



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Iechyd a Gofal  
Digidol Cymru  
Digital Health  
and Care Wales

Tŷ Glan-yr-Afon  
21 Heol Ddwyreiniol Y  
Bont-Faen, Caerdydd  
CF11 9AD

Tŷ Glan-yr-Afon  
21 Cowbridge Road  
East, Cardiff  
CF11 9AD

As you may be aware, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 Wales General Ophthalmic Services (WGOS) announced additional funding for community optometrists/dispensing opticians in Wales.

Digital Health & Care Wales (DHCW) has received a mandate from WGOS to provide qualifying community optometrists/dispensing opticians with access to a range of tools, including NHS email (from any device, anywhere) and Teams (video calls / chat messaging) available through Microsoft 365.

A project board has been established to support this initiative, and at its WGOS Implementation Working Group meeting it was agreed to initially undertake a proof of concept with a small number of qualifying community optometrists/dispensing opticians across all 7 Health Boards. The proof of concept was completed successfully on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Following the proof of concept, the project team have evaluated lessons learned and created a plan to roll out M365 to the remaining community optometrists/dispensing opticians by Autumn 2024.

For next steps, a DHCW Primary Care Facilitator will be contacting the Practices to nominate a point of contact who can liaise with DHCW on behalf of the optometrists and dispensing opticians in the practice and begin the onboarding process.

We will be staggering the approach to onboard new users, so you may not be contacted straight away, but please bear with us whilst we work our way through all qualifying users.

If you have any queries throughout the course of the project, please contact us on [optometry.ict@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:optometry.ict@wales.nhs.uk)

Head of Primary Care Services  
Digital Health and care Wales

Head of Transaction Services  
NWSSP Primary Care Service

Chief Executive  
Optometry Wales

02920 500 500

[igdc.gig.cymru](https://igdc.gig.cymru) | [dhcw.nhs.wales](https://dhcw.nhs.wales)