

### Notice of Decision

<b>Registrant</b>	<b>Diana Kveiniene</b>
<b>Registration number</b>	<b>6037619</b>
<b>Part of Register</b>	<b>Part 2 –Domiciliary Care Worker</b>
<b>Sanction</b>	Warning to remain on your registration for a period of three years
<b>Date of Effect</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2024

This is a notice of decision of the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (the Council).

#### Decision

The Council has decided:

1. that there is evidence that your Fitness to Practise is impaired by reason of a Conviction, as defined in Part 1, Rule 4 of the NISCC Fitness to Practise Rules 2019.
2. to issue a warning and direct that a record of the warning should be placed on your entry in the Register for a period of three years.

#### Conviction

That whilst registered as a social care worker, on 31 January 2024, you pleaded guilty and were convicted of the following offence at Newry Crown Court:

- a. On 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020, with a view to obtaining Universal Credit for yourself or another, dishonestly made a representation on your Universal Credit claim, that you knew to be false, namely that you were single. Contrary to Section 105A (1) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992.

You were sentenced by the Crown Court on 12 March 2024 to a total of 1 year and 3 months imprisonment, suspended for 3 years. The suspended sentence imposed was a determinate custodial sentence under the provisions of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008.

You received a monetary penalty of Other Parties Compensation in the sum of £3,000 to be paid by 10 September 2024.

#### Reasons

The reasons that this behaviour is considered to constitute impaired fitness to practise are:

- Your actions were inappropriate in nature, and call into question your personal honesty and integrity.
- Your offending behaviour occurred over a substantial period of approximately 3 years.
- The public has the right to expect that social care workers, in whom it places its trust and confidence, will uphold the law and not engage in offending behaviour nor otherwise behave in a way in work or outside work which would call into question their suitability to work in social care services.
- Your behaviour has fallen below the standard expected of a person registered with the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.

## **NISCC Standards of Conduct and Practice for Social Care Workers**

The Standards of Conduct for Social Care Workers that your behaviour has breached, are as follows:

**Standard 2. As a social care worker, you must strive to establish and maintain the trust and confidence of service users and carers.**

This includes:

2.1 Being honest and trustworthy;

2.11 Not engaging in practices which are fraudulent in respect of public or private monies.

**Standard 5. As a social care worker, you must uphold public trust and confidence in social care services.**

In particular you must not:

5.8 Behave in a way, in work or outside work, which would call into question your suitability to work in social care services.

### **Sanction**

Having regard to the document '*Consensual Disposal Indicative Sanctions*' the Council decided that the appropriate sanction was the imposition of a warning on your registration for a period of three years.

### **Reasons for the Sanction**

When reaching its decision, the Council considered the following factors:

- Your actions were of an inappropriate nature, which call into question your personal honesty and integrity.
- Your actions were committed over a sustained 3 year period, whilst you were a registered social care worker.
- You admitted the charge against you by virtue of your guilty plea, and you made admissions to the Council.
- Your behaviour constitutes a disregard for the Standards of Conduct and Practice for Social Care Workers.
- Your actions are capable of undermining public confidence in the social care profession.

The following mitigating circumstances were taken into account in reaching this decision:

- You made a self declaration to the Council, and you fully cooperated with the Council's investigation at all stages.
- You have accepted responsibility for your actions.
- You have shown insight into your actions.
- You have demonstrated remorse for your actions.
- There is no allegation arising against you in respect of any work you have undertaken as a social care worker.
- There has been no repetition, since this matter came to the Council's attention.
- You remain in your role as a Domiciliary Care worker and have engaged with your employer's process in regard to this matter.

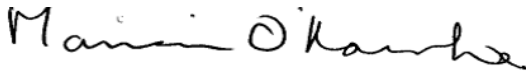
**Consent**

Having been advised of the consequences, and having been recommended to take independent advice, you consented to the imposition of a warning on 7 June 2024. A record of the warning has been placed on your entry in the Register for a period of three years and does not affect your ability to practise.

**Date of Effect**

This warning comes into effect on 12 June 2024.

12 June 2024



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Director of Regulation and Standards

Date