

**BEFORE THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
OF THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(25)19

AND

SUZY STONEHOUSE (D-16672)

**NOTICE OF INQUIRY
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

Take Notice that an Inquiry will be conducted in the above matter by the Fitness to Practise Committee of the General Optical Council.

A substantive hearing will be proceeding:

Remotely

The substantive hearing will commence at 9:30am on **Tuesday 10 to Wednesday 11 February 2026** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

The Inquiry will be based upon the allegation submitted by the Council (see below) and will determine whether the fitness to practise of **Suzy Stonehouse** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Euan Napier
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

19 December 2025

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Suzy Stonehouse (D-16672), a registered Dispensing Optician, whilst working at Specsavers Opticians, [redacted]:

1. Fraudulently processed the following refund onto a MasterCard ending [redacted]:
 - a) £180, on or around 9 November 2024;
2. Fraudulently processed the following refunds onto a MasterCard ending [redacted]:
 - a. £240, on or around 14 November 2024;
 - b. £525, on or around 29 November 2024;
 - c. £580, on or around 5 February 2025;
3. Your actions set out at 1 and/or 2 above were dishonest, in that you knew or ought to have known that you were not entitled to the money from these transactions;

And by virtue of the facts set out above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of Misconduct.

Committee Members:

Julia Wortley (Chair/Lay)
Jacqueline Telfer (Lay)
Nigel Pilkington (Lay)
Sue Deal (Dispensing Optician)
Jill Perry (Dispensing Optician)

Legal Adviser:

Kelly Thomas

Hearings Officer:

Anwar Henry

Transcribers:

Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at hearings@optical.org.