

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

IO(21)13

**INTERIM ORDER APPLICATION
DETERMINATION SUMMARY
20 January 2022**

PRIVATE HEARING

Name of Registrant: Stewart Clough

Registration number: 01-12051

Professional status: Optometrist

Type and length of interim order: The Fitness to Practise Committee determined to make an interim order of conditional registration from 20 January 2022 for a period of 18 months.

The order will be further reviewed within 6 months from today unless all matters are resolved within that time, or earlier should new evidence be made available, or if the registrant, at any time after three months from today's date, requests an early review.

The list of public conditions imposed are as follows:

1. You must inform the following parties that your registration is subject to conditions. You should do this within two weeks of the date this order takes effect.
 - 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).
 - b. Any prospective employer or contractor where you have applied to provide optical services, whether or not in the UK.
 - c. Chairman of the Local Optometric Committee for the area where you provide optometric services.
 - d. The NHS body in whose ophthalmic performer or contractor list you are included or are seeking inclusion.

2. You must inform the GOC if:

- a. You accept any paid or unpaid employment or contract, whether or not in the UK, to provide optical services.
- b. You apply for any paid or unpaid employment or contract to provide optical services outside the UK.
- c. You cease working.

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.

1. You must:

- a. Only see female patients when an independent chaperone is present;
- b. Provide the GOC with the details of independent chaperones used.
- c. Keep a register of female patients you have seen, with each visit signed by the independent chaperone;
- d. Make this register available to the GOC on request;
- e. Supply a copy of this register to the GOC on a monthly basis at a minimum.

4. You must inform the GOC within 14 days if you become aware of any criminal investigation or formal disciplinary investigation against you.

5. You must continue to comply with all legal and professional requirements of registration with the GOC. A review hearing will be arranged at the earliest opportunity if you fail to:-

- a. Fulfil all CET requirements; or
- b. Renew your registration annually.