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**REPORT OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE FOLLOWING AN INQUIRY
HELD PURSUANT TO SECTION 58 OF THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
PROFESSIONALS ACT 2005 (AS AMENDED) (THE "ACT OF 2005")**

Name of Registrant: Mr. Edmond O'Grady

Registrant in Attendance: Yes

Registration Board: Physiotherapists Registration Board

Registration No: PT026973

Registered Address: 

Case Number: C537

Date(s) of Inquiry: 28 July 2026

Members of Inquiry Committee: Dr. Shane McCarthy, Chairperson

Ms. Nicola McLaughlin, Registered Professional
Physiotherapist Member

Mr. David Tighe, Registered Professional
Radiographer Member

Legal Assessor: Thomas Hogan S.C.

Appearances:

For the Registrar: Mr. Hugh McDowell BL instructed by Ms. Hannah
Unger, of Field Fisher Solicitors

For the Registrant: Self-represented

Hearing In public

The Nature of the Complaint that resulted in the Inquiry:

On 18 December, 2024, the Registrant undertook to a Professional Conduct Committee that he would not repeat the conduct complained of in Case C410 which included a complaint that he had corresponded with  in a manner that was

abusive and or inappropriate (the "Previous Complaint").

The Preliminary Proceedings Committee having considered all information furnished to them in relation to the complaint of [REDACTED] (the "Complaint") pursuant to Part 6 of the Act, was of the opinion that there was sufficient cause to warrant further action being taken in relation to the Complaint against the Registrant on the grounds of professional misconduct and failure to comply with an undertaking given in response to a request under section 61 of the Act.

The Complaint was referred by the Preliminary Proceedings Committee pursuant to Section 56(1)(b) of the Act to a Professional Conduct Committee.

Allegation

The allegation the subject of the inquiry was that the Registrant, being a registered Physiotherapist, practising at Eddie O'Grady Physical Therapy, 36 Oakview, Brewery Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry between on or around 21 August 2025 and on or around 29 August 2025, posted a further 1 star Google review on the Complainant's business page, [REDACTED] in breach of his undertaking provided to the Professional Conduct Committee on or around 18 December 2024.

Evidence presented to the Committee:

The Committee did not hear evidence from any witness(es) called on behalf of either party.

At the outset of the inquiry the Registrant admitted the contents of the Core Book without formal proof and further confirmed that he did not require the Registrar to adduce any oral evidence in support of the Complaint.

The Committee considered the following exhibits:

1. Core Book.

Advice of the Legal Assessor

The Committee received legal advice from the Legal Assessor as to the correct approach to determine findings in a disciplinary matter. The Legal Assessor advised the Committee as to the nature of the allegation and the burden and standard of proof. The parties agreed with the advices.

Decision of the Committee

Allegation 1

That you being a registered physiotherapist practising at Eddie O'Grady Physiotherapy, 36 Oakview, Brewery Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry, between on or around 21 August 2025 and on or around 29 August 2025, posted a further 1 star Google review on [REDACTED] business page, [REDACTED] in breach of your undertaking provided to the Professional Conduct Committee on or around 18 December 2024.

Finding as to Fact

The Committee found Allegation 1 proven as to fact beyond a reasonable doubt.

Reasons for Decision

The Committee was satisfied that the facts were proven beyond a reasonable doubt based upon the full admissions made by the Registrant as to the facts giving rise to the allegation.

Finding as to Breach of an Undertaking Pursuant to s. 52(1)(e) of the Act of 2005

The Committee found that the Registrant breached the undertaking (not to repeat the conduct complained of) provided to the Professional Conduct Committee on or around 18 December 2024.

Reasons for Decision

The Committee is satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the Registrant breached the undertaking provided to the Professional Conduct Committee on or around 18 December 2024. The Registrant admitted that by posting the One Star Google review on the Complainant's business page that he breached the said undertaking.

The Committee is satisfied that the conduct giving rise to the breach of the undertaking was serious.

Fitness to Practise Committee Recommendation in Respect of Sanction

The Committee recommends that the following sanction be imposed on the Registrant:

- (i) That the Registrant be censured pursuant to s. 66(1)(a) of the Health and Social Care Professionals Act, 2005, as amended.

Rationale for Sanction:

1. In considering its recommendation on sanction the Committee had careful regard to and followed the guidance on sanction published by CORU. The Committee also had regard to the submissions on sanction made by the parties and the advice of the legal assessor as to the correct principles to apply.

2. The Committee is of the view that the breach of the undertaking giving rise to the finding is serious but the circumstances in which it occurred and the absence of any harm place it at the low end of the scale. While the Registrant submitted that he was left in some doubt as to the outcome of the first inquiry the Committee notes that he was legally represented throughout and believes that the simple terms of the solemn undertaking he gave (not to repeat the conduct complained of) should have been clear to him. The breach occurred as a continuum of the previous complaint and the Committee accepts the Registrant's explanation that he posted the poor review in a "moment of madness".
3. The Committee commenced its consideration with the least serious sanction and is of the view that an admonishment would be inadequate to address the seriousness of the breach nor would it act as a sufficient deterrent or uphold the standards of the profession.
4. The Committee next turned to consider censure. The Committee is of the opinion that it is necessary to censure the Registrant in order to mark the seriousness of breaching an undertaking, uphold the standards of the profession and deter the Registrant and others in the profession from engaging in similar conduct.
5. The Committee also considered the imposition of conditions and were not satisfied that the attachment of conditions to registration would be appropriate, workable or proportionate in all the circumstances.
6. In making its recommendation on sanction the Committee had regard to the following mitigating factors:
 - (i) The Registrant made early, full and open admissions as to the facts and the breach of the undertaking. In doing so he reduced the complexity of the inquiry and time required for the hearing.
 - (ii) The Registrant removed the review following the complaint.
 - (iii) The Registrant sincerely apologised for his conduct.
 - (iv) The Registrant assured the Committee that it would not happen again.
 - (v) The Registrant has an unblemished career as a physiotherapist and there are no other complaints against him save for these related complaints.
 - (i) There is no suggestion that the Registrant is anything other than a competent physiotherapist.
 - (ii) Overall, the Committee were satisfied that the Registrant had gained insight into his conduct.
7. In making its recommendation on sanction the Committee attempted to be as lenient to the Registrant as possible.

8. Overall, the Committee believes that the recommended sanction is appropriate and proportionate in all the circumstances. It will protect the public, uphold the standards of the profession of physiotherapy and maintain public confidence in the profession and the regulatory process.

Signed:



Dr. Shane McCarthy, Chairperson

Date:

31st July 2026
