

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

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**F(23)42**

**AND**

**SIMON WHITE (01-18608)**

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**NOTICE OF INQUIRY  
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

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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 take commence at 9:30am on **Wednesday 08 May – Friday 24 May 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 practise of **Simon White** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

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Louise Hall  
Operations Manager (Hearings), General Optical Council

**11 March 2024**

## ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Simon White (01-18608), a registered optometrist:

- 1) In July 2021 at Specsavers [redacted], upon overhearing a conversation between Ms B and a male colleague, you told Ms B - "You can't say you're underage in front of [Mr C], people would get the wrong impression" - or words to that effect; and/or
- 2) On or around 8 April 2022 at Specsavers [redacted], upon overhearing a conversation between Ms B and two female colleagues about a tattoo, you told Ms B
  - "You can't get a tattoo on your back, when someone flips you over they'll see it"
  - or words to that effect; and/or
- 3) On or around 26 August 2022 at Specsavers [redacted], you:
  - a. Made comments to Ms B about a colleague, Person 2, and said:
    - i. "[Person 2] got off with a 16 year old boy, she gave him a blow job" - or words to that effect; and/or
    - ii. "[Person 2] said that 'If it's in the mouth, then it's not cheating'" - or words to that effect; and/or
    - iii. "If [Person 2] walks past, don't shout 'PAEDO! PAEDO!' to her" - or words to that effect; and/or
  - b. Said to Ms B that two of his friends had had sex with a girl in the same hotel room or words to that effect; and/or
  - c. Said to Ms B – "I don't want to see anything happen between you two on CCTV" – or words to that effect, in light of Ms B and a male colleague being the only staff at the reception area;
- 4) On an unknown date, when a colleague gave you and Ms B a lift home:
  - a. As Ms B left the car to help the colleague search for her phone, you said to Ms B – "If the cars rocking, don't come knocking" – or words to that effect; and/or
  - b. When Ms B returned to the car, you said – "Burn all the Asians" – or words to that effect, whilst watching Just Eat drivers throwing things on the ground;
- 5) Between 2015 and 2022 at Specsavers [redacted], you made the following comments to Person 3:
  - a. Told Person 3 - "I had a sex dream about you and you were very good. Do you want me to elaborate?" – or words to that effect; and/or
  - b. Told Person 3 - "[Person 6] is a sex pest, he used to stalk [Person 12] on Instagram and look at her semi naked photos to entertain himself" – or words to that effect; and/or

- c. Told Person 3 - "Our optical assistant should only be our PR co-ordinate on paper because she's not pretty enough to represent the brand" – or words to that effect; and/or
  - d. To Person 3 during a Regional Team meeting, you commented on her weight, described her Crohn's illness as "a made up disease" and "invisible", and made discriminatory comments about her mother's mental health, or words to that effect; and/or
  - e. During a meeting between Person 3 and Person 23, you told Person 23 – "She won't know if she likes it better until he is between her legs" – or words to that effect, in response to Person 3 telling you she liked her husband's new look as he had shaved off his beard; and/or
  - f. Told Person 3 that one of the staff members in the [redacted] store gave you oral sex in your testing room, or words to that effect; and/or
  - g. Told Person 3 – "I enjoy looking at [Person 7] Instagram account especially her breastfeeding photographs, it gives me something to do at night time" – or words to that effect; and/or
  - h. Told Person 3 that Ms B is "dramatic", "a pain in the arse" and "nobody would want to shag her anyway" – or words to that effect;
- 6) In the Specsavers [redacted] group WhatsApp, you made the following comments about patients:
- a. "I'll bung a cyl in both eyes, spin him around and toe him up his hoop whilst having big [Redacted]"; and/or
  - b. "Wasting time with [redacted] kids strap (that he has to run to Sainsbury's to get....  
Two gypo parents as well. Clogged up a dispensing desk with their backward squawking kid for ½ too. FFS."; and/or
  - c. "I swear it was a man. Little fat bald fella with thinning hair. [Person 4] however said 'it's quite clearly a woman' whilst wetting herself laughing. I'm yet to be convinced."; and/or
  - d. "One px the other day kept saying the issues were caused 'because she was so short'. I was dying to reply 'I don't normally have issues with kids, just fat [redacted] like yourself no matter how tall or short you are'. She was delusional."; and/or
  - e. "By the time I was doing the 3rd 6 week check I'd be screaming 'wear your [redacted] glasses you fat little [redacted]!"; and/or
  - f. "Just had another compliment from a Px Mam. I'm keeping a supply of milfs handy just in case."; and/or

- g. "This is the opinion of [the Registrant] only and not Specsavers [redacted]... Children should be boiled in oil and have their fat sold for soap."; and/or
  - h. "The public. [redacted] 'em."; and/or
  - i. "[Redacted] Instagram isn't private so I'm sorted for the evening. Don't you dare tell her it's open or all my fun in life will be gone."; and/or
  - j. "Stick a bit of make up on love! Come on. Standards. A jazzy blue scarf doesn't make up for scraped back hair and shiny cheeks and forehead."; and/or
  - k. "I'll tuck my cock between my legs and stick on a dress for my unveiling. Maybe I'll stick a rancid ragged curly old mop head on my napper and pretend I'm [redacted] twin sister."
- 7) Your comments as set out at 1), and/or 2), and/or 3) a) i), and/or 3) a) ii), and/or 3) a) iii), and/or 3) b), and/or 3) c), and/or 4) a), and/or 5) a), and/or 5) b), and/or 5) e), and/or 5) f), and/or 5) g), and/or 5) h), and/or 6) f), and/or 6) i) above were of a sexual nature; and/or
- 8) Your comments as set out at 1), and/or 2), and/or 3) a) i), and/or 3) a) ii), and/or 3) a) iii), and/or 3) b), and/or 3) c), and/or 4) a), and/or 5) a), and/or 5) b), and/or 5) c), and/or 5) d), and/or 5) e), and/or 5) g), and/or 5) h), and/or 6) a), and/or 6) b), and/or 6) c), and/or 6) d), and/or 6) e), and/or 6) f), and/or 6) g), and/or 6) h), and/or 6) i), and/or 6) j), and/or 6) k) above were unprofessional or otherwise inappropriate; and/or
- 9) Your comments as set out at 4) b) above was unprofessional or otherwise inappropriate in that it was a racially motivated comment towards Asians.

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

**Committee Members:** Graham White (Chair)  
Carolyn Tetlow (Lay)  
Ian Hanson (Lay)  
Sanna Nasrullah (Optometrist)  
Kalpana Theophilus (Optometrist)

**Legal Adviser:** Kelly Thomas

**Hearings Officer:** TBC

**Transcribers:** Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you have any objections concerning any member of the Committee, you should contact the Hearings Manager at the earliest opportunity.

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at [hearings@optical.org](mailto:hearings@optical.org).