

Nursing and Midwifery Council

Agreed Removal Decision

Registrant: Verity Blackman

PIN: 14D1373E

Part(s) of the register: Registered Midwife

Relevant Location: Cornwall

On 11 July 2022, we received a referral raising concerns about Verity Blackman's fitness to practise. It's alleged that Verity Blackman failed to:

- escalate concerns about reduced fetal movements in a patient to the Obstetrics team
- appropriately identify, share and escalate risks in relation to safeguarding concerns
- make adequate records.

Verity Blackman accepted not referring the patient to the Obstetrics team and not always following safeguarding policies and procedures. She said she always tried her best to be an advocate for her clients and denied putting herself or others at risk. She also said that she was expected to care for several complex cases at the time with minimal support and fluctuating levels of team leadership and management.

We investigated the issue and the matter was referred to the Fitness to Practise Committee. No allegation against Verity Blackman has yet been found substantively proved by one of our statutory committees.

On 16 January 2024, we received an application from Verity Blackman for agreed removal from the NMC register.

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR'S DECISION

As an Assistant Registrar, I have delegated authority to make decisions about agreed removal and have agreed to removal from the NMC register in this case.

In accordance with Rule 14 of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (Education, Registration and Registration Appeals) Rules 2004, in considering Verity Blackman's application for agreed removal, I've taken into account:

- the agreed removal application form and supporting documentation
- the reasons for the decision to refer the case to the Fitness to Practise Committee
- the interests of Verity Blackman
- the public interest.

I'm satisfied that:

- Verity Blackman no longer intends to work as a registered midwife
- the allegations against Verity Blackman are not so serious as to be fundamentally incompatible with continued registration
- there are no other good reasons requiring us to consider the allegations further at this time
- the public interest is best served by approving the application and enabling Verity Blackman to leave the NMC register.

This record of decision will be published for twelve months from the date of the decision, **22 April 2024**. In the event that Verity Blackman seeks readmission to the register, we may consider the matters that led to this agreed removal further.