

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BUSINESS AND PROPERTY COURTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES
CHANCERY DIVISION**

B E T W E E N:

**(1) IRFAN MOHAMMED
(2) ALTAF KHANJRA
(3) MAAZ MUSA
(4) JAVID ADAM
(5) IKRAMULHAQ PATEL
(6) SAEED ADAM**

Applicants

and

**(1) DAWOOD IBRAHIM PATEL
(2) INAYAT ALI
(3) AHMED VALI
(4) FARUK BHARUCHA
(5) ALI MOHMED VIKA**

(as Trustees of Masjid e Tauheedul Islam)

Respondents

FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF ILYAS DARBAR

I, **ILYAS DARBAR** of 6 St Andrews Place, Blackburn, BB1 8AL, WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I am an employee of the association known as Masjid e Tauheedul Islam, registered under charity number 700817 with a registered contact address at 7 Shear Brow, Blackburn BB1 7EU (the “**Charity**”).
2. I make this statement in support of the Applicants’ application for urgent interim injunctive relief.
3. I am a teacher at the Charity and have been employed since 2009. I teach Islamic Studies to the older students of the Charity. I have never been given a contract of employment.

4. My salary is currently £75 per week. I work 12.5 hours per week. I get my money via cash in a pay packet. I am aware that historically that wages were put together and undertaken by Dawood Ibrahim Patel, who is a trustee at the Charity.
5. I have been told that I am a volunteer, which I suspect is as a result of an HMRC investigation. This was stated in a letter that was dated 6th June 2024.
6. I was given 24 hours to respond to the letter, and still managed to do so and made clear that I was not a volunteer. I also stated that I would exhibit their letter and my own response of 6th June 2024, should it be needed. A copy of both letters is enclosed at Exhibit ID1.
7. I do believe that the Trustees are now trying to use the election process and their power to evade circumvent the HMRC investigation that I understand is currently taking place and that the letter was going to be used as evidence had I not responded.
8. After I tried to resolve the matter with Inayat Ali, who is a Trustee, I was directed to speak to Sanaullah Ahmed, who is a committee member. This conversation happened on 8th June 2024. I was told in no uncertain terms by Sanaullah Ahmed that I should rip up my letter and that I should also rip up their letter. I believe this was to remove evidence that would clearly implicate and show that they had been avoiding paying tax and paying their staff the correct wage.
9. On 9th June 2024, I had a meeting with Sanaullah Ahmed, along with Imran Kovariwala (another member), and we asked for an account of the books. I was not given this.

Statement of truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed 

Name: ILYAS PATEL .

Dated: 07 . 08 . 2024

Claim no. [*]

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EXHIBIT ID1

This is Exhibit ID1 as referred to in the First Witness Statement of Ilyas Darbar.