

## Transition Process –Funding of Hearing Aids for Employment

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health has introduced a number of changes to the way it funds hearing aids. These changes were announced on 2 March this year, with immediate implementation.

The Ministry has agreed that the following people who were in the process of applying for hearing aids before the 3rd of March 2010 may have their application considered under the old criteria:

- People who had received information from their audiologist that they met the old employment criteria for funding of their aids and have been waiting for information from their employer.

This will apply to people whose assessment started after the 1st of January 2010 and their application has been received by Enable New Zealand or Accessable before the 30th of April 2010.

The audiologist will need to provide information about when the original assessment was undertaken - it is expected that this will include the date of face to face assessment between the audiologist and the person.

Sue Primrose, ESS Development Manager, Service Access Team, Disability Support Services