
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2005 No. 1475

**HEALTH CARE AND
ASSOCIATED PROFESSIONS
OPTICIANS**

The General Optical Council (Fitness to
Practise Rules) Order of Council 2005

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>27th May 2005</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>8th June 2005</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>		<i>30th June 2005</i>

**THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL (FITNESS TO
PRACTISE RULES) ORDER OF COUNCIL 2005**

This Order may be cited as the General Optical Council...
Signature

SCHEDULE — THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL (FITNESS TO PRACTISE)
RULES 2005

The General Optical Council, in exercise of their powers under...

PART 1 — CITATION, COMMENCEMENT AND INTERPRETATION

1. Citation and Commencement
2. Interpretation

PART 2 — INVESTIGATION

3. Delegation of Investigation
 4. Notification
 5. Representations and documents from the registrant
 6. Consideration and investigation by the Investigation Committee
- PART 3 — ASSESSMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL REGISTRANTS
7. Appointment of assessors and direction for assessment by the Investigation Committee
 8. Appointment of assessors and direction for assessment by the Fitness to Practise Committee
 9. Assessment notification

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10. Date of meeting
11. Assessment report
12. Failure to submit to or co-operate with an assessment
- PART 4 — REFERRAL TO THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
13. Referral to Fitness to Practise Committee
14. Warnings
15. Review of decision not to refer
16. Termination of referral
- PART 5 — INTERIM ORDERS
17. Notification of application for interim order
18. Date of interim order hearing
19. Conduct of interim order hearings
- PART 6 — HEARINGS OF THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
20. Representation
21. Proceeding in the absence of the registrant
22. Joinder
23. Hearings in public
24. Exclusion from hearings
- PART 7 — PROCEDURE AND ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS
25. Procedural and substantive hearings
26. Notification
27. Completion of hearing questionnaire by the registrant
28. Procedural hearing
29. A procedural hearing shall not be held earlier than 7...
30. At a procedural hearing, the Fitness to Practise Committee—
31. Date of substantive hearing
32. Advance provision of information
33. Committee copies of documents
34. Amendment of particulars of allegation
35. Adjournment
36. (1) Upon the hearing of an application under rule 35,...
37. Where the Fitness to Practise Committee decide to adjourn a...
38. Admissibility of evidence
39. Vulnerable witnesses
40. Evidence on oath
41. Legal advisers
42. Clinical advisers
43. Specialist advisers
44. Admissions
45. Presentation of the Presenting Officer's case
46. Presentation of the registrant's case
47. Evidence in rebuttal
48. Questions
49. Submissions
50. Findings
- PART 8 — ORDERS OF THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
51. Declarations where allegation not proven
52. Where, in the case of a business registrant, it has...
53. Submissions etc. as to orders
54. Orders of the Fitness to Practise Committee
55. Written decision
56. Costs and expenses
57. Where the Fitness to Practise Committee are considering an order...

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- 58. Period of payment
 - PART 9 — REVIEWS
- 59. Referral of a review
- 60. Notice of review
- 61. Date of review
- 62. Conduct of review hearing.
 - PART 10 — MISCELLANEOUS
- 63. Voting
- 64. Record of Hearing
- 65. Service of documents

Explanatory Note