

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations further amend the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1989 (“the principal Regulations”) which provide for payments to be made, by means of a voucher system, in respect of costs incurred by certain categories of persons in connection with the supply, replacement and repair of optical appliances.

Regulation 2 amends the definition of “NHS sight test fee” in regulation 1(2) of the principal Regulations. This fee is set at two levels depending on whether the sight test was carried out at the patient’s home or not, and the appropriate figure is used to calculate the value of assistance towards the cost of a private sight test.

These two levels of NHS sight test fee are raised by regulation 2 as follows—

- (a) the figure used where the sight test was carried out at the patient’s home is raised from £37.83 to £39.04 which represents an increase of 3.2%; and
- (b) the figure used in all other cases is increased from £13.71 to £14.10 which represents an increase of 2.8%.