

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(26)01,02

AND

**MISBAH AHMED (01-38171)
VAISHALI PATEL (01-35121)**

**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 hearing will take commence at **9:30am** on **Thursday 22 October – Friday 30 October 2026 and Monday 16 November – Wednesday 18 November 2026** 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 **Misbah Ahmed and Vaishali Patel** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Taz Chisango
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council
10 June 2026

ALLEGATION (Ms Misbah Ahmed)

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Ms Misbah Ahmed (01-38171), a registered Optometrist:

- 1) Between 4 December 2023 and 4 December 2024, you booked and cancelled false appointments on one or more occasions using genuine patient details as set out in schedule A below;*
- 2) Your actions at 1. above were dishonest in that you booked and cancelled the appointments knowing that they were false;*

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

Schedule A

[redacted]

ALLEGATION (Miss Vaishali Patel)

The Council alleges that you, Miss Vaishali Patel (01-35121) a registered Optometrist:

- 1. Between 4 December 2023 and 4 December 2024, you booked and cancelled false appointments on one or more occasions using genuine patient details as set out in schedule A below;*
- 2. Your actions at 1. above were dishonest in that you booked and cancelled the appointments knowing that they were false;*

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

Schedule A

[redacted]

Committee Members: Sara Nathan (Chair/Lay)
Amanda Webster (Lay)
Asmita Naik (Lay)
Iftab Akram (Optometrist)
Louise Gow (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: Clare Bunting

Hearings Officer: TBC

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.