

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(24)17

AND

HELEN HOLMAN - (SD-6050)

**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 Agreed Panel Disposal (APD) hearing will commence at 9:30am on **Monday 21 October** to **Tuesday 22 October 2024** 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 undertake training of **Helen Holman** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Euan Napier
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

09 October 2024

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Ms Helen Holman (SD-6050), a registered student dispensing optician, between 18 October 2021 and 12 March 2022, while working as a Store Manager at [redacted] Specsavers Ltd [Store A] you:

1. *Informed [Store A] that you had submitted your pre-qualification portfolio ("PQP") to the Association of British Dispensing officers ("ABDO") when in fact you had not.*
2. *You undertook restricted activities in that you:*
 - a. *Conducted 11 unsupervised dispenses to patients under 16 years of age;*
 - b. *Conducted 56 unsupervised collections to patients under 16 years of age.*
3. *Your actions in (1) was dishonest in that you knew that you had not submitted the PQP.*

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

Committee Members: Anne Johnstone (Chair/Lay)
Kevin Connolly (Lay)
Nicola Enston (Lay)
Adrian Street (Dispensing Optician)
Sarah Castree (Dispensing Optician)

Legal Adviser: Graeme Dalgleish

Hearings Officer: Latanya Gordon

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.