



The Chronicle



Issue 27

March 2013

SOUTHERN DRIVERS
COMPANY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.

London Bridge station and the SHARD

Network Rail have set up a working group which includes representatives from TOC's, on the issue of sunlight reflection from the SHARD building and approaching the buffer stops at London Bridge low level. Can we remind members to please report any instances of sunlight reflection to the signaller in the first instance and request to be talked through the sections until the signals become visibly clear again. This should be followed up with a written report, please provide you Health and Safety representative with a copy of your report.

Update on medical issues.

Following meetings with Occupational Health, we can update on the alterations:

Prescription sunglasses.

Drivers employed on Southern will now be allowed to wear prescription sunglasses, they should be ordered at same time drivers are ordering their normal prescription glasses. Drivers need to make sure they have both vouchers when visiting their Optician. DLM's are available to provide assistance or additional information should anyone require it.

Varifocal Glasses.

Varifocal Glasses are also now permitted for drivers. This will provide drivers with a choice of either varifocal or bifocal spectacles.

Hearing Aids.

The use of hearing aids will be permitted for drivers, however, not everyone will be suitable as hearing aids are dependent on individual circumstances. Southern have advised that an independent audiologist test will be required before funding for hearing aids is considered. The Government may provide some part funding under the access to work scheme and Southern will fund the remainder. Advice on the funding will be provided at the appropriate time and on a case by case basis.

Laser eye surgery.

Laser eye surgery will be permitted for drivers who require it for medical reasons only. Southern will not allow drivers time off for laser eye surgery for other than medical reasons, as it may take between 3 to 9 months for each eye stabilise after the surgery.

Roy Luxford.
Kevin Eade.

roy@royluxford.org.uk
kevin@eadek.fsnet.co.uk

07778870937
07818661759