

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(22)39

AND

KEITH COAKHAM (01-24050)

**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.

Following agreement with both parties to waive the 28-day notice period, a substantive hearing will be proceeding:

Remotely

The substantive hearing will take commence at 9:30am on **Thursday 23 March – Monday 27 March 2023** 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 **Keith Coakham** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

15 March 2023

ALLEGATION

That being a registered optometrist, the fitness to practise of Mr Keith Coakham is impaired by reason of misconduct **REDACTED**, in that:

1. You have the **REDACTED** set out in Schedule A;
2. Failed to engage with the Council's investigation into concerns about your **REDACTED**, in particular you:
 - a. Did not provide to the Council your consent in order for the Council to obtain your **REDACTED** and DVLA records, despite correspondence being sent to you via email on;
 - i.9 March 2021; and/or
 - ii.23 March 2021; and/or
 - iii.15 April 2021; and/or
 - iv.6 July 2021; and/or
 - v.28 July 2021; and/or
 - vi.17 August 2021; and/or
 - vii.31 August 2021; and/or
 - viii.16 September 2021; and/or
 - ix.24 September 2021; and/or
 - x.7 October 2021; and/or
 - xi.23 November 2021; and/or
 - xii.4 February 2022
 - b. Did not provide to the Council your consent in order for the Council to obtain your **REDACTED** and DVLA records, despite correspondence being sent to you via post on;
 - i.6 July 2021; and/or
 - ii.31 August 2021; and/or
 - iii.16 September 2021; and/or
 - iv.24 September 2021
 - c. Did not respond to the Council's telephone calls in an attempt to chase your consent to obtain your **REDACTED** and DVLA records on:
 - i.17 August 2021; and/or
 - ii.23 November 2021.

And by virtue of the facts set out above your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct and **REDACTED**.

Schedule A

REDACTED

Committee Members: Graham White (Chair)
Miriam Karp (Lay)
Asmita Naik (Lay)
Catherine Collin (Optometrist)
Christian Dutton (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: Ralph Shipway
Clinical Adviser: Dr Desmond Dunleavy
Hearings Officer: Terence Yates
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.