

Occupational Health Service

INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES – HEARING CONSERVATION

Why am I having a hearing test done?

Being exposed to loud noise can damage your hearing and cause hearing loss. A Risk Assessment has shown that you are exposed to excessive noise and the Control of Noise at Work Regulations (2005) requires that you have your hearing monitored as part of a Health Surveillance programme. It means that any potential hearing damage can be prevented or reduced. Your hearing is monitored by a hearing test known as Audiometry.

What is involved in a hearing test?

Testing takes place at the Occupational Health Service. You should avoid exposure to loud noise for 16 hours prior to the test. You will be asked to complete a Hearing Questionnaire. The Occupational Health Practice Nurse will examine your ears with an auroscope prior to the hearing test to identify if there are any visible problems with your ears. After this earphones will be fitted and the hearing test will then start. You will hear a series of beeps in each ear and you are required to press a response button indicating that you have heard the noise.

The appointment will take approximately 20 minutes in total.

You will have a hearing test done annually for the first 2 years and then at 3 yearly intervals unless indicated otherwise.

What happens to my hearing results?

The results will be given to you immediately after the test. The action required, if any, is determined by Health and Safety Executive Guidelines and will be explained to you. If any problems are identified a copy will be sent to your General Practitioner and may be reviewed by the Occupational Health Physician. You will be given a copy of all your results at the time.

Your results are filed in confidential records held in the Occupational Health Department. Your manager will be notified of your attendance for your hearing test and will only be advised if any action needs to be taken.

Further information is available from the Occupational Health Service, Level 1 Livingstone Tower, telephone 0141 548 4824, email occupationalhealth@strath.ac.uk.