period of 18 months. The interim order was made on the grounds that it was necessary for the protection of the public and was otherwise in the public interest, in response to concerns which the initial IOC summarised as follows:

The GDC received information from you that you had been suspended by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) for 3 months on 04 May 2019, following an unannounced visit to your Practice on 01 May 2019. The CQC found that you were not providing safe or effective care to patients and the services you provided were not well led. On 15 May 2019, the NHS notified you that they had suspended you from the National Medical Performers List and terminated your contract.

Neither party is present today. In its written submissions dated 2 January 2020, the General Dental Council (GDC) asks that the interim order be reviewed in the absence of the parties and on the basis of the papers before the Committee. The GDC's position is that there has been compliance with the interim conditions and that these should continue without variation.

The notification of hearing was sent on 3 December 2019 to Mr Langdon at his registered address by Special Delivery. The Committee was satisfied that the notification contained the required information under Rule 35 of the General Dental Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules 2006, including the time, date and venue of this hearing; and that it had been served on Mr Langdon in accordance with the requirements of Rule 65.

By email to the GDC on 11 December 2019, Dental Protection, who act for Mr Langdon, stated:

...I understand that the GDC are proposing to continue the order as it is. As such, I can confirm that Dr Langdon is content for this matter to be reviewed on the papers.

We are likely to provide written submissions, which you will receive in due course...

The Committee was therefore satisfied that it would be fair and in the public interest to proceed in the absence of the parties and to review the matter on the papers, albeit it has not in the event received any written submissions from Dental Protection.

The Committee accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser. The role of the Committee is to assess risk and not to make findings of fact. These are interim proceedings whilst an investigation is continuing.

The Committee is not bound by the decision and reasoning of the initial IOC and considered the need for an interim order afresh.

On 29 August 2019 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspected Mr Langdon's practice again and found that the areas of concern had been addressed. The corresponding inspection report is very positive. Mr Langdon has fully complied with the interim conditions on his registration. The material before the Committee suggests that there has been significant improvement in his practice.

The Committee is satisfied that an interim order remains necessary for the protection of the public and that it is otherwise in the public interest, owing to the wide ranging concerns which were initially identified by the CQC and the need for Mr Langdon to continue to demonstrate embedded improvement in practice. The Committee is most encouraged by the steps he has taken to address the concerns which have been raised and commends him in respect of this.

The Committee determined that the interim conditions are sufficient and proportionate in their current form and these shall therefore continue without variation.

The interim order shall be reviewed in six months, or may be reviewed earlier on the application of either party.

That concludes the hearing.