

Guidelines on who to refer to the ECLO

This is a brief guide for medical and clinical staff, GPs, Nurses and Optometrists to help you decide who might benefit from a referral to the Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO).

Your ECLO would welcome referrals for:

- Anyone who has any degree of sight loss, or is affected by sight loss. This includes family members, carers or friends.
- Anyone who has been offered or considered for certification as sight impaired (SI) or severely sight impaired (SSI), or who meets the eligibility guidelines. This includes those who are newly certified, those who are unsure, and those whose certification status has changed (i.e. from SI to SSI).
- Anyone who might benefit from initial emotional support – e.g. anyone who appears to be upset or distressed, not understanding or taking in what you have said, or expressing concerns about their future.
- Anyone you think might benefit from information about eye conditions.
- Anyone you think might need information about the support available outside of the hospital, i.e. Sensory Teams, Vision Rehabilitation, and Services for Children with VI.
- Anyone who needs general support and advice about aids or adaptations, mentions practical difficulties when at work or at home, or who has been referred to the Low Vision service.
- People with sight loss who you think are at risk of becoming isolated (perhaps they have no support or family who live locally), at risk of falling, or who appear to be frail.
- People with sight loss of working age, whether they are in employment or not.
- Anyone who you think would benefit from further information or support around treatment compliance, i.e. drops for glaucoma.
- Anyone who has had a stroke or brain injury and has visual difficulties as a result.
- Anyone who has been told that their sight has fallen below the level needed for driving.
- Anyone who attends the eye department with sudden sight loss.
- Children and young people with sight loss and their families who might benefit from a referral to VI Education Services or to a QTVI.
- Anyone with sight loss whose circumstances have recently changed. (e.g. their spouse has passed away).

Please also consider any inpatients or those attending other wards or departments who have sight loss.



For further information about your local ECLO and referral procedures, please contact: