

Who do I contact about taking part?:

Contact Sian our Research Officer on: 01962 857385
or email enquiries@healthwatchhampshire.co.uk
you may also contact Sian if you would like to receive further information about the visual impairment research.



Healthwatch Hampshire
Westgate Chambers,
Staple Gardens, Winchester,
Hampshire, SO23 8SR

Tel 01962 440 262

enquiries@healthwatchhampshire.co.uk

Certifications, Registrations and Signposting Research

Pre and Post Diagnosis for Visual Impairment

Introduction

Healthwatch Hampshire is a public voice for Health, Mental and social care services within the NHS. Its main aim is to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how these services are provided.

Healthwatch Hampshire is about to undertake a research project into the experiences of visual impairment people - people living in Hampshire who have been diagnosed or are in the process of being diagnosed with a visual impairment. Our focus is on the certification process (being registered blind (severely sight impaired) or partially sighted (sight impaired) and signposting - what information did you receive when you first lost or started to lose your sight? We hope the research will inform the relationship between eye departments and social services.

To be able to take part you must meet at least one of the criteria below:

- Must be visually impaired (severely sight impaired or slight impaired)
- You must be living and/or attending an eye clinic in Hampshire
- You must either be going through the process of being diagnosed or be diagnosed with a visual impairment
- You must be over the age of eighteen.

What you'll be asked to do:

- The Research Officer will tell you about the research and ask if you have any questions
- You will be asked to sign a consent form to say that you agree to participate
- You will be asked some questions (either face to face or via the telephone) relating to your experiences and this will take about 40 minutes.
- You will then be explained why the research was carried out and thanked for taking part.

What happens to my answers?:

Your answers will remain confidential and will be used in a written report that will be published on our website. We will not use your name or anything that might identify you. We will securely dispose of the responses once the report is written.

How long will I talk to you for?:

The talk should last no longer than 40 minutes but you can stop the conversation at any time!

What happens if I say something that could be a safeguarding concern?:

If you tell me something that could be considered a safeguarding concern I will need to share the concern with the local authority safeguarding service. This will remain anonymous.