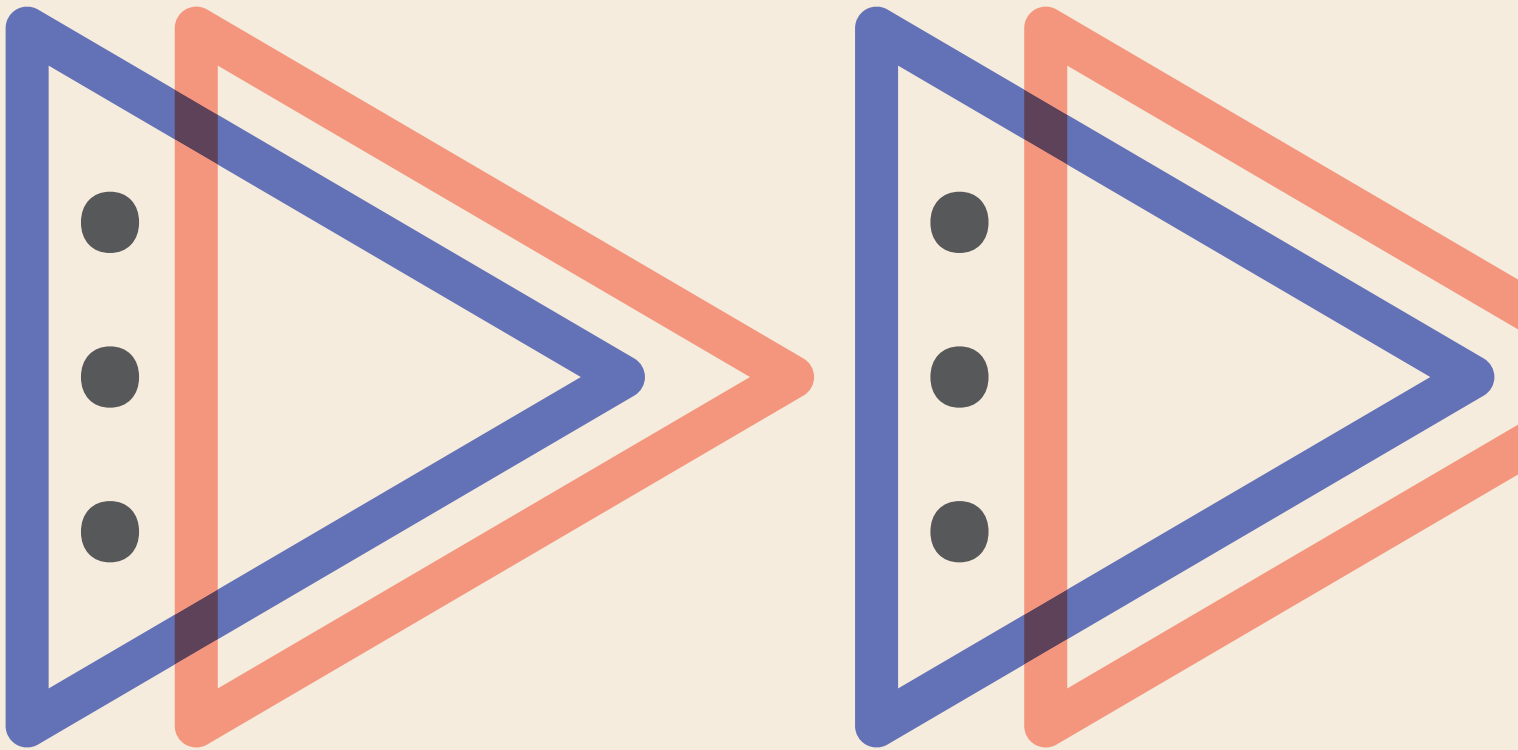


VISION UK 2017

Shaping Futures



#VisionUK2017

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Welcome

Welcome to the 9th annual Vision UK Conference, which gives those of us who care about eye health and sight loss a great opportunity to share learning, network with colleagues and be energised and inspired.

This year's conference theme is 'Shaping Futures' and will launch the new Vision UK Ambition Statement, the successor to the UK Vision Strategy. Our new Ambition Statement will build on the great work we've done together since the creation of the UK Vision Strategy in 2008.

The UK Vision Strategy was ground breaking in the way that it brought health and social care organisations, sight loss charities, and professional bodies together: to build a powerful alliance for change across eye health and sight loss. The Strategy provided us with a shared agenda and unified voice, enabling us to achieve some important successes. But, as we know, the world has changed dramatically and we need to develop new approaches to achieve change. So, we've reviewed the UK Vision Strategy, learnt from our experience, refocused our goals, and shaped a new ambition and partnership for change. We must find new ways to improve the eye health of the nation, prevent avoidable sight loss, support, and include, blind and partially sighted people.

Our new Vision UK Ambition Statement and Partnership will forge new alliances both within and outside the eye health and sight loss sectors, to increase reach and impact. We hope you will join us in this exciting new chapter of our work. The Vision UK conference offers us the unique opportunity to share knowledge, resources, evidence and innovation so we can all contribute to the change we want to make.

Thank you for your continued support and I do hope you enjoy this year's programme.



**Fazilet Hadi, Director,
Deputy CEO and Director of Advocacy, RNIB**



Programme

09.00–09.45 **Conference registration and networking**

09.45-10.30 **Morning plenary – Churchill, ground floor**

09.45–09.55 **Welcome from the Conference Chair**

Keith Valentine, Chief Executive, Vision UK

09.55–10.10 **Keynote speaker**

Simon Wheatcroft, Storyteller, Technologist, Adventurer and Inclusivity Consultant

10.10–10.20 **Partnership in action: Dementia Action Alliance**

Phil Freeman, Executive Lead, Dementia Action Alliance

10.20–10.30 **Shaping Futures**

Fazilet Hadi, Deputy CEO and Director of Advocacy, RNIB

10.45-12.30 **Morning streams**

Stream 1: Public health, individual responsibility and collective action

Westminster room, fourth floor

Stream 2: Working together towards integrated care and support services

St James room, fourth floor

Stream 3: Inclusion – Being heard and changing attitudes!

Rutherford/Moore rooms, fourth floor

12.30–13.45 **Lunch and exhibition – Pickwick, first floor**



14.00–15.30 Afternoon plenary – Churchill, ground floor

Time to change: Rethinking mental health

Sue Baker, Director, Time to Change

Changing attitudes: Things not to say to a blind person

Marc Powell, RNIB Business Team and Georgie Bullen, Team Insight

Our Ambition

Keith Valentine, CEO, Vision UK

Panel discussion : Achieving change, together

David Parkins, Chair, Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning for England and Chair, London Eye Health Network (NHS England); Peter Corbett, CEO Thomas Pocklington Trust and Chair England Vision Strategy; Sally Harvey, Acting CEO, RNIB; Ken Reid, Scottish Vision Strategy Ambassador and Mike Burdon, President Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

Q&A

15.30–16.30 Networking reception – Pickwick, first floor



Conference streams

Stream 1: Public health, individual responsibility and collective action

Westminster room, fourth floor

Protecting the health and well-being of individuals and populations, and promoting healthcare equality and accessibility is the role of public health. But with increasing pressure on services, an aging population and an increase in diseases such as dementia, is the eye health message being lost putting more people at risk of sight loss?

Chair: Louise Stalker, Low Vision Optometrist and Clinical Lead

Presentation

Learning from National Eye Health Week

David Cartwright, Chair, National Eye Health Week

David Cartwright, Chair of National Eye Health Week, will present on the success of National Eye Health Week to raise the profile of eye health across the UK and increase awareness and engagement amongst the public with regards to their eye health. David will also share with delegates how to get

involved in National Eye Health Week to bring about change in their local area; including what tools are available to them in their work to improve the eye health of their local communities.

Case studies

Eye research – projects and partnerships

Michele Acton, CEO, Fight for Sight and Judith Potts, Founder, Esme's Umbrella

Fight for Sight is the leading eye research charity funding researchers based at leading hospitals and universities across the UK. Its Chief Executive, Michele Acton, will outline the research landscape and how Fight for Sight partners with other organisations in its research. Judith Potts from Esme's Umbrella will provide the perspective of a partner currently working with Fight for Sight to raise funds for medical research into Charles Bonnet Syndrome.



Communities Eye Health Champions Project

Neil Baxter, Manchester Eye Health Project Coordinator, RNIB and David Backhouse, volunteer on the Eye Health Project and member of the Manchester Eye Health Project Advisory Board

Neil and David will explain how this volunteer-led partnership project is reducing preventable sight loss in at-risk communities in Liverpool and North Manchester through establishing eye health champions, producing resources and delivering eye health events.

A study of the effects of sight loss on diabetic patients

Bronagh Stewart, Student, Queens University Belfast and Andrew Murdoch, Policy and Engagement Manager, Guide Dogs Northern Ireland

This session will outline how Guide Dogs NI, Diabetes UK and Queens University Belfast (QUB) partnered together to study the effects of sight loss on diabetic patients in accessing information, managing their diabetes, and adopting a healthy lifestyle, compared with patients who do not have sight loss. The speakers will explain how this work will influence the Diabetes Framework and the development of new partnerships to promote healthy lifestyle options.

Reducing vision-related falls

Paul Alexander, Policy Manager, College of Optometrists

Across the UK, falls are the most common cause of hospitalisation for people aged over 65, and of accidental death in those aged over 75. Undetected and untreated visual impairment plays a significant role in the high incidence of falls among older people. Paul Alexander, Falls Project Lead, will outline the main findings of the College of Optometrist's work on helping to reduce vision-related falls and how you can get involved.

Delays to follow-up eye appointments

Barny Foot, British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit, Royal College of Ophthalmologists

In January 2017, the Royal College of Ophthalmologists published a surveillance report of patients coming to harm due to delays in treatment and follow-up appointments. Barny Foot, co-author of the report, will run through the main findings and conclusions of the report.



Self-Advocacy – ‘Ask and Tell’!

Tessa Barrett, Head of Services,
Macular Society and Karen Osborn,
Chief Executive, International
Glaucoma Association

Following Barney Foot’s presentation, delegates will then hear about ‘Ask and Tell’ - a joint project between RNIB, Macular Society and the International Glaucoma Association. This initiative encourages people to report their experiences if they have appointment delays in the eye clinic.

Stream 2: Working together towards integrated care and support services

St James room, fourth floor

Greater integrated care within the health service has been a priority for successive UK governments for decades; there have been a number of approaches to the problem from multidisciplinary care, to shared care, to the integrated care model, but why does fragmentation persist and what can the eye health and sight loss sectors do about it?

Chair: Marsha de Cordova,
Engagement and Advocacy Director,
Thomas Pocklington Trust

Presentation

Innovative new models of care and new ways of working

Dr Phil Richardson, Director of
Transformation and Innovation,
Dorset CCG

In this session, Dr Phil Richardson will talk about the challenges Clinical Commissioning Groups face to meet the needs of local populations as part of the wider health and care economy. He will share the different ways in which the Dorset CCG looks at existing approaches and new challenges, exploring innovative solutions in order to drive disruptive change. Phil will also share how the Dorset system is coming together as a partnership of commissioners and providers to innovate new models of care and new ways of working.

Case Studies

Optical Practices: Solutions to the rising demand on eye care services

Fiona Hiscox, Ophthalmic Public Health Lead and Jonathan Drew, Business Manager, both from Devon Local Optical Committee

With an ageing UK demographic and increasing number of patients with eye conditions, the demand for local hospital eye services is increasing each



year. This session will focus on the Devon Local Optical Committee's efforts to alleviate the pressure on hospital eye care services by drawing on the resource of highly qualified and regulated optometrists and dispensing opticians in local optical practices. Delegates will hear about an example of primary and secondary care services working in an integrated way to have 'right care' delivered in the 'right place', at the 'right time', by the 'right professional'.

Networked ophthalmology care – a toolkit for increased collaboration

Karen Reeves, Vanguard Programme Director, Moorfields Eye Hospital

The vanguard team at Moorfields has developed a unique online toolkit to help NHS trusts to think about working together in a networked care model. Karen will outline how networked care helps to sustain hospital clinical services locally for patients and alleviates the stress for patients of travelling to get specialist care. She will explain how the toolkit provides advice and practical tools and templates to help get best practice right first time, and will give resources and templates for other organisations to use to help NHS trusts to implement a networked model more quickly.

Using Patient Experience to improve eye care services

Dr Jackie McCall, Consultant in Public Health, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland

Dr McCall will present on how the Public Health Agency used a survey tool to obtain anonymous feedback from users, families, carers and staff across Northern Ireland about their experiences of hospital eyecare services and what matters most to them. She will explain how the findings and recommendations will drive forward changes, improvements and developments to eye care service design.

Sight loss and mental health

Adrian Iuga, Eye Clinic Liaison Officer, King's College Hospital

People with sight loss are at a higher risk of developing mental health conditions. Support services are available but patients are not systematically identified and referred. Adrian Iuga will give an overview of work by King's College Hospital to pilot a mental health screening programme for patients with sight loss, in order to integrate mental health support into the current medical management of eye conditions, and create clear referral pathways for appropriate support and interventions.



Certification of visual impairment in the 21st Century – the eCVI project and ECLO support

Philippa Simkiss, Head of Partnerships, RNIB and Chris Wilsdon, ECLO at Princess Royal University Hospital and Queen Mary's Hospital

Philippa Simkiss will present on a joint project between Moorfields Eye Hospital, RNIB and hospitals in Gloucester, Leeds and Nottingham to investigate whether an electronic certification process is a more reliable, efficient and speedy way to help people who are blind or partially sighted to access the support associated with registration. Chris Wilsdon will then provide an insight into the support Eye Clinic Liaison Officers can provide.

The costs avoided through effective rehabilitation services

Josh Feehan, Research and Development Officer, RNIB

As part of the Early Intervention and Rehabilitation Project, RNIB commissioned the Office for Public Management to undertake a study of the costs avoided when effective vision rehabilitation services are provided to blind and partially sighted people. Josh will outline the results from the case study in terms of costs avoided for Health and Social Care relating to

personal safety, social participation, functional independence and emotional well-being.

Stream 3: Inclusion – Being heard and changing attitudes!

Rutherford/Moore rooms, fourth floor

Is enough being done to involve people living with sight loss in the design process for developing tools that enable independence and inclusion and if not, why not? Public perceptions of what it is like to live with sight loss can limit blind or partially sighted people's opportunities in life, leading to social isolation and underachievement so what can be done to stop this from happening? This stream will include sessions ranging from product design that puts users at the beginning of the design process to awareness raising projects that improve public understanding of sight loss.

Chair: Ken Reid, Scottish Vision Strategy Ambassador



Presentation

Including the voice of people with sight loss in design

Matt Marsh, Creative Director,
Firsthand Experience

Matt Marsh will lead a session examining how new products, services and environments can be designed to accommodate users with sight loss. He will explore obstacles in the design system, how they can be overcome, and how those with sight loss can be included in the design process. This session will include audience participation to explore the obstacles, generate ideas of how they can be solved, and create actions for change to promote to the design community and beyond.

Case Studies

Cities Unlocked

Jarnail Chudge, User Experience
Architect, Microsoft

Find out how a partnership between Guide Dogs and Microsoft has yielded the innovative use of 3D audio to increase independence and mobility for people living with sight loss by helping them paint a richer picture of their surroundings.

Conspexit Intelligent Assistant

Laith Al-Janabi, VP – Strategic
Partnerships, Conspexit

Find out how the Conspexit Intelligent Assistant will 'see the world' and assist people with sight loss with a variety of day to day tasks. Laith will also outline plans for this product in the future.

Working in partnership to provide support to families of children with vision impairment

Sara Akhtar, CYP Enablement Officer,
Henshaws and Kay Wrench, Team
Leader, Oldham Education Team for
Vision Impairment

This session will give an insight into Henshaws' partnership with Oldham Council's Vision Impairment Team to employ a Children and Young People Enablement Officer to provide emotional and practical support to families. Sara and Kay will also outline the benefits of partnership working with local eye health professionals and a range of voluntary sector organisations to raise awareness of eye care in mainstream and special schools. Organisations involved included Henshaws, Eye Heroes, SeeAbility, Oldham council and a local dance and theatre company, Reforma.



Supporting Black African people with sight loss to develop peer support groups

Diana Collins, Project Officer, You Care - Eye Care Project, and Gozie Joe Adigwe, Senior Eye Health and Equalities Officer, both RNIB Scotland.

Learn how this initiative, funded by Alliance Scotland and led by RNIB, supported Black African people living with sight loss to develop a peer support group to build confidence and improve social connectedness. Learn also how the project helped people work towards non-health goals such as employability, IT proficiency, social integration and effective self-management.

Changing the face of blindness

Jay Paul, Senior Marketing Manager – Connected Communities, RNIB

Over one-third of blind and partially sighted people say that they sometimes, frequently or always experience negative attitudes from the general public in relation to their sight loss – especially when using a white cane. In this session delegates will learn about the ways in which people living with sight loss are working together and using film and social media to reach the general public to raise awareness of what it is like to live with sight loss; that using a cane does not necessarily mean that a person is unable to see at all and how people registered as blind or partially sighted see the world.



Afternoon plenary

Churchill, ground floor

Changing attitudes

Time to Change: Rethinking mental health

Sue Baker, Director, Time to Change

Time to Change is a growing movement of people changing how we all think and act about mental health problems. Sue Baker will talk about what has been achieved since the launch of this movement; how attitudes and behaviour of millions of people across England have changed and what we can learn from this approach to influence public understanding of what it is like to live with sight loss.

Things not to say to a blind person

Marc Powell, RNIB Business Team and Georgie Bullen, Team Insight

In this session we will hear from two of the participants in the BBC3, 'Things Not To Say...' series that focuses on misunderstood groups of society. Marc and Georgie will talk about 'Things not to say to a blind person' and the positive impact this kind of work can have in the effort to improve public awareness of what it is like to live with sight loss. Georgie and Marc both competed at

the London 2012 Paralympics and have both forged careers around improving accessibility and levels of visual impairment awareness.

Our Ambition

Keith Valentine, CEO, Vision UK

Keith will talk about the new UK Ambition Statement and the plans for delivering this ambition across the UK.

Panel discussion: achieving change, together

David Parkins, Chair, Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning for England and Chair, London Eye Health Network (NHS England); Peter Corbett, CEO Thomas Pocklington Trust and Chair England Vision Strategy; Sally Harvey, Acting CEO, RNIB; Ken Reid, Scottish Vision Strategy Ambassador and Mike Burdon, President Royal College of Ophthalmologists



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