

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

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**F(23)40**

**AND**

**HERKIRAN RIYAIT (01-27741)**

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**DETERMINATION SUMMARY OF A 2<sup>nd</sup> SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW HEARING  
24 FEBRUARY 2026**

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| <b>Committee Members:</b>      | Ms Julia Wortley (Chair/Lay)<br>Ms Miriam Karp (Lay)<br>Ms Lisa Hill (Lay)<br>Ms Ann Barrett (Optometrist)<br>Dr Pretty Basra (Optometrist) |
| <b>Legal adviser:</b>          | Mr Alastair McFarlane   |
| <b>Clinical Adviser:</b>       | Dr Sabarigirivasan Muthukrishnan  |
| <b>GOC Presenting Officer:</b> | Ms Holly Huxtable   |
| <b>Registrant:</b>             | Not present and not represented   |
| <b>Hearings Officer:</b>       | Mr Anwar Henry  |
| <b>Outcome:</b>                | Indefinite Suspension Ordered   |

## DETERMINATION

### Background

1. The Registrant is a GOC registered Optometrist. She first registered with the Council on 18 October 2013. She had no previous fitness to practise history.
2. The Registrant's registration was suspended for 12 months following a substantive hearing held on 29 January to 02 February 2024.
3. The order of suspension was extended for 12 months following a substantive order review hearing held on 29 January 2025, this order is due to expire on 3 March 2026.

### Findings regarding impairment

The Committee found that the fitness of Herkiran Riyait to practise as an Optometrist is impaired.

### Sanction

The Committee determined for the Registrant to be indefinitely suspended.

**Chairman of the Committee: Julia Wortley**



Signature .....

..... **Date: 24 February 2026**

**Registrant: Herkiran Riyait**

**Signature ...not present, sent by email and post..... Date: 24 February 2026**

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### Transcript

A full transcript of the hearing will be made available for purchase in due course.

### Appeal

Any appeal against an order of the Committee must be lodged with the relevant court within 28 days of the service of this notification. If no appeal is lodged, the order will take effect at the end of that period. The relevant court is shown at section 23G(4)(a)-(c) of the Opticians Act 1989 (as amended).

### Professional Standards Authority

This decision will be reported to the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) under the provisions of section 29 of the NHS Reform and Healthcare Professions Act 2002. PSA may refer this case to the High Court of Justice in England and Wales, the Court of Session in Scotland or the High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland as appropriate if they decide that a decision has been insufficient to protect the public and/or should not have been made, and if they consider that referral is desirable for the protection of the public.

Where a registrant can appeal against a decision, the Authority has 40 days beginning with the day which is the last day in which you can appeal. Where a registrant cannot appeal against the outcome of a hearing, the Authority's appeal period is 56 days beginning with the day in which notification of the decision was served on you. PSA will notify you promptly of a decision to refer. A letter will be sent by recorded delivery to your registered address (unless PSA has been notified by the GOC of a change of address).

Further information about the PSA can be obtained from its website at [www.professionalstandards.org.uk](http://www.professionalstandards.org.uk) or by telephone on 020 7389 8030.

### Effect of orders for suspension or erasure

To practise or carry on business as an optometrist or dispensing optician, to take or use a description which implies registration or entitlement to undertake any activity which the law restricts to a registered person, may amount to a criminal offence once an entry in the register has been suspended or erased.

### Contact

If you require any further information, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at Level 29, One Canada Square, London, E14 5AA or by telephone, on 020 7580 3898.