

*“Beacon has given me the confidence to get my life back.”*

*“Coming to Beacon has transformed my life, now I get out and about, try new things and I am happier than before.”*

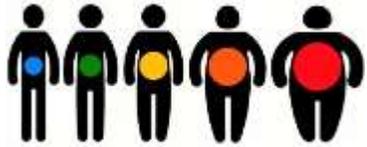


# Sight Loss in Wolverhampton

## Prevention

In Wolverhampton 3.1% of the population live with sight loss, 7,700 in 2015, that will rise to over 10,000 by 2030, 3.8% of the population. Wolverhampton have a number of key risk factors contributing to this rise \*

### Obesity



28.5% of the adult population are obese – that > diabetes risk

### Smoking



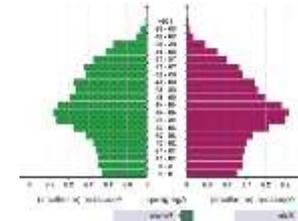
22% of the population smoke - a causal factor of macular degeneration

### Stroke



30% of strokes result in long term sight loss.

### Ageing Pop



33% of the population are over 50 yrs old – Age related macular is biggest cause of UK sight loss

### Deprivation



75% of visually impaired live in or on the margins of poverty. Wolverhampton ranks as 21 in DCLG deprivation rankings 2015.



Direct Costs 2014 : NHS Wolverhampton - **£9.37m**  
Indirect costs : Wolverhampton - **£21.9m** (lower employment / unpaid care / absenteeism)

\* Data from RNIB sight loss data tool v3.

## Wolverhampton City Council Priorities

## How Beacon can help

**Promoting independence for people with disabilities**

**Over 40% of people with sight loss suffer depression.**

Early intervention with people diagnosed with sight loss via our pathway will help to reduce isolation, empower and re-able them and provide peer support to mitigate depression.

**Promoting and enabling healthy lifestyles**

**50% of sight loss is preventable**

Promoting the importance of eye health as part of broader public health campaigns is an essential part of reducing sight loss and early detection of other conditions. .

**Enabling communities to support themselves**

Beacon is evolving and investing in a stronger community outreach model to support those living with sight loss in their communities.

Wolverhampton Constituencies and 2004 Wards



Produced in January 2004 by Chief Executive's Policy Team,  
Wolverhampton City Council  
Source: Wolverhampton Constituencies and 2004 Ward Boundaries

**Technology Enablers** : Beacon is working with Wolverhampton University and other providers and consortia on solutions that can support visually impaired, ranging from Virtual Reality, to activity trackers, connected autonomous vehicles, and wayfinding beacons that can connect to smart devices and guide people around.

**Our Solution**  
We can improve your outcomes – 50% of sight loss is preventable. Using our specialist knowledge we can help target messages to high risk groups and can through our pathway support people who are diagnosed to help reduce pressure on statutory services.

**Your Challenge**  
Early intervention to ensure right support at the right time.

**How we can help**

**Friendship & support**

**Lets Plan it**

**Staying Independent**

**Your Challenge**  
Rehabilitation is critical to maintain independence and reduce future issues.

**Our Solution**  
Our expert team will work with individuals and their families to develop and agree a tailored plan to meet their needs. This is a cost effective way of providing support at the right time in the right way.

**Your Challenge**  
Over 40% of people diagnosed with sight loss report significant depressive symptoms. Potential cost at £3,100 p/p is £10m

**Our Solution**  
Our peer support and low vision advice services can help build emotional resilience and support families to better cope with the overall sight loss journey of their loved one.

**Your Challenge**  
In 2015 3,631 people over 65 had a fall directly attributable to their sight loss.

**Our Solution**  
With our bespoke and tailored health and wellbeing programme we can reduce the risk of falls through building core strength and improve overall fitness and mental wellbeing. We can also provide expert advice on home living on issues such as lighting, trip hazards, general life skills and adaptations.

**Who are Beacon Centre** : Beacon Centre was established in 1875 to support blind and visually impaired (VI) people living across the Black Country. A range of services are provided, including low vision assessments, re-ablement, living with sight loss programmes, employment support, along with advice and guidance to a client base age ranging from 8 - 100+.



## **Why Work with Beacon**

- Expert, local knowledge
- Targeted & needs led approach, focussed on independence and self care
- Sector leaders on technology and innovation for visually impaired
- Wide range of collaborating partners

## **Beacon will work with you to**

- meet your obligations to visually impaired under the Care Act 2014
- Improve your sight loss indicators in the Public Health Outcomes Framework
- Help mitigate costs on statutory services through preventative, early interventions.

**Contact us : Katie Jobling, 01902 880111**

