Agreement in relation to Visually Impaired Telephonists

Meeting of 25 March 1998

1 A claim for a revised pay and grading structure for Visually Impaired Telephonists was discussed in the context of the agreement on restructuring of grades represented by the Civil and Public Service Union (CPSU) generally -General Council Report 1323 refers.

2 The Official Side said that their approach to the discussions with the union was on the basis that any settlement would have to be compatible with the cost parameters of the PCW.

3 Following discussions between the parties agreement was reached on the following basis:

(i) The revised scale applicable to the new grade of Clerical Officer arising from the agreement referred to in General Council Report 1323 will be applied to the grade of Visually Impaired Telephonist. The manner in which Visually Impaired Telephonists serving at the date of this report will be assimilated to the scale is shown in Appendix 1 to this report.

(ii) Twenty serving Visually Impaired Telephonists will be eligible on a personal basis for a second long service increment, equal to that applicable to serving Clerical Officers, following six years satisfactory service at the maximum of the new scale.

(iii) The pay scale to apply to future entrants to the grade of Visually Impaired Telephonist is shown in Appendix 2.
(iv) In addition to the duties currently performed, Visually Impaired Telephonists will be generally liable for the duties of the new grade of Clerical Officer. The manner in which liability for the new duties will be applied will be discussed at the Disability Sub-Committee of General Council.
(v) Future arrangements for the recruitment of Visually Impaired Telephonists will be the subject of further discussion at the Disability Sub-Committee of General Council.
(vi) The union confirmed their acceptance in relation to Visually Impaired Telephonists of the measures of flexibility and change outlined in Appendix 3 of General Council Report 1323 in relation to grades represented by the CPSU generally.

4 At a meeting on 25 March 1998 the Council agreed to recommend for acceptance the overall package referred to in paragraph 3.

5 This report accordingly records such agreement.

6 This report was adopted on 25 March 1998.