

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(26)08

AND

ZAKIYAH KAHANIYA (D-44569)

**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 **Thursday 6 August to Thursday 13 August 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 **Zakiyah Kahaniya** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Euan Napier
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

29 June 2026

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Zakiyah Kahaniya (D-44569), a registered Dispensing Optician, whilst employed as a Dispensing Optician and Retail Manager at Specsavers [redacted]:

- 1) Between May 2023 and November 2025, you obtained £380 worth of contact lenses for your own personal use, from the business, in contravention of the staff discount policy, for which you did not pay;
- 2) Your actions at 1) above were Dishonest in that:
 - a. You knew that you were not entitled to those contact lenses, for your personal use, without paying;
 - b. An abuse of your position as a Retail Manager in that:
 - i. You asked other members of staff to complete the contact lens order forms on your behalf;
 - ii. During your disciplinary meeting dated 9 December 2025, you admitted that you knew your unpaid order for staff contact lenses would not be questioned because of your position as a senior member of staff in that when asked – “As you’re a leader, wouldn’t question” – or words to that effect, you responded – “Yes” – or words to that effect;

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

Committee Members: Clive Powell (Chair/Lay)
Nigel Pilkington (Lay)
Kevin Connolly (Lay)
Adrian Street (Dispensing Optician)
Jill Perry (Dispensing Optician)

Legal Adviser: Dr Francis Graydon

Hearings Officer: Natasha Bance

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.