

**PUBLIC DETERMINATION
Hearing (part)-held in private**

Summary

Name:	KNOTT, Helena Lucy (160373)
Type of case:	Health Committee (review)
Outcome:	Indefinite suspension imposed.
Date:	4 December 2014

IN PUBLIC

Ms Gani,

Ms Knott was not present nor was she represented at this hearing today.

The Committee saw a copy of the notice of hearing dated 8 October 2014 that was sent to Ms Knott's registered address by first class post and special delivery. The Committee saw photocopies of the first class post and special delivery envelopes containing the notification which indicates that both items were returned to sender. The envelope returning the notification sent by ordinary post was marked 'not known at this address.'

The Committee saw evidence that the GDC has served the notification at two further known addresses, sent it by email and has retained tracing agents to locate Ms Knott. These efforts have proven unsuccessful in securing a response from Ms Knott and it is not known whether she is aware of today's hearing. The Committee notes that it is incumbent upon a registrant to keep the GDC informed of their up to date contact details.

The Committee noted that the Rules do not require proof of receipt of the notice of hearing but proof of posting of said notice. The Committee was satisfied that all reasonable efforts had been made to serve notice upon Ms Knott and therefore the requirements of Rule 54(a) had been met.

The Committee next considered whether to exercise its discretion to proceed with this hearing in Ms Knott's absence. It had regard to the legal advice that this discretion must be exercised with the utmost care and caution.

Ms Knott self-referred to the GDC via letter dated 5 March 2010 and initially engaged with the process.

The Committee considers that all reasonable efforts have been made by the GDC. It noted that Ms Knott has not requested an adjournment of this hearing. The Committee was satisfied that an adjournment may not secure her attendance at a future date. Ms Knott has not engaged with this process in any way during the current period of suspension. The Committee determined to proceed with this hearing notwithstanding Ms Knott's absence.

[IN PRIVATE]

IN PUBLIC

The Committee has determined that Ms Knott's fitness to practise remains impaired by reason of her health and has made her registration subject to indefinite suspension.

It is open to Ms Knott to apply request a review of this suspension after two years.

That concludes the case.