

Notice of Decision

Registrant	Priscilla Darragh
Registration number	6016056
Part of Register	Part 2
Sanction	Warning to remain on your registration for a period of 2 years
Date of Effect	7 July 2017

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 Misconduct, as defined in Part 1, Rule 4 of the NISCC Fitness to Practise Rules 2016.
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 2 years.

Misconduct

The misconduct is that whilst employed as a Homecare Assistant by the Western Health & Social Care Trust,

- a) On 14 April 2016, you abused your position as a Homecare Assistant and stayed overnight in a client's home which was not required of you in your role
- b) On 18 July 2016, you abused your position as a Homecare Assistant by arriving at a client's home, while not on duty, and requesting to go upstairs to sleep
- c) On 18 July 2016, you shared personal information with a client

Reasons

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

- You took advantage of the client
- Your actions caused distress to the client

- 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 and Practice for Social Care Workers that your behaviour has breached, are as follows:

Standard 3: As a social care worker, you must promote the autonomy of service users while safeguarding them as far as possible from danger or harm. This includes:

3.7 Recognising and using responsibly with service users and carers, the power that comes from your work role.

Standard 5: As a social care worker, you must uphold public trust and confidence in social care services. In particular you must not:

5.2 Exploit service users, carers or colleagues in any way;

5.3 Abuse the trust of service users and carers or the access you have to personal information about them or to their property, home or workplace;

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 2 years.

Reasons for the Sanction

When reaching its decision the Council considered the following factors:

- You have demonstrated insight and remorse for your actions to the Council
- Your personal, domestic circumstances contributed to your actions
- You no previous record of misconduct with the Council,

Consent

Having been advised of the consequences, and having been recommended to take independent advice, you consented to the imposition of a warning. A record of the warning has been placed on your entry in the Register for a period of 2 years and does not affect your ability to practise.

Date of Effect

This warning comes into effect on 7 July 2017.

Pamela Higgins
Director of Regulations and Standards

7th July 2017
Date