



Strictly Private & Confidential

Mr Charles Farthing

Code A

Our ref: tet/gml/00492-15579/5855698 v1

Your ref:

Tamsin Tomlinson
Assistant Solicitor

Code A

14 August 2007

Dear Mr Farthing

General Medical Council - Dr Barton

I write further to my letter dated 5 June 2007 informing you that I have taken over conduct of the GMC investigation into Dr Barton's actions. I would like to update you on the current position in the investigation.

Since I last wrote to you I have been continuing to review the significant amount of evidence received from the police.

As you may be aware five cases were initially referred by the police to the GMC in 2002, these passed through the Preliminary Proceedings Committee and were referred for a hearing. The case was then placed on hold when further police enquiries were commenced. When these enquiries were completed the GMC were passed information about them.

Given the date upon which the first referral was made to the GMC this case will be considered under the GMC's rules from 1988 (not the new 2004 rules). The 1988 GMC rules allow for allegations of a similar kind to be added to the cases already referred.

Your stepfather's case was one of the initial five cases referred.

I met with a representative from the General Medical Council on 3 August 2007 and the GMC are now considering internally which of the additional complaints will be referred to the Fitness to Practise Panel.



I anticipate that for the hearing we will rely on the expert(s) used by the police in their investigation and I am currently considering what additional evidence I will need and which witnesses of fact will be the most useful for the purposes of this investigation.

In early September I expect to have a protocol call with the defence lawyers and the administration section of the GMC when a timetable will be set out for the preparation of and hearing of this case.

I will, of course, continue to keep you updated as to any developments. In the meantime, if you have any queries at all then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Tamsin Tomlinson

Code A for **Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP**