

To: • Paul Carroll, Chair OFNC
Via email

cc: • Peter Hampson, Secretary, OFNC
Via email

NHS England
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8UG

29 October 2025

Dear Paul,

General Ophthalmic Fee 2025/2026

I am writing to confirm the final steps we will be taking to conclude the 2025/26 fee discussions.

As outlined in our correspondence dated 29 July 2025, we initially proposed an increase to the GOS1 sight test fee of 56 pence, bringing the total to £24.09. Although analysis shows that growth in vouchers could increase by 3.7% under a high scenario, we recognise there has been fluctuation over recent years. After further internal discussion we are therefore willing to take an additional risk and will be recommending to DHSC that the NHS sight test fee is increased by an extra 4 pence to £24.13. While this movement introduces some pressure on our previously stated position, we believe this to be a constructive path forward whilst remaining within the financial envelope available.

We will be writing to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in the coming week to formally recommend this uplift. As previously discussed, all other service lines will be held at 2024/25 values. OFNC's views will be reflected in our submission, and the minister will make a final decision with full consideration of your feedback. DHSC will communicate the outcome of this decision directly to you.

We also acknowledge OFNC's position regarding the redistribution of service lines to support further increases to the sight test fee. Should this position evolve in the future, NHS England remains open to engaging in further discussions.

Thank you for your continued collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Ali Sparke
Director for Dentistry, Community Pharmacy and Optometry