

**IN THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

INQUIRY RE:

GEMMA LOUISE COLE RVN

DECISION ON PROOF OF THE CONVICTION CHARGED

The Committee's Task

1. At this Stage of the Hearing it is for the Committee to decide whether it is satisfied that the Charge laid against the Respondent has been proved and proved to the extent that the Committee is sure of that Conviction.

The Documentation in Evidence before the Committee

2. This documentation provides the following evidence:
 - (1) On 2 July 2024 at the Crawley Magistrates Court the Respondent pleaded guilty to an offence of fraud by abuse of position. Following her conviction she was committed to the Crown Court at Lewes for sentence. That appearance took place on 29 August 2024. The Respondent received a sentence of 8 months imprisonment, that sentence being suspended for a period of 12 months together with a requirement of twenty days' rehabilitation activity requirement. In addition she was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £187.
 - (2) The Certificate of Conviction appears at page 10pdf/2-1 of the Inquiry Bundle. In addition there is a Transcript of the Judge's sentencing remarks at 12pdf and 3-1 of the Inquiry Bundle.

The Crown Court proceedings: facts underlying the conviction

3. The Committee has read and considered the evidence contained in the Transcripts of the Sentencing Proceeding held on 29 August 2024 at the Lewes Crown Court. As just indicated these appear in the Inquiry Bundle at 12pdf and 3-1.
 4. The content of the Transcript of the Sentencing Hearing before Mr Recorder Hardy KC confirms that, through her counsel, the Respondent was accepting the correctness of her conviction, the contents of the witness statements taken by the Police and the
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summary of the evidence in support of the Charge laid against her as provided by Prosecuting Counsel.

Findings

5. On the basis of the certificate of conviction, the transcript of the criminal proceedings and the Respondent's admission, the Committee is satisfied so that it is sure that the Respondent was convicted of the offence of fraud by abuse of position as charged in the Notice of Inquiry.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
27 FEBRUARY 2025