

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(25)06

AND

MUHAMMAD VALI (01-29602)

**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 **23-24 & 26 September 2025** 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 **Muhammad Vali** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

23 July 2025

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that in relation to you, Muhammad Vali (01-29602), a registered Optometrist and Director of Kendal [Branch 1] Visionplus Limited and Kendal Mint Bridge [Branch 2] Specsavers Limited:

- 1) Between February 2023 and March 2023, you processed £2,280.00 in false expenses for GOC renewals by creating false invoices and presenting them as genuine invoices; and/or*
- 2) Between October 2022 and June 2023, you misrepresented personal expenses for gift cards amounting to £6,724.54 by claiming they were legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 3) Between November 2022 and March 2023, you misrepresented personal expenses amounting to £1,998.87 by claiming they were legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 4) Between January 2023 and March 2023, you misrepresented personal expenses for car rental amounting to £4,414.97 by claiming they were legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 5) Between November 2022 and April 2023, you processed false and/or personal expenses for equipment and homeware amounting to £2,927.41 by claiming they were legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 6) In January 2023, you processed false and/or personal expenses for postage costs amounting to £920.50 by claiming they were legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 7) Between May 2023 and June 2023, you processed £25,277.21 in false expenses for charitable donations by creating false invoices and presenting them as legitimate business-related expenses; and/or*
- 8) Between January 2023 and June 2023, you processed false expenses for ink toners or cartridges amounting to £4,043.63 by claiming they were legitimate business related expenses; and/or*
- 9) Your actions as set out above at 1) and/or 2) and/or 3) and/or 4) and/or 5) and/or 6) and/or 7) and/or 8) were dishonest; and/or*
- 10) Your actions as set out above at 1) and/or 2) and/or 3) and/or 4) and/or 5) and/or 6) and/or 7) and/or 8) were financially motivated;*

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

Committee Members:

Sarah Hamilton (Chair)
Audrey McFarlene (Lay)
Victoria Smith (Lay)
Denise O'Connor (Optometrist)
Gemma O'Rourke (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser:

Jayne Wheat

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.