
Via Whatdotheyknow.com

Dear J Roberts

Your information access request IR1-2719116201

Thank you for your email of 17 June. I've considered your request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2000* (FOIA). I'm sorry for the delay in providing this response and any inconvenience caused.

Dr Awan

Q1. Information about Dr Awan's case is already in the public domain, within the Medical Practitioners' Tribunal (MPT) record of determination and court judgement that you have cited. You will note that the determination relates to a case of misconduct rather than a criminal conviction. Dr Awan was not convicted of a criminal offence in relation to these allegations therefore his case proceeded to a tribunal hearing on the basis of misconduct.

Q2. Our [Publication and Disclosure Policy](#) refers to our process for disclosures to international regulators. The relevant authority was notified on 15 November 2019 that we had published the substantive findings of the MPT. Earlier in May 2019 we had also notified them that the doctor was suspended on an interim basis while we completed our investigation.

Fitness to practise data

To extract the data to answer your questions we searched our fitness to practise case management database for cases with allegation descriptions that included a range of terms likely to indicate misconduct in online activity.

Notes:

We've excluded cases with allegations of creating/holding indecent images where there is no evidence of related activity on the internet.

We interpreted Q3 to refer to online conduct of a sexual nature.

All figures relate to the period 1 January 2019 to 10 July 2020; however because of the time taken for a case to reach a MPT, the information in Q3 does not relate to any of the doctors in Q4 and 5.

Q3. In this period we received one police referral (in relation to one doctor) about allegations relating to online conduct of a sexual nature.

Q4. (i) There were seven concluded MPT hearings that related to the online conduct of doctors where it was alleged there was a sexual motive.

(ii) Following criminal convictions prior to MPT hearings, two of these doctors had been included on the sex offenders register as part of their sentence.

Q5. Four doctors were found to have communicated online with children (or decoys) where their motives were found to be sexual. The tribunal hearings in relation to these four doctors resulted in two suspensions and two erasures from the register

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any queries about this, or need anything further, please contact me.

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