

20 May 2015

Our Reference: E1-1133732287

**General
Medical
Council**

Sent by email to: clivedbates@gmail.com

Private: Addressee Only
Mr Clive Bates

3 Hardman Street
Manchester M3 3AW

Email: gmc@gmc-uk.org
Website: www.gmc-uk.org
Telephone: 0161 923 6602
Fax: 0161 923 6201

Dear Mr Bates

Thank you for your email of 2 May 2015 to Amy Shanahan. I am responding to you as a member of our Complaints and Correspondence Team.

Our role

Our role as a medical regulator is to make sure that doctors who are on the medical register and licensed to practice medicine, are safe to do so. When concerns are brought to us, we must consider whether they raise concerns which would require us to open an investigation and potentially restrict or remove their registration; we only do this in the most serious of cases.

Public statements

Typically, a complaint about comments made by a doctor in public is less likely to lead to action being taken than a complaint about a clinical incident. However, we look at each complaint we receive on its own merit and we do not prejudge them based on the nature of the complaint. If the doctor's comments were particularly offensive or unprofessional, we may decide to look into them further.

Reason for closure

In this instance, we did not open an investigation into your concerns because we do not believe they are serious enough to suggest we may need to restrict or remove Dr Rae's registration and ability to work. We do not believe that in making these comments Dr Rae has put current or future patient safety at significant risk.

I can see from your emails and your website that you clearly feel very strongly about the issues you have raised, however we do not believe that this matter requires us to open a fitness to practise investigation into Dr Rae.

I hope I have been able to clarify our position and I would like to thank you again for writing to us.

Yours sincerely



Sean O'Neill
Complaints and Correspondence Team

Fitness to Practise Directorate

General Medical Council

Direct Dial: 0161 250 6986

Email: soneill@gmc-uk.org