

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

**IO(23)19**

---

**SECOND INTERIM ORDER REVIEW  
DETERMINATION SUMMARY  
3 SEPTEMBER 2024**

---

**PRIVATE HEARING**

**Name of Registrant:** Christopher Watson

**Registration number:** D-7580

**Professional status:** Dispensing Optician

**Type and length of interim order:** The Fitness to Practise Committee determined to make an interim order of suspension from 21 December 2023 for a period of 18 months. The suspension was continued at the review hearing on 25 March 2024.

On 3 September 2023, the Fitness to Practise changed the interim suspension order to an interim order of conditions.

The order will be further reviewed within three months from today unless all matters are resolved within that time, or earlier should new evidence be made available, or if the Registrant requests an early review.

**Conditions**

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1.<br/>Informing<br/>others</b></p> | <p>You must inform the following parties that your registration is subject to conditions and inform them of these conditions. You should do this within two weeks of the date this order takes effect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Any organisation or person employing or contracting with you to provide paid or unpaid optical services, whether or not in the UK (to include any locum agency).</li><li>b. Any prospective employer or contractor where you have applied to provide optical services, whether or not in the UK.</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. The Chair of the Local Optometric Committee for the area where you provide optometric services.</li> <li>d. The NHS body in whose ophthalmic performer or contractor list you are included or are seeking inclusion.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <p><b>2. Employment and work</b></p>      | <p>You must inform the GOC within two weeks if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. You accept any paid or unpaid employment or contract, whether or not in the UK, to provide optical services.</li> <li>b. You apply for any paid or unpaid employment or contract to provide optical services outside the UK.</li> <li>c. You cease working.</li> </ul> <p>This information must include the contact details of your prospective employer/ contractor and (if the role includes providing NHS ophthalmic services) the relevant NHS body.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>3. Monitoring of Conditions</b></p> | <p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Identify at each workplace someone (monitor) who would be prepared to monitor your compliance with these conditions.</li> <li>b. Ask the GOC to approve your workplace monitor within two weeks of the date this order takes effect. If you are not employed, you must ask the GOC to approve your workplace monitor before you start work.</li> <li>c. Identify another monitor if the GOC does not agree to your being monitored by the proposed monitor.</li> <li>d. At least once a month meet your monitor to review compliance with these conditions.</li> </ul> <p>At least every three months, before the next review hearing or upon request by the GOC, submit a written report from your monitor to the GOC, detailing how you have complied with these conditions.</p> |
| <p><b>4. Information to the GOC</b></p>   | <p>You must inform the GOC within two weeks if you become aware of any criminal investigation or disciplinary investigation against you.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>5.<br/>Registration<br/>requirements</b> | <p>You must continue to comply with all legal and professional requirements of registration with the GOC.</p> <p>A review hearing will be arranged at the earliest opportunity if you fail to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Fulfil all Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements; or</li></ul> <p>Renew your registration annually.</p> |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|