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**Code A**

**From:** Robert Loughlin **Code A**  
**Sent:** 11 February 2010 15:10  
**To:** **Code A**  
**Subject:** Attention: CE Ref Dr Jane Ann Barton

Dear Dr Bright

Thank you for your e-mail of 31 January 2010, addressed to Niall Dickson, expressing concern regarding the online publication of the outcome of Dr Barton's Fitness to Practise Panel hearing. I have been asked to reply as the Assistant Director responsible for Adjudication at the GMC.

In relation to the concern you have raised, it might be helpful if I explain the procedure we follow prior to publishing hearing minutes on our website. Once a hearing has concluded the panel chairman is required to approve the minutes to ensure that they are accurate, before they are published via the List of Registered Medical Practitioners. In most cases, the panel chairman is able to approve the minutes immediately at the end of a hearing, which enables them to be published within one working day. However, in some instances, particularly where the minutes are lengthy and detailed, as they were in Dr Barton's case, the draft minutes cannot be approved at the end of the hearing. Instead, the minutes are sent to the panel chairman for approval after the hearing, which serves to delay their publication on our website. In Dr Barton's case, I can confirm that the hearing minutes were published via the List of Registered Medical Practitioners on Friday 5 February 2010.

Yours sincerely

Robert Loughlin  
Assistant Director  
Adjudication

Direct line: **Code A**