



# Architects Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 22

### PART III

#### DISCIPLINE

##### *Disciplinary orders*

#### 15 Disciplinary orders

- (1) The Professional Conduct Committee may make a disciplinary order in relation to a registered person if—
  - (a) it is satisfied, after considering his case, that he is guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence; or
  - (b) he has been convicted of a criminal offence other than an offence which has no material relevance to his fitness to practise as an architect.
- (2) In this Act “disciplinary order” means—
  - (a) a reprimand;
  - (b) a penalty order;
  - (c) a suspension order; or
  - (d) an erasure order.
- (3) Where the Professional Conduct Committee makes a disciplinary order in relation to a person, the Registrar shall serve written notice of the order on him as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- (4) The Professional Conduct Committee shall, at appropriate intervals and in such manner as it considers appropriate, publish—
  - (a) the names of persons whom it has found guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence or in relation to whom it has made a disciplinary order under subsection (1)(b); and
  - (b) in the case of each person a description of the conduct, incompetence or offence concerned and the nature of any disciplinary order made.

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- (5) Where, after considering the case of a registered person, the Professional Conduct Committee is not satisfied that he is guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence, it shall, if he so requests, publish a statement of that fact in such manner as it considers appropriate.
- (6) If a person who is registered in pursuance of section 5 becomes subject to a disqualifying decision in another EEA State expressed to be made on the ground that he has committed a criminal offence, he shall be deemed for the purposes of subsection (1) to have been convicted of that offence.

## **16 Penalty orders**

- (1) Where a penalty order is made in relation to a registered person, he shall pay to the Board the sum specified in the order.
- (2) A penalty order may not specify a sum exceeding the amount which, at the relevant time, is the amount specified as level 4 on the standard scale of fines for summary offences.

In this subsection “the relevant time” means—

- (a) in a case within subsection (1)(a) of section 15, the time of the conduct or incompetence of which the registered person is found guilty; and
  - (b) in a case within subsection (1)(b) of that section, the time when he committed the criminal offence of which he has been convicted.
- (3) A penalty order shall specify the period within which the sum specified in it is to be paid.
  - (4) If the person in relation to whom a penalty order is made does not pay the sum specified in the order within the period so specified, the Professional Conduct Committee may make a suspension order or an erasure order in relation to him.
  - (5) The Board shall pay into the Consolidated Fund any sum paid under a penalty order.

## **17 Suspension orders**

Where a suspension order is made in relation to a registered person, the Registrar shall remove his name from the Register but shall re-enter it in the Register at the end of such period not exceeding two years as is specified in the order.

## **18 Erasure orders**

- (1) Where an erasure order is made in relation to a registered person, the Registrar shall remove his name from the Register and it shall not be re-entered in the Register unless the Board so directs.
- (2) No application shall be made for the name of a person in relation to whom an erasure order has been made to be re-entered in the Register—
  - (a) before the end of the period of two years beginning with the date of the erasure order or such longer period specified in the erasure order as the Professional Conduct Committee considers appropriate in a particular case; or

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- (b) where he has made a previous application for his name to be re-entered in the Register, before the end of the prescribed period beginning with the date of the decision of the Board on that application.
- (3) The Registrar shall serve on a person who applies for his name to be re-entered in the Register under this section written notice of the decision on his application within the prescribed period after the date of the decision.
- (4) The Board may require a person whose name is re-entered in the Register under this section to pay a fee of a prescribed amount.