

Priorities

When you are assessed, priority will be given to services and equipment that give:

1) Improved Safety

For example, mobility training to help you move around indoors and outdoors more safely.

2) Increased Independence

For example, provision of a liquid level indicator to allow you to prepare hot drinks independently.

3) Improved Communication

For example, support to learn how to use alternative media such as computer software that uses speech and magnification programmes.

How to contact us

Write to us at:

Occupational Therapy
Quendale House
31 Commercial Street
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0AN

Telephone us on:

01595 744 319

Fax us on:

01595 744 321

E-mail us at:

dutyot@shetland.gov.uk

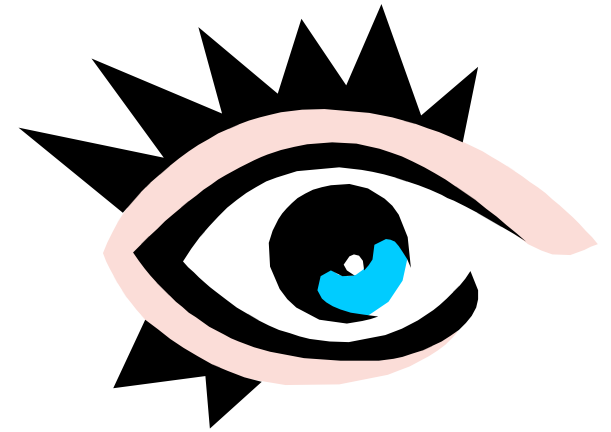
This leaflet is also available
in Braille and Audio formats.

CC55

Feb 2010

Occupational Therapy Service

Visual Impairment Services



Helping you with
everyday tasks

Occupational Therapy Service
Education and Social Care Department
Shetland Islands Council



What services are on offer?

If you have a visual impairment, the Occupational Therapy (OT) Service can arrange for you to have an assessment with one of our staff.

You may be seen by an Occupational Therapist or a Rehabilitation Worker to assess your needs and to help you find ways of managing everyday tasks more easily and more safely, at home and outdoors. For example, we may be able to help you with the following:

- Training in walking independently outdoors using orientation and mobility skills.
- Preparing hot meals and drinks safely.
- Training in computer technology especially adapted to sight loss.
- Maintaining reading and writing skills.

Who can refer to the OT Visual Impairment Service?

Anyone can make a referral. You can refer yourself or someone you know. A friend or relative can also refer on your behalf.

Do I need to be Registered as Blind or Partially Sighted before I can get help from OT?

No. Anybody can be referred, or can ask for an assessment. You do not have to be registered as Blind or Partially Sighted to get help from the OT Service.

What will happen next?

We will contact you **in your preferred format** to let you know that we have received a referral for you.

How long will I have to wait to be seen?

We would hope that you would be seen within 6 months of your referral, but more quickly if your need is urgent.

How will I know I've got an appointment?

One of the staff from the OT team will contact you by phone to arrange an appointment that is suitable for you.

Where will I be seen?

Mostly we arrange to meet with people in their own homes. If this is inconvenient, we can arrange to meet you at a more suitable venue.

Alternatives to written text:

Please let the OT Service know if you require written communication to be sent to you via e-mail, or in an alternative format such as Braille, or on tape or CD.