

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

IO(09)08

AND

IQBAL NABI (D-11818)

**DETERMINATION OF A 3rd REVIEW OF AN INTERIM ORDER
18 MAY 2011**

Service

The Committee is satisfied that all reasonable efforts have been made to notify the registrant of the hearing. The Committee further determined that it would be in the public interest for the hearing to proceed in the registrant's absence. The registrant's solicitors have indicated that he is aware of the hearing but does not wish to attend because he does not oppose the continuation of the order.

Decision

The Fitness to Practise Committee reviewed an interim suspension order made by the Fitness to Practise Committee on 21 December 2009 in respect of Iqbal Nabi; the order being for 18 months in duration.

The Committee has conducted a full review of the case today, and notes that since the previous review hearing the CPS had decided to take action against the registrant. He has been charged and appeared at the Magistrates Court on 1 April 2011. The Magistrates referred the case to the Crown Court for trial due to the seriousness of the matters of this case. The Committee is satisfied that at present it remains necessary for the protection of the public, and is in the wider public interest, to continue the present interim suspension order for the same reasons as the order was continued on the last occasion.

The Committee ordered that the current suspension order be maintained until its date of expiry. The Committee further noted that the current interim suspension order is due to expire on 20 June 2011 and accordingly makes no order to further review the matter at a future hearing. It understands that an application will be made to the High Court on 8 June 2011 to extend the period of the order.

Chairman of the Committee: Francesca Jones

Signed _____

Date 18 May 2011