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*Information and services for those with severe sight loss or visual impairment*

## How to Register as Severely Sight Impaired or Sight Impaired

The Consultant Ophthalmologist will decide whether you are eligible for registration by measuring your distance and field vision. There are specific rules about the level of sight needed to be registered as severely sight impaired (**blind**) or sight impaired (**partially sighted**). If you meet the criteria, the Consultant can certify you as either severely sight impaired (blind) or sight impaired (partially sighted) by completing the Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI).

You will be asked to sign the form to agree that a copy can be sent to your local Social Services Department (Sensory Team), your GP and the Department of Health. The hospital will also keep a copy of the registration certificate. Registration is optional, but is useful as it may entitle you to certain benefits and concessions, and helps your local council to provide the appropriate level of services for you.

## Useful Information

The Sensory Team (DMBC) provide a service for people who are blind or visually impaired. They will assess your requirements. They may be able to offer help at home, such as mobility training and advice in every day skills. A Social Worker can put together a Care Plan tailored to individual needs which could include information about Bus Passes, Talking Books, Tactile Markings for cookers and other appliances, and any equipment that may be available. You do not have to be registered as severely sight impaired or sight impaired to access this service.

Some companies such as British Gas, British Telecom, Water and Electricity Companies have special services for people with sight problems. Ask your local supplier for details.

If your mother, father, brother, sister or child has been diagnosed as having glaucoma, you too may be at risk. If you are 40 years old or over you will be entitled to Free NHS Sight Tests whatever your income.

Your sight can only be tested by a registered Ophthalmic Optician (Optometrist or an Ophthalmic Practitioner) see Leaflet HC11 Are You Entitled To Help With Health Costs available from DIAL Doncaster or your local Jobcentre Plus office.

Listed below are contacts you may find useful

## Local Organisations

### The Sensory Team (DMBC) Blind and Visually Impaired People

Mary Woollett Centre  
Danum Road  
Doncaster  
DN4 5HF

**Tel:** 01302 737701

**Email:** [sensory@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:sensory@doncaster.gov.uk)

### Partially Sighted Society

1 Bennethorpe  
Doncaster  
DN2 6AA

**Tel:** 01302 965195

**Email:** [reception@partsight.org.uk](mailto:reception@partsight.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.partsight.org.uk](http://www.partsight.org.uk)

This Society gives information and personal advice to partially sighted people. Large Print Publications and Visual Appliances are available from the Society, there is a charge for certain appliances. Free brochure and catalogue available. Membership details are available from the organisation.

### Blind Inspiration Group

c/o Gladys Ambler Centre  
Warmsworth Road  
Balby  
Doncaster

**Tel:** 07908122977

**Facebook:** [/BlindInspirationGroupDoncaster](https://www.facebook.com/BlindInspirationGroupDoncaster)

This organisation provides a free social gathering service and a variety of assorted activities for the visually impaired, carers and spouses.

### Doncaster Central Library

Services for blind and visually impaired people

Central Library  
Waterdale  
Doncaster  
DN1 3JE

**Tel:** 01302 734308

**Email:** [centrallibrary@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:centrallibrary@doncaster.gov.uk)

Provides a free confidential transcription service to Doncaster's visually impaired

residents. Printed documents are transcribed into an accessible format to suit individual needs. Transcriptions into braille, audio and large print are offered.

### Doncaster & District Association For the Visually Impaired

Clark Memorial Hall  
Town Fields  
Bennethorpe  
Doncaster  
DN1 2JQ

**Tel:** 01302 326397 or 01709 519619

The centre enables all blind and partially sighted people and their carers to meet socially. It has a programme of different events throughout the month. Provides lunches at a small charge.

### Doncaster Talking Newspapers

**Tel:** 07530526654

**Website:** [www.doncastertnb.btck.co.uk](http://www.doncastertnb.btck.co.uk)

**Email:** [dontnb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dontnb@hotmail.co.uk)

The Talking Newspaper is issued every fortnight. A Talking Magazine is published every month. These are free services if you are registered severely sight impaired or sight impaired and are available by freepost.

## National Organisations

### Royal National Institute of Blind People

105 Judd Street  
London  
WC1H 9NE

**Helpline:** 0303 123 9999

**Email:** [helpline@rnib.org.uk](mailto:helpline@rnib.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk)

This organisation aims to work for people with sight problems. An advice service provides help on such topics as benefits, careers, legislation and education.

### Action For Blind People (Part of the RNIB Group)

105 Judd Street  
London  
WC1H 9NE

**RNIB National Helpline:** 0303 123 9999

**Email:** [helpline@rnib.org.uk](mailto:helpline@rnib.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk](http://www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk)

This is a national, voluntary organisation working for people with sight problems and their families. It provides various services including employment and training, residential care and accommodation.

### **Guide Dogs for the Blind Association**

Hillfields  
Burghfield Common  
Reading  
RG7 3YG

**Tel:** 0118 9835555

**Website:** [www.guidedogs.org.uk](http://www.guidedogs.org.uk)

**Email:** [guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk)

The association will train visually impaired people over 16 years of age to use a Guide Dog safely and effectively, will teach you to look after your dog and will provide comprehensive and continuing support for all Guide Dog owners.

### **RP Fighting Blindness ( Retinitis Pigmentosa)**

P.O. Box 350  
Buckingham  
MK18 1GZ

**Tel:** 01280 821 334

**Helpline:** 0845 123 2354

**Email:** [info@rpfightingblindness.org.uk](mailto:info@rpfightingblindness.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.rpfightingblindness.org.uk](http://www.rpfightingblindness.org.uk)

The society offers support and advice to people with Retinitis Pigmentosa and their families.

### **International Glaucoma Association**

Woodcote House  
15 Highpoint Business Village  
Henwood  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN24 8DH

**Tel:** 01233 648 170

**Email:** [info@iga.org.uk](mailto:info@iga.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.iga.org.uk](http://www.iga.org.uk)

Offers support for those with Glaucoma and professionals involved with their care. The association sends booklets to people with Glaucoma to aid understanding and will reply with general factual advice to members enquiries.

### **Macular Society**

Crown Chambers  
South Street  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 2BN

**Tel:** 0300 3030111

**Email:** [info@macularsociety.org](mailto:info@macularsociety.org)

**Website:** [www.macularsociety.org](http://www.macularsociety.org)

Self-help support group for people with Macular Disease.

### **RNIB Big Print**

P.O Box 173  
Peterborough  
PE2 6WS

**Freephone:** 0303 123 9999

**Website:** [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk)

**Email:** [helpline@rnib.org.uk](mailto:helpline@rnib.org.uk)

This is the country's only national weekly large print newspaper with accompanying TV and radio guide that comes directly to your door, the print being twice the size of an ordinary newspaper. Available by subscription only. A free sample is available on request.

### **SENSE**

101 Pentonville Road  
London  
N1 9LG

**Tel:** 0300 330 9256

**Textphone:** 0300 330 9252

**Email:** [info@sense.org.uk](mailto:info@sense.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.sense.org.uk](http://www.sense.org.uk)

A national voluntary organisation which campaigns for the needs of deaf blind children, adults and multiple disabled sensory impaired children and adults. Providing advice, support and information services.

### **Hotels with Facilities**

#### **Vision Hotels Central Office**

14-16 Verney Road  
London  
SE16 3DZ

**Tel:** 0845 603 0051

**Email:** [enquiries@visionhotels.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@visionhotels.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.visionhotels.co.uk](http://www.visionhotels.co.uk)

Vision Hotels run three AA 3 star hotels in locations of South Devon, Somerset and Lake Windermere.