

## How can I make a referral?

To make a referral to the Visual Impairment Team, please telephone Contact Cares on 01744 676767 between the hours of 8.00am and 10.00pm, Monday to Sunday, or email: [contactcares@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:contactcares@sthelens.gov.uk)

## Contact us

For general enquiries, please contact the St Helens Rehabilitation Centre between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday at the address below:

1st Floor Millennium Centre  
Corporation Street  
St Helens  
WA10 1HJ

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/visualimpairment](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/visualimpairment)

# Contact Us

St Helens Rehabilitation Centre  
1st Floor Millennium Centre  
Corporation Street, St Helens WA10 1HJ

Open Monday to Friday (9.00am - 5.00pm)

# 01744 675129

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/visualimpairment](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/visualimpairment)



St. Helens Council

### People's Services

Gamble Building  
Victoria Square  
St Helens  
WA10 1DY

**Tel:** 01744 676767

**Email:** [contactcares@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:contactcares@sthelens.gov.uk)

→ [www.sthelens.gov.uk/social-care-health/](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/social-care-health/)

Please contact us to request translation of Council information into Braille, audio tape or a foreign language.



St. Helens  
Council

## Services for Visually Impaired People

Rehabilitation Service & Resource Centre



## Rehabilitation Service

This leaflet will help you to understand the services that are provided by the St Helens Council People's Services Department to assist people with sight impairment who reside within the borough of St Helens.

**Our aim is to help visually impaired people to remain or become as independent as possible.**

At our Resource Centre you can find out information relating to living with a visual impairment. We offer advice, information, product demonstrations and rehabilitation support to help visually impaired people find new ways of dealing with the practical and emotional difficulties they may have as a result of their sight loss.

## What can rehabilitation help with?

The support team which includes qualified Rehabilitation Officers for Visually Impaired People (ROVIs) will assist you to achieve a range of outcomes based on your interests and needs, for example:

- Access to leisure activities, e.g. hobbies, games and sports.
- Access to voluntary societies for visually impaired people.

- Undertaking daily tasks such as cooking, making hot drinks, weighing and measuring.
- Overcoming problems of disorientation, which can occur with restricted vision even in familiar places, indoors or out.
- Guidance and support.

We can also help people learn new skills to adapt and cope with the effects of visual impairment, for example, maximising a persons' mobility, maintaining independent living skills and using a variety of communication methods.

If appropriate, the team will also undertake an assessment with the aim of maintaining and promoting your independence.

Working together with our partnership organisations RNIB and Henshaws Society for Blind People, we are able to provide you with information and guidance on accessing:

- Services for people interested in employment and training.
- The registration process for blind or partially sighted people including concessions and benefits.
- Organisations for specific eye conditions.
- Organisations providing specialist IT support and training for visually impaired people.

- Organisations giving support to visually impaired people using ICT equipment.
- Local support groups and national charities for visually impaired people.

The Visual Impairment Service also includes the provision of an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) based within the Eye Clinic at St. Helens Hospital. The ECLO is able to offer emotional support, information and advice on living with sight loss and maintaining independence. Information can also be provided in relation to eye conditions and the registration process.

## Low Vision Assessments

The team also works in partnership with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to provide low vision aids and equipment.

Where full remediation of a person's visual function is not possible by the provision of conventional glasses, contact lenses or medical intervention a Low Vision Assessment can be provided.

The assessment (LVA) will help the person to make best use of their remaining vision in order to achieve and maintain their independence.