

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LOCAL JOINT PANEL – 9 APRIL 2008

REPORT BY ACTING HEAD OF PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

6(A) EYE TESTS

WARD(S) AFFECTED: None

RECOMMENDATION - that the Local Joint Panel supports one or more of the following options:

- (A) that the Council ceases the contribution toward the cost of lenses for users where these are **not** supplied for sole use when using display Screen Equipment;
- (B) cessation of the contribution toward contact lenses;
- (C) that the Council considers increasing the reimbursement allowance for users who only require prescription lenses for sole use with Display Screen Equipment;
- (D) that the Council considers reviewing the amount contributed toward reimbursement for tests in line with current charges levied by opticians; and
- (E) the Council considers the option of operating a voucher scheme (in line with the current scheme) in partnership with a service provider which will give employees a choice of opticians.

1.0 Purpose/Summary of Report

- 1.1 To put into place a policy and process in accordance with legislation and regulatory good practice and guidelines.

2.0 Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/Objectives

Fit for purpose, services fit for you

Deliver customer focused services by maintaining and developing a well managed and publicly accountable organisation.

By complying with employment legislation would ensure the council is fit for purpose .

3.0 Background

3.1 This piece of work was requested at a previous meeting of the Local Joint Panel on 11 December 2007.

4.0 Report

4.1 Appendix 'A' (Pages 6.4 - 6.12) explains the Health and Safety Regulations and a table of reimbursements.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 Consultation has taken place with UNISON and where relevant comments have been amended. CMT have recommended that their preferred option would be an Accord Scheme but with no detriment to employees. Appendix 'B' (Pages 6.13 - 6.18) provides a summary of arrangements in operation within 14 local authorities.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 None

8.0 Human Resource Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management Implications

9.1 None

Background Papers

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