

Complaint No: 181119

Member Ms Samantha Jones

Membership no: 2363

Date of Complaint: 18th November 2019

Details:

On 18th November 2019 COSRT was alerted to proceedings being undertaken by Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust. The proceedings related to the alleged conduct by a Member which could, if proven, indicated a breach of COSRT Ethical Codes. The information was provided by the COSRT Member in question, the Member's supervisor and Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust.

A Professional Conduct Panel considered the third-party action and nature of the allegations, and the Member was suspended from COSRT Membership on 20th November 2019 pending the outcome of the third-party investigation.

Following investigation, the allegations were upheld by Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust on 28th January 2020 and the Member's contract was terminated.

A COSRT Professional Conduct Panel considered the third-party findings as proven fact on 13th March 2020. The panel considered the finding from Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust, that the COSRT Member began and continues to be in a romantic and sexual relationship with an ex-service user five years after therapy was completed.

The matter was referred to a COSRT Adjudication Panel for final determination.

On 29th May 2020 a COSRT Adjudication Panel convened to consider the findings of the Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust investigation. Accepting the findings as fact, the Panel determined that the COSRT Code of Ethics and Practice had been breached namely that:

“Sexual contact and/or sexualised behaviour by the Member are unacceptable with anyone to whom the Member is providing or has provided therapy.”

The Adjudication Panel considered verbal submissions by the COSRT Member and a third party. The Adjudication Panel determined that the breach of ethical codes represented serious misconduct, and that COSRT Membership should be terminated. The appeal period ended on 15th July 2020 without

any appeal being submitted. COSRT Membership was therefore formally terminated on 15th July 2020 with no possibility for re-entry for a period of not less than seven years.