

27 April 2010

Dear Optometry Scotland

Model publication scheme – application approved

I am pleased to advise you that the Model Publication Scheme for Optometrists, as submitted today by Optometry Scotland, has today been approved by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Optometrists wishing to adopt this model scheme should adopt it by the end of May 2010. Adoption of the model scheme will be assumed by the Scottish Information Commissioner. That is, optometrists are assumed to have adopted the scheme and do not require to notify the Commissioner or apply to adopt it. The model publication scheme will be publicised on the Commissioner's website but please contact the authorities likely to adopt this model as soon as possible to advise them of its availability for adoption.

The model scheme has been approved for 4 years, which means that it will remain approved until 31 May 2014. Section 23 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 requires authorities to review their publication schemes from time to time. This duty falls upon the authorities adopting the scheme and not on your organisation. However, in the event that an authority considers that the model scheme requires an amendment, we would advise them to contact Optometry Scotland in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Hutchison
Head of Policy and Information
Scottish Information Commissioner