

LOC HOT BRIEF

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LOCs are asked to circulate this Hot Brief to all contractors and performers in their area as soon as possible.

Guidance on record keeping

Statement by the Optical Confederation and the College of Optometrists

The Optical Confederation has received a number of enquiries about guidance issued by some NHS regions and LOCs regarding record keeping. While we understand and share the desire to improve standards, this is not, in our opinion, the way to achieve improvement. Any local guidance should simply direct people towards the comprehensive guidance that is already issued by the College of Optometrists alongside guidance issued by ABDO, AOP and FODO.

Local variations and additions to existing, national guidance can lead to confusion over the required standards, and potentially to errors. A particular concern is that local guidance may be misrepresented as the peer standard, which could have implications for any issues referred to the GOC or civil proceedings.

The Optical Confederation and the College of Optometrists agree that local record keeping advice that goes beyond directing people to the existing guidance issued by national bodies should be avoided.

[The published statement found on the Optical Confederation website can be found here.](#)

Any LOC requiring advice / support on any aspect of their work should contact LOCSU on 020 7549 2051 or email info@locsu.co.uk