

Vision Impairment (VI) Certification and Registration

What does this mean?

A Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) issued by the ophthalmologist has three main functions:

- It qualifies you to be registered with your local council as sight impaired (partially sighted) or severely sight impaired (blind)
- It lets your local council know about your sight loss. They should contact you within two weeks to offer registration and to identify any help you might need with day to day tasks.
- The CVI records important information about the causes of sight loss. It helps in planning NHS eye care services and research about eye conditions.

Once Registered

- Registration confirms your sight loss and provides evidence to entitlement of benefits such as concessionary public transport travel.
- You should be offered support by your local council to maximise your independence.

Other resources

- The Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) at your hospital
- W: nib.org.uk/eye-health/registering-your-sight-loss
- W: berkshiresensoryconsortium.co.uk