

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(23)11

AND

ANDREW MAYNARD (01-32510)

**DETERMINATION OF A SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW
30 JULY 2025**

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| Committee Members: | Adrian Smith (Chair) Victoria Smith (Lay) Mark McLaren (Lay) Alex Howard (Optometrist) Gaynor Kirk (Optometrist) |
| Legal Adviser: | Caitlin Connor |
| GOC Presenting Officer: | Bradley Albuery |
| Registrant: | Present and represented |
| Registrant's representative: | Stephen Smith |
| Hearings Officer: | Terence Yates |
| Outcome: | Direction for erasure in terms of section 13F(7)(b) of the Opticians Act 1989 |

DETERMINATION

Background

1. The Registrant became a registered Optometrist in February 1985. In June 2021, the Registrant commenced employment as an Optometrist at Boots Opticians in [redacted]. At all material times, he was employed at this practice.
2. The Registrant has no past fitness to practise history, aside from this matter.
3. The allegations relate to the Registrant's failings in relation to four patients (A, B, F and G) whom he examined between 25 June 2021 and 17 August 2021.
4. On 25 June 2021, the Registrant carried out an eye examination on Patient F who presented with signs and symptoms of neurological disease, which included headaches and patchy vision for some six weeks previously. The examination revealed that Patient F had swollen optic discs (the right severely swollen), reduced visual acuity in the left eye and a bilateral visual field defect. The Council's case is that these symptoms were indicative of a serious diagnosis such as a brain tumour or stroke and Patient F was subsequently diagnosed with a brain tumour.
5. On 18 July 2021, the Registrant carried out a contact lens aftercare appointment with Patient B. It is alleged that the Registrant's examination of Patient B was incomplete, as he did not use fluorescein, in order to conduct an examination of the cornea. Further, it is alleged that the Registrant did not make any or sufficient enquiries about Patient B's: care system, and/or compliance with the cleaning regimen, and/or poor comfort, establish contact lens age and/or condition, as these matters were not recorded within Patient B's patient record.
6. The allegations in respect of Patient A relate to failings in the Registrant's record keeping, by not keeping an adequate record of his consultation with Patient A. It is alleged that he did not record the number of times per day the chloramphenicol was to be administered by Patient A, and/or the duration of use of the chloramphenicol by Patient A, and/or to which eye the chloramphenicol should have been administered. When the Registrant's colleague, Ms A, examined Patient A in a further follow up appointment on 27 July 2021, she struggled to decipher the Registrant's notes.
7. On 17 August 2021, the Registrant carried out an eye examination on Patient G, who had been previously diagnosed with glaucoma, which had been initially difficult to manage. Patient G attended on 17 August for a community glaucoma check, which at that time, due to COVID, was being carried out by Boots Opticians. The Registrant's examination of Patient G identified significantly elevated intra-ocular pressures ('IOPs') at a level very likely to cause damage to the eye (34mmHg), reduced acuities and a deterioration in her visual fields, which

could indicate advancing glaucoma, which warranted referral back to the glaucoma clinic in the hospital.

8. Concerns were raised by the Registrant's colleagues and the Registrant was suspended by Boots Opticians on 28 September 2021, whilst the concerns were investigated further.
9. Following an investigation meeting on 7 October 2021 and a disciplinary meeting on 21 October 2021, the Registrant was dismissed from his employment. On 2 December 2021, Boots Opticians made a referral to the Council regarding the Registrant.

Substantive Hearing: 16 October – 7 November 2023

10. At the start of the Hearing, the Registrant admitted the particulars 2(a)(i), 2(b) and 3. These facts were found proved following the Registrant's admissions pursuant to Rule 46(6) of the Rules.
11. The Committee found the particulars of the following denied allegations proven: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7(a) and (b). Only particular 7(c) was not found proven.
12. The Committee proceeded to consider whether the facts admitted and/or found proved amounted to misconduct, which was serious. In relation to patients F, B and G, the Committee was satisfied that the Registrant's conduct fell sufficiently far below the standards expected of a reasonably competent optometrist to amount individually to misconduct, which was serious. It was decided that the Registrant's behaviour with respect to Patient A fell below the standard of a reasonably competent optometrist, but not seriously below the standard, and therefore did not meet the threshold of misconduct on an individual basis. The Committee was not satisfied that it was appropriate to take a cumulative approach and to not include the Registrant's conduct in relation to Patient A, in its findings of serious misconduct.
13. It was concluded that there was a real risk of repetition of similar conduct, and the Committee was of the view that the public would be concerned if no finding of impairment was made, given a lack of remediation and the Registrant's limited insight. The Committee determined that it was also necessary to make a finding of impairment in this case in order to maintain confidence in the profession and in order to uphold proper professional standards, particularly in respect of the Registrant's failings in respect of Patient F.
14. As regards sanction, the Committee imposed an order for conditional registration for a period of 18 months, with a review hearing to take place after three months. The list of conditions is set out at.

First Substantive Order Review Hearing – 15 March 2024

15. The Committee was mindful that the onus at a Review Hearing was on the Registrant to demonstrate that he was no longer impaired and in effect there is a persuasive burden upon him to show that he is currently fit to practise unrestricted. Given the absence of a Personal Development Plan ('PDP'), lack of evidence regarding the completion of targeted Continuing Professional Development ('CPD') and no work-based experience since June 2022, the Committee was not satisfied that the Registrant had discharged that persuasive burden and there remained, at this time, a risk of repetition.
16. The Committee found that there had been no change in circumstances since the substantive hearing and, therefore, there was a finding on public protection grounds that the Registrant's fitness to practise was still impaired. The Committee imposed a Conditional Registration Order for a period of 18 months from 15 March 2024, with a review hearing to take place within six months.

Second Substantive Order Review Hearing – 2 September 2024

17. The Committee identified that the misconduct found proved involved clinical concerns, record keeping, history taking and patient management failures. Whilst in principle the Committee considered this misconduct easily remediable, there was no evidence from the Registrant to demonstrate that it had been remedied, and therefore the Committee was concerned that a risk of repetition remained. The Committee again determined that there had been no change of circumstances since the substantive hearing in November 2023. As such there remained in the Committee's view a risk to the public, and a finding of impairment was necessary on public protection grounds. Furthermore, the Committee also concluded that the public interest required a finding of current impairment, because, if well-informed members of the public were aware of the facts and history of the case, they would be concerned if no finding of impairment was made. Therefore, the Registrant's fitness to practise was deemed to be currently impaired.
18. The Committee was of the view that given the Registrant's lack of engagement with the Council since the substantive hearing in November 2023, his failure to evidence compliance with the existing conditions and the lack of any evidence supporting his remediation and insight, it would not be appropriate or proportionate to revoke the order. The Committee was of the view that an aggravating factor in this case was the Registrant's failure to demonstrate any appreciation of the seriousness of these matters.
19. The Committee noted that the original order was imposed for a period of 18 months on the grounds that there had been serious clinical deficiencies, record keeping deficiencies and patient management failures in the Registrant's practice. The Committee was of the view that 10 months had passed since the imposition of the conditions with no material action on the Registrant's part, no engagement

by the Registrant with his regulator, and no evidence that the conditions had been complied with. The Committee considered that the current conditions were not working as the Registrant had not complied with them. It was of the view that the conditions were no longer proportionate in dealing with the risk the Registrant poses to the public. He had not engaged with his regulator despite being an experienced Registrant who had acknowledged during his evidence the importance of doing so. The Committee considered that the risks to the public were increasing, given the amount of time the Registrant has been out of practice without any evidence of keeping his clinical skills and knowledge up to date, particularly maintaining his CPD requirements or addressing the failings identified in his practice.

20. The Committee therefore considered that the proportionate response was to impose a suspension. It was considered that a period of 12 months' suspension would give the Registrant sufficient time to produce the PDP, reflective statement and any other evidence to assist the next Committee in determining impairment. A review hearing was agreed to take place within 6 months.

Third Substantive Review Hearing – 27 January 2025

21. The Committee was of the view that there had been no changes since the substantive hearing. The Committee noted the Registrant's desire to be removed from the Register and his lack of motivation to engage with the necessary steps to demonstrate remediation going forward. As such, the Committee considered that there remained a risk to the public. Moreover, the Committee concluded that the public interest required a finding of current impairment on public interest grounds, because if a well-informed member of the public was aware of the facts and history of this case, they would be concerned if no finding of impairment was made. In light of the above, the Registrant was found to be impaired on the grounds of public protection and public interest.
22. The Committee therefore considered that the proportionate response was to impose a suspension. It was considered that a period of 6 months' suspension would allow the Registrant adequate time to reflect on his future and determine conclusively whether or not he intends to continue his professional practice or to withdraw from the Register.
23. The Committee thus purported to further suspend the Registrant's registration for a period of 6 months following this third substantive review hearing. That order was purportedly due to expire on 27 July 2025.

Fourth Substantive Review Hearing – 30 July 2025

24. For the purpose of this Review Hearing, the Committee were provided with the following documentation:
- a. A bundle submitted on behalf of the GOC consisting of 202 pages which included a skeleton argument on behalf of the GOC;
 - b. A supplementary skeleton argument on behalf of the GOC consisting of 4 pages; and
 - c. A copy of email correspondence between the Registrant's representative and the GOC dated from 19 December 2024 to 19 March 2025 and consisting of 4 pages.

Preliminary matters

25. Mr Albuery on behalf of the Council raised two preliminary matters at the opening of the Review Hearing.
26. Firstly, Mr Albuery noted that the Review Hearing was being heard at short notice in terms of the General Optical Council (Fitness to Practice) Rules 2013 (the "Rules"). Rule 57 provided that a Review Hearing must not be held earlier than 28 days after the date upon which notification of the hearing was served on the Registrant. This Hearing was being held on less than 28 days' notice. Mr Albuery noted that, in terms of Rule 57, the requirement for 28 days' notice does not apply where a registrant agrees to an earlier hearing. Mr Albuery stated that the Registrant has so consented, and submitted that the Review Hearing could therefore competently proceed.
27. Mr Smith on behalf of the Registrant confirmed that the Registrant consented to an earlier hearing in terms of Rule 57.
28. The Committee heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser who advised that, where the Registrant agreed to this Review Hearing taking place on less than 28 days' notice, or where the Committee was of the view that the public interest required such a hearing, the Review Hearing could proceed in terms of Rule 57.
29. The Committee were content to proceed to conduct the Review Hearing on that basis.
30. Secondly, Mr Albuery referred to the 6-month suspension order which was purportedly made at the Review Hearing on 27 January 2025 (the "January Review"). Mr Albuery submitted that the Committee did not have the power to make such an order in circumstances where there was already an existing suspension order which had not yet expired. That existing order had been imposed at the Review Hearing on 2 September 2024 (the "September Review") and was not due to expire until 29 September 2025. In support of these submissions, Mr Albuery referred to and relied on the supplementary skeleton

argument filed by the GOC for this Review Hearing and the legal authorities referred to therein.

31. Mr Smith for the Registrant confirmed that the Registrant did not take any issue with any of Mr Albuery's submissions in this regard and made no further comment.
32. The Committee heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser who advised that the Committee at the January Review did not have the power to make the order that it purported to make. The orders that the Committee could make in those circumstances were those which were set out at section 13F(7) of the Act, which did not allow for the imposition of a new 6-month suspension order in circumstances where the suspension order imposed at the September Review had not yet expired. The effect of this was that: (a) the 6-month suspension order purportedly made at the January Review was of no effect and should be treated as if had never been made; and (b) the 12-month suspension order made at the September Review remained in effect.
33. The Committee accepted that legal advice and proceeded on that basis.

Findings regarding impairment

34. The Committee heard submissions from Mr Albuery on behalf of the Council, who summarised the background of the case and the findings of the earlier Fitness to Practice Committee. Mr Albuery reminded the Committee that it was not bound by the view of the earlier Committee and must make its own independent judgment based on all of the information before it today.
35. Mr Albuery outlined to the Committee what had happened since the conclusion of the substantive hearing in November 2023. Mr Albuery submitted that the Council's position was that the Registrant's clinical and record keeping failures remained of serious concern and presented a risk of harm to patients. Mr Albuery continued that there was no evidence that the Registrant had actively engaged with any conditions imposed by past Fitness to Practise Committees.
36. Mr Albuery reminded the Committee that there is a persuasive burden on the Registrant to demonstrate that he has engaged in steps to alleviate the concerns of the previous review hearing Committee. Mr Albuery submitted that there have been no significant changes since the previous hearing. Given that the Registrant's misconduct was directly related to clinical issues involving patient care, he highlighted that there continues to be a substantial risk of harm to patients. Mr Albuery noted that there had been no engagement with the Council by the Registrant in relation to this Review Hearing. It remained the case that no evidence from the Registrant to demonstrate remediation had been provided.
37. The Committee then heard from Mr Smith on behalf of the Registrant. Mr Smith informed the Committee that the Registrant's position effectively remained unchanged from that which was adopted at the January Hearing. The Registrant accepted that his fitness to practise was impaired. The Registrant accepted that he had not undertaken any steps since the January Hearing to remediate his

impairment or to comply with the conditions previously imposed. As was the case at the January Review, it remained the Registrant's wish to withdraw from the register as he has now retired.

38. The Committee heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser who advised that upon Review, the Committee will need to consider impairment afresh (*Clarke v GOC [2017]* EWHC 521 Admin). She advised that although the Registrant conceded his current fitness to practise is impaired, the question of impairment was a matter for the Committee's independent judgment taking into account all of the evidence it has seen and heard so far and that a finding of impairment does not automatically follow a finding of misconduct. The Legal Adviser reminded the Committee of the relevant principles set out in *Cohen v GMC [2008]* EWHC 581 (Admin). The Legal Adviser referred the Committee to the case of *Azzam v GMC [2008]* EWHC 2711 (Admin) and advised that, in accordance with that case, the Committee should consider the facts material to the practitioner's fitness to practice looking forward, not backwards. For that purpose, the Committee should take into account evidence as to his present skills or lack thereof, and any steps taken since the conduct criticised to remedy any defects in skill. The Legal Adviser referred the Committee to the test for considering whether a registrant's fitness to practice is impaired as formulated by Dame Janet Smith in her *Fifth Report from Shipman* (which has been cited with approval by the *High Court in CHRE v NMC & Paula Grant [2011]* EWHC 927 (Admin)). The Legal Adviser reminded the Committee that there is a persuasive burden on the Registrant at the Review Hearing to demonstrate that his fitness to practise is no longer impaired.
39. The Committee, having taken into account the submissions made on behalf of both the Council and the Registrant and the relevant legal principles, found that the fitness of the Registrant to practise as an optometrist continues to be impaired. The Committee noted that there had been no change in circumstances since the substantive hearing in November 2023. The Committee noted that the Registrant accepted that he had not remediated his impairment and had taken no steps to remediate his impairment since the previous Review Hearing. The Committee had regard to the four limbs of the test for impairment as formulated in *CHRE v NMC & Paula Grant [2011]* EWHC 927 (Admin). The Committee considered that the first three of those limbs were satisfied in the present circumstances. Those were that the registrant has: (i) in the past acted and/or is liable in the future to act so as to put a risk of harm to patients; (ii) in the past brought and/or is liable in the future to bring the profession into disrepute; and (iii) has in the past breached and/or is liable in the future to breach one of the fundamental tenets of the profession.
40. Accordingly, the Committee found that the fitness of the Registrant to practise as an optometrist is currently impaired.

Sanction

41. Having decided that the Registrant's fitness to practise is impaired, the Committee next considered what direction it should make pursuant to section 13F of the Act. The Committee has heard submissions from Mr Albuery on behalf of the Council and from Mr Smith on behalf of the Registrant.
42. Mr Albuery submitted that, in the circumstances, the Committee should consider exercising its power under section 13F(7)(b) of the act to direct that the name of the Registrant be erased from the register ("erasure").
43. Mr Albuery referred the Committee to paragraph 21.35 of the Indicative Sanctions Guidance which contained guidance as to when erasure was likely to be appropriate ("ISG"). Mr Albuery submitted that the factors referred to at (b) and (h) of that paragraph were applicable in the Registrant's case. Those factors were that the behaviour had created or contributed to a risk of harm to individuals either deliberately, recklessly or through incompetence, and particularly where there is a continuing risk of harm to patients (21.35(b)) and there had been persistent lack of insight into seriousness of actions or consequences (21.35(h)).
44. Mr Albuery referred to the fact that the Registrant does not want to continue to be on the register, him having made that clear at the January 2025 Review. Mr Smith submitted that, unless erasure was ordered, the Registrant will remain on the register and will, subject to the orders to be made by the Committee at this Review, continue to be subject to suspension and subsequent review hearings.
45. Mr Albuery referred the Committee to the authority of *Unozor v Nursing and Midwifery Council* [2016] 2 WLUK 667 which provides that it is not appropriate to continuously extend substantive orders in the hope that a registrant might eventually comply with its suggestions.
46. The Committee then heard from Mr Smith on behalf of the Registrant. Mr Smith informed the Committee that the Registrant was opposed to a direction for erasure being made. Mr Smith referred in the first instance to paragraph 21.35 of the ISG and submitted that none of the factors referred to in that paragraph were present in this case. Mr Smith referred to the fact that at the substantive hearing and subsequent review hearings, the Committee did not consider erasure to be appropriate albeit he accepted that this Committee were not bound by that. Mr Smith submitted that the matters which had originally led the Committee to conclude that the Registrant's fitness to practise was impaired had not changed in terms of gravity. Mr Smith submitted that, for these reasons, a sanction of erasure was not appropriate.
47. Mr Smith submitted that the Registrant's conduct, in seeking to be removed from the register voluntarily having accepted that he is not able or willing to remediate his impairment, demonstrates insight into the seriousness of actions and consequences (in terms of section 21.35(h) of the ISG). Mr Smith submitted that the case referred to by Mr Albuery was distinguishable from the Registrant's case on that basis.

48. Mr Smith confirmed that it remained the Registrant's wish to retire and to bring an end to these proceedings as soon as possible, with the caveat that he did not consent to erasure. Mr Smith explained that the Registrant wanted to be removed from the register voluntarily. Mr Smith had corresponded with the Council with a view to securing the Registrant's voluntary removal and produced the relevant email correspondence to the Committee. Mr Smith explained that the Registrant did not consent to erasure as he did not wish to see his long career in optometry end in that manner and on that note.
49. Mr Albuery responded to the reference made by Mr Smith to the Registrant's voluntary withdrawal from the register. Mr Albuery submitted that voluntary withdrawal was not possible under and in terms of the relevant legal framework.
50. The Committee heard and accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser. The Legal Adviser advised that the relevant legal framework did not allow for voluntary withdrawal from the register by the Registrant.
51. The Legal Adviser advised that it is a matter of judgment for the Committee as to what sanction to apply (*CHRP v GMC and Biswas [2006] EWHC 464 at [40]*). The ISG confirms that, at a review hearing, all sanctions are available to the committee, but the reasons for sanction must reflect the current situation and can only follow a finding that a registrant's fitness to practise remains impaired (para 24.5). The Committee should take a proportionate approach in deciding what sanction to impose. This means weighing the interests of the public against the interests of the registrant when deciding whether a sanction is necessary. The Committee should have regard to all of the circumstances of the case, any aggravating or mitigating features that may be present. In deciding what sanction is appropriate, the Committee should start with the least severe and only move on to consider the next sanction if the Committee consider that that lesser sanction would be inappropriate having regard to the circumstances of the case.
52. The Legal Adviser referred the Committee to paragraph 21.35 of the ISG and noted that the list of factors included in that paragraph was non-exhaustive.
53. The Legal Adviser then referred the Committee to the decisions of the court in *Unozor v Nursing and Midwifery Council [2016] 2 WLUK 667*, *Fouche v NMC [2011] EWHC 133 (Admin)* and *Cheatle v General Medical Council [2009] EWHC 645 (Admin)*. It was open to the Committee to make a direction for erasure if the Committee considered that to be proportionate and appropriate in all of the circumstances.
54. The Committee accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser in all of these respects.
55. The Committee considered the sanctions available to it from the least restrictive to the most severe (no sanction, financial penalty, conditional registration, suspension, erasure). The Committee considered that, in light of the continuing impairment and risk to the public presented by the Registrant's continuing impairment, taking no action was not appropriate. It was further considered that imposing conditional orders was not appropriate in circumstances where previous

orders had not been complied with at all, and where the Registrant had confirmed he did not wish to return to practice and did not intend to remediate his impairment. Similarly, it was considered that imposing an extended suspension order was not appropriate or proportionate in all of the present circumstances. The Committee concluded that, in all of the circumstances and having regard to proportionality, it was appropriate that it should direct the erasure of the Registrant in terms of section 13F(7)(b) of the Act.

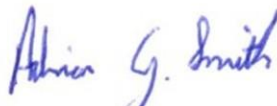
56. The Committee considered that the Registrant's behaviour was fundamentally incompatible with being a registered professional in terms of paragraph 21.35 of the ISG. The Committee considered that the factors (a), (b) and (h) referred to at paragraph 21.35 of the ISG were applicable in the Registrant's case. In respect of (a), the Committee considered that the Registrant's failure to take any steps to remediate his impairment or take steps to fulfil his CPD and training requirements represented a serious departure from the relevant professional standards as set out in the Standards of Practice for Registrants. In respect of (b), it was noted that the conduct giving rise to the finding of impairment as established at the substantive hearing in November 2023 directly related to a risk of harm to patients. Given that his impairment was unremediated, factor (b) was present. In respect of (h), the Committee considered that the Registrant's conduct in failing to take any steps to remediate his impairment, and his stated intention not to do so while he remained on the register, demonstrated a persistent lack of insight into the seriousness of actions or consequences.
57. In reaching its decision that a direction for erasure was the most appropriate and proportionate sanction, the Committee took into account that the Registrant did not wish to remain on the register.
58. The Committee also had particular regard to the decision in *Fouche v NMC [2011]* EWHC 133 (Admin), in which the court held that erasure or striking was an appropriate sanction in circumstances where the panel had found there was no evidence that the registrant had taken any steps to remedy her impairment, and not displayed insight into her unfitness to practice. The Committee also had particular regard to the decision in *Unozor v Nursing and Midwifery Council [2016]* 2 WLUK 667 where the court had held that in circumstances where the panel had found that the registrant had consistently failed to take steps which would rectify the situation, the Committee was entitled to conclude that it was not appropriate to continuously extend suspension orders in the hope that the registrant might eventually comply with its suggestions.
59. The Committee therefore directed that the name of the Registrant be erased from the register in terms of section 13F(7) ("**Erase Order**").
60. The Committee noted that an Erasure Order is an "appealable decision" in terms of section 23G of the 1989 Act. This means that it will not immediately take effect. Rather, in accordance with section 23H of the Act, and assuming no appeal is brought by the Registrant, the Erasure Order will not take effect until the expiration of the time for appealing the Erasure Order. The time for appealing the Erasure

Order will be 28 days beginning with the day on which this determination is served on the Registrant (section 23G(3) of the Act). Where an appeal is brought but withdrawn or struck out for want of prosecution, the Erasure Order will not take effect until the appeal is withdrawn or struck out. If an appeal is brought against this determination, and the relevant court dismisses the appeal, this determination will take effect on the date the appeal is dismissed.

61. The Committee observed that the current suspension order is due to expire on 29 September 2025. The Committee is of the view that, in the event of the Registrant bringing an appeal in respect of the Erasure Direction, a review hearing should be fixed immediately following receipt of notification of the Registrar's intention to appeal.

Chairman of the Committee: Adrian Smith

Signature



Date: 30 July 2025

Registrant: Andrew Maynard

Signature present and received via email

Date: 30 July 2025

| FURTHER INFORMATION |
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| Transcript |
| A full transcript of the hearing will be made available for purchase in due course. |
| Appeal |
| Any appeal against an order of the Committee must be lodged with the relevant court within 28 days of the service of this notification. If no appeal is lodged, the order will take effect at the end of that period. The relevant court is shown at section 23G(4)(a)-(c) of the Opticians Act 1989 (as amended). |
| Professional Standards Authority |
| <p>This decision will be reported to the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) under the provisions of section 29 of the NHS Reform and Healthcare Professions Act 2002. PSA may refer this case to the High Court of Justice in England and Wales, the Court of Session in Scotland or the High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland as appropriate if they decide that a decision has been insufficient to protect the public and/or should not have been made, and if they consider that referral is desirable for the protection of the public.</p> <p>Where a registrant can appeal against a decision, the Authority has 40 days beginning with the day which is the last day in which you can appeal. Where a registrant cannot appeal against the outcome of a hearing, the Authority's appeal period is 56 days beginning with the day in which notification of the decision was served on you. PSA will notify you promptly of a decision to refer. A letter will be sent by recorded delivery to your registered address (unless PSA has been notified by the GOC of a change of address).</p> <p>Further information about the PSA can be obtained from its website at www.professionalstandards.org.uk or by telephone on 020 7389 8030.</p> |
| Effect of orders for suspension or erasure |
| To practise or carry on business as an optometrist or dispensing optician, to take or use a description which implies registration or entitlement to undertake any activity which the law restricts to a registered person, may amount to a criminal offence once an entry in the register has been suspended or erased. |
| Contact |
| If you require any further information, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at Level 29, One Canada Square, London, E14 5AA or by telephone, on 020 7580 3898. |