

## **Explanatory Note on the Resolution to Amend Section IX of the Bye-Laws**

*Section IX of the Bye Laws outlines the rules around termination, suspension and other disciplinary matters.*

### **Current practice outlined in the Bye Laws:**

- When the GMC suspends a member, the current Bye Laws require the College directed by Board of Trustees to hold a separate disciplinary hearing for every GMC suspension.
- This needs to happen even though the GMC has already fully investigated the matter.

### **Why We Need to Make a Change and its Impact on Members**

- We are recommending a change so that members are not subjected to unnecessary hearings when the GMC has already taken action, reducing stress at what is often an already difficult time.
- This would allow us to redirect our resources toward providing more meaningful support to members.

### **What We're Proposing**

*Update the whole of Section IX of the Bye Laws as follows:*

- Give clearer devolved responsibility to the Registrar and the Disciplinary and Complaints Committee from Board of Trustees.
- Ensure the process is fair, efficient, and member-centred.
- Avoid unnecessary hearings when the GMC has already taken action.

### **What Stays the Same with the proposed changes**

- Public protection remains paramount.
- The College will continue to maintain accurate records and uphold professional standards.
- Members will still have access to fair processes where needed.

In conclusion the update removes duplicate disciplinary hearings when the GMC has already acted and streamlines responsibilities to deliver a faster, fairer, more transparent process. It reduces stress for members, saves resources, and strengthens alignment with the College's values while keeping the organisation fully compliant.