

**Nursing and Midwifery Council
Fitness to Practise Committee**

**Substantive Hearing
Wednesday 1 – Friday 3 February 2023
Monday 20 February 2023**

Virtual Hearing

Name of Registrant: Jennifer Summerskill

NMC PIN 05H1108E

Part(s) of the register: RNA: Registered Nurse – (sub part 1)
Adult – Level 1
1 October 2005

Relevant Location: Liverpool and Sefton

Type of case: Conviction, Misconduct and Health

Panel members: Paul Grant (Chair, Lay member)
Georgina Witherow (Registrant member)
Matthew Wratten (Lay member)

Legal Assessor: Robin Ince

Hearings Coordinator: Sharmilla Nanan

Nursing and Midwifery Council: Represented by Lucy Chapman, Case Presenter

Miss Summerskill: Not present and not represented at the hearing

Facts proved by admission: Charges 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Facts proved: Charges 6 and 7

Fitness to practise: Impaired

Sanction: Striking-off order

Interim order: Interim suspension order (18 months)

Decision and reasons on application for hearing to be held in private

At the outset of the hearing, Ms Chapman, on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), submitted that Miss Summerskill's criminal convictions were a matter of public record, and these parts of the hearing should be heard in public. However, Ms Chapman made a request that parts of this case be held in private on the basis that proper exploration of Miss Summerskill's case is inextricably linked to her health. The application was made pursuant to Rule 19 of the 'Nursing and Midwifery Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules 2004', as amended (the Rules).

The legal assessor reminded the panel that while Rule 19(1) provides, as a starting point, that hearings shall be conducted in public, Rule 19(3) states that the panel may hold hearings partly or wholly in private if it is satisfied that this is justified by the interests of any party or by the public interest.

The panel determined to go into private session in connection with Miss Summerskill's health as and when such issues are raised in order to protect her privacy.