

Optometrist Identification of a Person with Significant Sight Problems

Letter concerning vision impairment needs

About the attached letter

This letter is to be given by an optometrist to people with sight difficulties who would benefit by seeking advice and support from a council with social services responsibilities or its designated agency.

Advice for patients

If you send this letter to your local council to request advice or support it will not affect the provision of any medical care.

You will need to fill in your details on the two page letter attached.

You do not need to send this page or the next.

Your council has a legal duty to:

- Advise you of the range of services available to people with sight problems
- Carry out an assessment of your needs.

If you have any difficulties in relation to these mailers, you can obtain independent advice from our local:

- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind. Tel 0115 9706806, or
- The RNIB Helpline. Tel 0845 7669999 (local call rate).

If you have a driving licence, please read the important 'Information for driving licence holders'.

Information for driving licence holders

Every driver must be able to read a pre-September 2001 format number plate at 20.5 metres (or a post-September 2001 format number plate at 20 metres) in good light.

If your sight is affecting your ability to drive, or if the eye specialist has advised you that you are not safe to drive, you are required to contact the:

Drivers Medical Branch

DVLA

Swansea

SA99 1TU

Tel 0870 600 0301 (Monday to Friday 8.15 to 16.30)

The DVLA must be told at once if:

You NOW have any physical or mental disability or condition which affects your fitness as a driver or which might do so IN THE FUTURE (you do not need to tell DVLA if the effect of the disability or the condition is not expected to last more than 3 months).

You come to know IN FUTURE that you have such a disability or condition.

Failure to comply is a criminal offence. Drivers who do not meet the vision requirements and who come to the attention of the Police may be liable for a fine of up to £1,000.



Optometrist Identification of a Person With Significant Sight Problems:

Letter concerning Vision impairment needs

For the attention of: Team for Visual Impairment
(Countywide)
Meadow House
Littleworth
Mansfield
NG18 2TB

Date: _____

Dear Sirs

I have been advised to contact you because poor eyesight is making daily life difficult. I would like to know about the range of specialist information or help which is available locally from your or other agencies.

My name
is: _____

The optometrist who suggested I contact you is:

Please contact: Me A friend A relative A representative

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number (or e-mail address): _____

Please make contact first by:

- Phone Visit Letter e-mail
 An interpreter or translation will be required

I would prefer information in _____ (language)

Please send me further information by:

- Large print Tape
 Computer disk e-mail
to :

Please tick any of these statements that apply to you

- I live alone
 I have responsibilities as a carer

I have

- Difficulty getting about
 Arthritis
 A heart condition
 Significant hearing loss or are dual sensory impaired

Please specify any other condition(s) -

I am especially concerned about

- Cooking on my own
- Crossing roads safely
- Becoming isolated
- Feelings of distress
- Coping at work
- Coping at school/college
- Other - please specify

I am

- Under 18
- Between 18 and 59
- Between 60 and 74
- Over 75

Yours faithfully

Please return the completed letter to the following address:

Team for Visual Impairment, Meadow House,
Littleworth,
Mansfield NG18 2TB
Telephone 01623 433433
Fax 01623 433245

Opticians Tips for Completing LVI Form

Main Points:

All completed forms for Nottingham County Council residents only are to be forwarded to Nottingham County Council Team for Visual Impairment using the following:

Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark and Rushcliffe

TVI do have criteria for accepting referrals which basically is any person who would be considered to be registerable as visually impaired or anyone whose sight difficulties indicate real cause for concern. Any person that presents as meeting these criteria should have the form completed and forwarded to TVI.

This form can also be given to the customer for them to complete and submit.

Should customers have difficulty with self completion, assistance with this should be performed whilst attending for assessment.

To ensure a speedy response those completing the form should:

1. Ensure that all customer contact details are entered and correct.
2. Ensure that as much relevant information is documented to allow Social Services to contact and respond appropriately.
3. Assist the customer to complete the form (if required).
4. Identify any degree of urgency, risk issues or other relevant issues that require a speedy response.

Please Note: This information applies to Nottingham County Council residents only.