A Year of Transformation

Annual Review 2020

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# Welcome

This has been a momentous year in the history of the Vision Foundation. We have changed our name for the first time in 99 years, overhauled our constitution to ensure that everything we do is impact and needs-led, and redoubled our commitment to prevent avoidable sight loss.

Working with blind and partially sighted advisors, focus groups and survey respondents, we have revolutionised our strategy with a clear vision, mission and purpose, and we now have an ambitious path laid out for us with support from all corners of the capital.

And although none of us could have predicted the 2020 coronavirus pandemic and its monumental impact on so many sectors, the foundations we have built are enabling us to be agile in meeting the needs of blind and partially sighted people and weather the economic storm. The pandemic has undoubtedly set back and delayed our journey but our determination and commitment to improve the lives of blind and partially sighted people is undimmed.

We’re still at the start of our transformation but we’re delighted with the progress we’ve made so far. Impact underpins all that we do and after consulting far and wide with the sight loss community we have developed the following three strategic objectives to:

• Open London up, ensuring that blind and partially sighted people have equal access to the cultural, social and employment opportunities of London.

• Empower those at risk, meeting the needs of those doubly disadvantaged by sight loss and additional factors, including BAME people or those facing domestic violence.

• Prevent avoidable blindness, addressing the 50% of UK sight loss which is preventable, but not necessarily treatable.

Alongside direct grants, we have a new commitment to build sector capacity, and influence policy and public attitudes as effectively as possible through collaborative campaigning and advocacy. Resourcing our work remains key and we have transformed our fundraising approach, building new relationships with philanthropists, companies and foundations, professionalising our charity shop network, and increasing the number of community events through a strong network of supporters from across London’s diverse communities.

These changes are already bearing fruit, helping us attract talent from across the sector, increase our income by 65% in one year, and triple our charitable spend. Crucially, through our grants, we are already changing lives on the front line by funding vital projects which inform, involve and empower blind and partially sighted people across the capital.

This has all only been possible thanks to our dedicated volunteers and trustees, our fantastic staff team, and our generous donors. Without your dedication, loyalty and passion the Vision Foundation would not be the inclusive and ambitious organisation of which we are so proud. We are determined to push through the many challenges of 2020-21 and a post pandemic world to achieve our important work.

The next few pages contain just a few of the many stories people have told us about the difference we have made. I hope that you will find them as inspiring as I do, but at their heart they remind us just how much more there is to do.

**Dr Olivia Curno Chief Executive**

We are already changing lives across the capital by funding vital projects which inform, include and empower.

# Our transformational year

## A new identity

Changing the name of the charity from the Greater London Fund for the Blind, which had been in operation since 1921, to the Vision Foundation was no mean feat. However, our blind and partially sighted advisors told us we sounded old-fashioned, inaccessible, and did not represent them. The new name and brand has not just been cosmetic – it reflects our commitment to a visionary ambition rooted in rigour and evidence.

## Launching our new strategy

Our strategy sets out our commitment to maximise our impact for stakeholders and tackle avoidable sight loss. This year has seen the delivery of the following key elements:

• The new visual identity, name and five year strategy was launched publicly in October 2019 at a reception hosted by our Vice President Cherie Blair CBE, QC at a gifted reception by SUSD Ltd at the Devonshire Club in London.

• In November 2019, we opened our first Vision Fund, complemented with a new theory of change. Our Vision Fund provides opportunities for charitable projects benefiting the sight loss community in London to apply for funding under our themes of Open London Up, Empower Those At Risk and Prevent Avoidable Blindness.

• To become truly impact-driven, the Trustees unanimously agreed a change was needed to our constitution and governance model which led to discussions and agreement with our (now former) members to end the membership model (more below) so we could invest our funds for impact. This in turn led to the creation and recruitment in early 2020 of our critical new Executive Leadership role of Director of Grants and Impact.

## An end to the membership model

For 98 years, the charity had operated under a membership model, fundraising and dispersing funds to the same partners in set amounts. As we navigated through our transformational change engaging our member charities was a key priority. We involved members in the strategy process, rebrand, events, and offered further consultation on our articles. Through this, the members saw that our historic model was no longer fundable, nor defensible from an impact-led perspective. In March 2020, the members unanimously voted to adopt new articles which did away with the membership.

This has been a critical evolution in the Vision Foundation’s history and we are incredibly proud of the relationships that we hold with our prior membership organisations and the vision that they saw for a better way of doing things. In just over 12 months, we have transformed inside and out.

# Key highlights for 2019-20

• 35 charities supported in London

• 12,402 blind and partially sighted Londoners reached

• 57,340 people educated about eye health

• £1,564,252 value of grants committed

• 19% increase in average grant size

• 106% increase in number of project grants awarded

• 145% increase in value of project grants awarded

“I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Vision Foundation in my role as Vice President. Their work in building capacity across London’s sight loss sector is critical as we move forward and ensure that blind and partially sighted people can thrive both now and in the future”

**Rt Hon Lord David Blunkett Vision Foundation Vice President**

## Our vision

Is a future where people living with sight loss are equal citizens and preventable blindness is a thing of the past.

## Our mission

Is to make London a shining example of a sight loss aware city.

## Our purpose

Is to transform the lives of people facing or living with sight loss by funding projects which inform, empower and include.

## Our values

Reinforce everything we do. They shape the way we work and the culture we endeavour to instil.

#### We collaborate

The problems we seek to address are complex – no one organisation can do it alone. We wish to learn and share knowledge, combine skillsets and expertise, amplify impact and enable innovation.

#### We empower

It is individuals with sight loss who have the insight, skills and experience to identify the most important issues, influence others, and bring about lasting change.

#### We work intelligently

The issue of sight loss spans research, health, stigma, employment, culture, sport, society, transport, safety, economics, equality and more. Without an intelligent, evidence-based approach, our efforts will not be focussed and informed to bring about the greatest impact.

#### We are courageous

Sight loss is a growing, urgent problem. Every day, people needlessly lose their sight for life. Every day, people unfairly miss out on opportunities. Every day, people face abuse, disregard, isolation, poverty and depression. We must be brave today to bring about a brighter tomorrow.

We must be brave today to bring about a brighter tomorrow.

# Grants and funds

## Growth in giving

2019/20 was a year of significant transformation for our grant-making as we began to adapt our approach. Alongside the distribution of vital core funding to our members, we grew the number and size of grants made through our open funding programme and focussed our awards on projects that complemented our strategic aims. This year saw the highest levels of giving in our history. Overall, our giving tripled in value from £480,000 in 2018-19 to over £1.56m in 2019-20 and we doubled the number of projects supported. Our projects reached people in every London borough.

## Members

Funds committed to our former member charities totalled £1.2 million. This unrestricted funding to nine frontline charities working across London was instrumental in improving the lives of more than 7,000 blind and partially sighted people. Much of this funding was committed over a three-year period to ensure a level of stability for these charities. We are proud that our funding enabled these organisations to continue offering support and advice to the sight loss community during the Covid-19 pandemic, at a time when they were needed more than ever.

## Grants

Our grant funding grew substantially across the year and we supported 35 charities with awards totalling over £370,000. Projects spanned the breadth and width of London, and will benefit nearly 5,000 visually impaired children, adults and older people in multiple and diverse ways: from music workshops to self-defence classes; from mentoring for young people to IT training for older people; and from employment support to social activities. A further 57,000 people are expected to be educated in eye health, to support our aim of reducing the levels of avoidable blindness.

## Spotlight on our partners

#### Look UK: London-wide

Everyone says the school years are the best of your life. But it can be tough to be visually impaired if you are not getting the right support. The mentoring scheme run by Look UK empowers young blind and partially sighted people to ask for help and say what they need. Mentors have all been through the journey of sight loss and are able to provide practical steps – from accessible materials, to friendship groups, and next steps after school.

#### Blind in Business: London-wide

Unemployment amongst blind and partially sighted people remains unacceptably high, with only 1 in 4 partially sighted people of working age in paid employment, and just 1 in 10 registered blind people in work. The intensive Education to Employment programme run by Blind in Business coupled with one-to-one coaching provides practical opportunities for young visually impaired graduates to get into the workplace.

#### Extant: Lambeth

Accessing the Arts is a continual challenge for blind and partially sighted people, everything from access to careers. The ‘No Dramas’ workshops delivered by Extant, the UK’s leading arts company of visually impaired people, are designed to help blind and partially sighted people explore their skills in drama and acting. Sessions include drama exercises, games and improvisation scenes to boost confidence, interactive skills and performance technique.

#### Time and Talents: Southwark

In an effort to combat the crippling impacts of social isolation Time and Talents run dedicated activity sessions for older people living with sight loss. They focus on peer driven, co-produced activities, fostering self-determination and a sense of belonging for community members. A wide range of stimulating projects, including outings and inter-generational activities, aim to reduce levels of isolation and loneliness and improve mental and physical wellbeing.

Our giving tripled from 18/19 to 19/20, and we doubled the number of projects supported.

# Projects across London

## Organisations receiving funding in 2019-2020

#### Opening London up

• The Amber Trust

• Baluji Music Foundation

• Blind in Business

• BlindAid

• The Change Foundation

• Clarity - Employment for Blind People

• Croydon Vision

• Deafblind UK

• Disability Advice Service Lambeth

• Extant

• Jewish Care

• Kent Association for the Blind

• Kingston Upon Thames Association for the Blind

• Lunch Club Plus for the Blind

• Merton Sports and Social Club

• Merton Vision

• Middlesex Association for the Blind

• Mixed Martial Arts for Reform and Progression

• Mousetrap Theatre

• Panathlon

• RNIB

• Sense

• Sutton Vision

• Talking News Islington

• Time and Talents

• Timebank UK

• Wood Street Walls

Empowering those at risk

• Bromley District Talking News

• Community Enterprise East London

• Look UK

• Sight for Surrey

#### Preventing avoidable blindness

• Afghanistan and Central Asian Association (ACAA)

• Eye Heroes

• Queens Crescent Community Association

• SeeAbility

# Bilal

“Having [help from] charities makes a massive difference. It takes the whole stress out of job hunting and paperwork which I find inaccessible.”

Bilal, an aspiring physiotherapist, has Stargardt disease - a condition that causes central vision loss in childhood. After applying to university and getting rejected, Bilal felt lost and disheartened as his school friends made plans for their futures.

After struggling to take the next steps in his career, Bilal found out about the Vision Foundation’s partner, Blind in Business. He signed up to their ‘Isolated in London’ project which helped him develop his presentation skills and gave him the techniques to write his university applications effectively. Bilal later attended a two-day residential course where he met other blind and partially sighted people and took part in problem-solving exercises and mock interviews with real-life employers.

“Through donating [to the Vision Foundation] you’re giving us an equal playing field. Yes, we have sight issues, but you’re giving us a start line where we can go on and build up, rather than living a life on benefits and being seen negatively. It’s helping us to change the stigma. It’s changing that perception that someone is blind so that they can’t do anything. It’s giving them that ground to stand on.”

Bilal has transformed from a shy school-leaver to a confident young man well settled into his second year at Hertfordshire University. Bilal is delighted that his goal of becoming a physiotherapist is now in reach, and is grateful to the support he’s received to take his first tentative steps up the career ladder.

# Alun

“When you start talking to people, you become more comfortable because you know they’re in the same situation as you.”

After being diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy Alun has adjusted to his sight loss and gets support from a number of local groups all receiving funding from the Vision Foundation.

When Alun was diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy in later life, it came with some terrible news: his sight was deteriorating and it would continue to do so year on year. After a referral to the local sensory team Alun received advice around the benefits he was entitled to and had practical training and support in using a white cane and navigating London’s busy streets. He learnt new ways of preparing meals safely and most importantly found out about local groups to connect with his community.

“I had some counselling, then I started going along to these groups. They’re there for help and support. It’s the friendship and knowing the people that you’re with. Now, we’re like a group of blind people who are getting out and about and getting together.”

Armed with confidence and a newfound network of support, Alun is now helping other members of the community by taking part in Low Vision clinics in his local area. He also attends a local university where he shares his lived experience of sight loss with students.

# Charmaine

“I’m still their parent, but Alex and Sophia are my eyes now.”

After a severe stroke that took away her eyesight, busy mum-of-two Charmaine has learnt new ways of doing things and how to use technology to connect with her daughters.

In 2018 busy mum-of-two Charmaine suffered a stroke so severe that doctors didn’t think she would survive. After a four-month stay in hospital, she was left with hearing and short-term memory loss as well as significant sight loss.

Back home with her partner, Simon, and their two young daughters, Alex and Sophia, Charmaine struggled to adjust. From making lunches to doing the school run, life as a visually impaired mum was a constant challenge.

It was only after she had practical training and support from one of the Vision Foundation’s partners that she felt she was able to regain some of her independence.

“You need someone like Kevin to work out little problems…He taught me how to read my emails and to get back on social media where you can feel more connected [to other mums] and do things you thought you couldn’t do.”

Assistive technology has given Charmaine the tools to connect with friends and family. She can now harness her love of learning through audio books and voice-activated devices, something she can share with her children. Whilst it’s early days for Charmaine in her sight loss journey, her positive energy and the love of her family is unbreakable.

# Glen

“I had all the skills and knowledge, and I was just ebbing away without a job.”

Once a high-flyer at a City bank, Glen first noticed a change in his vision when he started finding it difficult to read his computer screen.

Glen was enjoying a successful career in the City when his sight started to deteriorate.

“I noticed that my vision was getting hazy. I went to Moorfields Eye Hospital and they performed surgery on the eye… When I woke up from surgery all I could see was shadows or silhouettes and that was that.”

As the father of two struggled to adjust to his sight loss, Glen also found himself suddenly unemployed. Despite his determination to find another job, Glen faced rejection after rejection and although he remained strong for his wife Coral and two sons, Joel and Ayden, his confidence took a huge knock.

“Before I got home from an interview, I knew what the answer would be. I felt like I wasn’t part of society anymore. I felt like I wasn’t worth anything.”

Things began to change when Glen started volunteering with the Vision Foundation’s partner, Croydon Vision. After a few weeks of touch-typing lessons, Glen could navigate his keyboard and started writing for the charity newspaper and website. As his talent and confidence started to shine through, Glen went on to successfully secure a paid role at Croydon Vision.

# Our supporters

We would not be able to do what we do without the support from you, our local community and over 100 volunteers. And thank you to everyone who visited and donated to our charity shops across London. Our shops continue to grow from strength to strength, providing good quality items at a low cost for local people.

## Thank you

* Anna Tylor
* Ashurst LLP
* Cathy Shorthouse
* Charles Russell Speechlys
* Deborah Christoforides
* Dixie Rose Findlay Charitable Trust
* The Geoff & Fiona Squire Foundation
* Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation UK
* John Casson Foundation
* John G Gardiner
* K&L Gates LLP
* Koch Metal Trading Ltd
* Lisa Binks
* Ofenheim Charitable Trust
* Peter W Goodwin
* Portner
* Scouloudi Foundation
* Screwfix Foundation
* Sidley Austin LLP
* SUSD Ltd
* The McGrath Charitable Trust
* Wowcher

## Gifts in wills

Leaving a gift in will is an extraordinary form of support and we’d like to pay particular tribute to the following individuals who left a gift to the Vision Foundation in their will this year:

* Abina Woodcok
* Basil Philip Carter
* Betty Rosetta Slater
* David Michael Cremer
* Eileen Beryl Harris
* Elsie Joan Haines
* Frederick Hammond
* George Richard Gruner
* Hilda Maude Petrie
* Jack David Pearce
* John Gilmore Gardiner
* Lillian Dorothy Sherburn
* Margaret Lilian Bridges
* Marguerite Johnson
* Michael David Holmes
* Minu Jha
* Peter David Jukes
* Reginald Prichard
* Rita Ann Brown
* Rose Fyleman
* Vice-Admiral Sir Donald Gosling KCVO

## Centenary Appeal Board

As we approach our centenary year in 2021, the Vision Foundation is delighted to have the support of 11 motivated individuals who have agreed to come together to form our Centenary Appeal Board. In doing so they are donating their time and expertise to support our ambition to raise £1million to mark our 100th anniversary. We are delighted to have raised over a quarter of the centenary appeal target to date and in particular, we would like to thank the late Sir Donald Gosling and the trustees of the Gosling Foundation for initiating the appeal with a generous inaugural gift.

Royal Patron and Vice Presidents

Our Royal Patron HRH Countess of Wessex and our Vice Presidents The Rt Hon Sir John Major KG CH, Sir Trevor McDonald, Cherie Blair CBE, QC, the Rt Hon Lord David Blunkett and Sir Rocco Forte continue to lend their names and continued support to the Vision Foundation, and we are grateful for the time and commitment they give every year in helping us to raise money, profile and in advocating for blind and partially sighted people. This year also saw the sad loss of three of our longest standing Vice Presidents; Sir Donald Gosling, who passed away on 16 September 2019, Sir Stirling Moss, who passed away 12 April 2020 and Dame Diana Rigg, who passed away 10 September 2020. We dedicate this year, our year of transformation, in memory of Sir Donald, Sir Stirling and Dame Diana – without whose support the Vision Foundation would not be the dynamic and forward-looking organisation it is today.

Without your dedication, loyalty and passion, the Vision Foundation would not be the inclusive and ambitious organisation of which we are so proud.

# Approach to Covid-19

## Grant giving and collaboration

The coronavirus pandemic is an unparalleled situation that has both divided and united our communities. Lockdown and social distancing rules created physical divisions and multiple challenges for blind and partially sighted people. However, the charitable sector was united in its drive to overcome these challenges. We are proud to have collaborated with London Funders and more than 60 organisations on the London Community Response Fund through the provision of expert advice and the commitment of funding. Our grants tackled isolation and the rise of unemployment caused by the pandemic. We were also early signatories to the Funder Statement on Covid-19 allowing adaptions or delays to funded projects and promising to listen to the needs and concerns of our partner charities.

## Funder plus

We made a range of resources and information available to sight loss organisations through our website and delivered the first in a series of webinars, focusing on how sight loss organisations can navigate the postCovid-19 world. We also offered free fundraising and income generation information, advice and hands-on support for small local charities with limited resources to ensure they could access emergency funding opportunities.

## Campaigns and advocacy

With blind and partially sighted people disproportionately affected by the coronavirus pandemic, due to social distancing measures and restrictions on shopping and buying food, we worked to amplify voices by sharing stories of life during lockdown. Our social media campaign #BlindLockdownLife used personal testimonies and powerful, emotional videos to illustrate the practical day-to-day experiences of blind and partially sighted people. With celebrity endorsements from Philip Schofield, Matthew Wright and Stephen Fry we saw significant engagement across social and mainstream media.

## Research

As London went into lockdown, we launched a research project to ensure we targeted our work appropriately to support London’s sight loss communities. Between 30 March and 12 April 2020, just one week into the UK Government lockdown, we contacted 19 organisations that provide support to blind and partially sighted people in London and carried out 10 in-depth interviews with visually impaired people, aged between 25 and 80. The briefing paper we produced brought together the experiences of those individuals and documented how the sight loss sector was adapting its work to support the visually impaired community.

# How we are governed

## The Vision Foundation for London

• Company registration number: 3693002

• Charity registration number: 1074958

• Registered office: Sir John Mills House, 12 Whitehorse Mews, 37 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7QD

• Website: www.visionfoundation.org.uk

The Vision Foundation for London (‘Vision Foundation’) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is registered for charitable purposes with the Charity Commission. The Vision Foundation’s governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated in 1921 and amended by special resolution at 11 March 2020.

The Charity was formerly known as the Greater London Fund for the Blind and the name was changed on 31 July 2019 to Vision Foundation for London. The accepted operating name is Vision Foundation. The charity has one subsidiary, GLF Charitable Purpose Trading Company Ltd (Company number 00894747), the principal activity of which is the operation of shops.

The Board of Trustees

### Chair

Anna Tylor (Resigned 28 August 2020)

Heather Goodhew, interim chair

Treasurer

Ly Lam (Appointed 17th June 2020)

### Other members

* Keith Felton
* Elizabeth Honer
* Bob Hughes
* Susanette Mansour
* Sharon Petrie
* Harry Harris (Resigned 5th June 2019)
* Raj Mehta (Resigned 16th September 2019)
* Andy Gregson (Resigned 27 May 2020)

Directors

The Trustees of the Vision Foundation are the charity’s trustees under charity law and the directors of the charitable company.

## Patron

HRH The Countess of Wessex

## Vice Presidents

* Cherie Blair CBE, QC
* Rt Hon Lord David Blunkett
* Sir Rocco Forte
* The Rt Hon Sir John Major KG CH
* Sir Trevor McDonald

## Centenary Appeal Board Members:

* Heather Goodhew (Co-Chair)
* Naqi Risvi (Co-Chair)
* Lisa Binks
* Rob Challis
* Ian Davies
* Richard Farr
* David Gold
* Harry Harris
* Mariza Jürgens
* Alan Pickering CBE
* Gavin Prentice
* Cathy Shorthouse

## Executive Leadership Team

* Olivia Curno – Chief Executive
* Judith Brodie (from 30 March 2020) – Interim Chief Executive (cover for maternity leave)
* Tamsin Baxter – Director of Development
* Phil Beaven – Director of Retail
* Mark Ellis – Head of Communications
* Helen Fowweather – Interim Director of Finance and Resources
* Lin Richardson – Director of Grants and Impact

## Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc. 91 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7HW

## Auditors

* Sayer Vincent LLP
* Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
* Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane London, EC1Y 0TL

# What’s next? Looking ahead

## Grant-giving

Covid-19 has taken a heavy toll on the charity sector’s finances and, as we move forward through 2020 and 2021, we anticipate that our work will be in more demand than ever before. A survey of our grantees highlighted funding as one of their top three concerns. The majority of our funding will be distributed through our open funding programme, the Vision Fund. This new fund launched at the end of 2019 and offers larger grants of up to £50,000. It enables longer term stability for partner charities by making funding available across multiple years.

## Funder plus

We aim to make the biggest difference we can with the resources available to us and therefore strive to do more than simply provide funding. Our Funder Plus approach supports organisations in a variety of ways, all informed by what we have been told is valued by the charities themselves. We will build on our previous events and offer further training opportunities in leadership, fundraising and digital communications.

## Campaigns and advocacy

In collaboration with London Vision we will be launching London’s first Sight Loss Council to drive lasting change for blind and partially sighted people in areas ranging from education and employment to transport, technology and health and social care. The Council will give blind and partially sighted people a voice in the corridors of power and ensure their needs are planned for and included as services are developed so that they are fully accessible.

## Research

Research and insight into the needs of blind and partially sighted people will inform and guide our work. We know that the pandemic and Brexit are having a significant impact on businesses in the capital and that unemployment is rising at an alarming rate. We are working closely with researchers to understand how best to help blind and partially sighted people gain and retain employment. We will share what we learn with others, to ensure maximum benefit.

## Celebrating a century of impact

In 2021, the Vision Foundation celebrates its 100th anniversary. To mark this significant milestone, we’ve set ourselves the challenge of raising £1,000,000 to support blind and partially sighted people in the workplace. Unemployment rates within the sight loss community are staggeringly low with just 1 in 10 people who are registered blind working in paid employment. We believe blind and partially sighted people deserve the right to work as much as anybody else and opportunities must be unlocked to help people live fulfilling and independent lives.

# Summarised accounts

### Year ended 31 March 2020

#### Income

* Donations and legacies: £2,093,508
* Fundraising events: £40,765
* Trading activities: £1,035,401
* Investments: £62,863
* Total: £3,232,537

#### Expenditure

* Charitable activities: £1,839,886
* Generating future income and fundraising costs: £644,285
* Operating costs for charity shops\*: £1,055,571
* Tax: £24,287
* Total: £3,564,029

\*Includes one-off investments to improve profitability in future years.

## Unrestricted reserves

In 2019/20 the Trustees agreed a planned drawdown of unrestricted reserves to allow for significant investments in the charity’s future sustainability and effectiveness. These included investments in the infrastructure underpinning our fundraising, financial administration, trading, grant-making and communications. In addition, funds were released to ensure the sustainability of our delivery partners during the transition in our funding model.

For a more detailed breakdown of income and expenditure, please see the full annual report and accounts, available at [www.visionfoundation.org.uk/about-us/](http://www.visionfoundation.org.uk/about-us/)

# Why partner with us?

We drive change, we unite the sector, and we evolve as the sight loss community needs us to.

The Vision Foundation has close to one hundred years of experience in grant funding and has raised and distributed in excess of £30 million. This track record, combined with our expertise in investing in the most effective sight loss projects in the capital, means we are the perfect partner for individuals and organisations wanting to drive social change at the heart of some of London’s most disadvantaged communities.

Our expertise and insight, coupled with the lived experience of sight loss at all levels of our organisation, ensures our work changes lives and saves sight. We work collaboratively across the sight loss sector, with policy makers and community leaders to ensure our grant giving delivers more than just financial aid. We drive change, we unite the sector and we evolve as the sight loss community needs us to.

To talk to our Director of Development, Tamsin Baxter, about how we can work together please contact her at tbaxter@visionfoundation.org.uk or alternatively contact a member of the team at [fundraising@visionfoundation.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@visionfoundation.org.uk)

# Awards and Achievements

* DSC Social Change Awards: WINNER Great Giving Award
* National Fundraising Awards 2020: FINALIST Best Supporter Experience Team Vision does London Marathon
* Charity times Awards 2020: WINNER Rising Leader Olivia Curno
* Charity times Awards 2020: FINALIST Change Project of the Year
* Third Sector Awards: FINALIST Breakthrough of the Year #BlindLockdownLife campaign
* Third Sector Awards: FINALIST Rising Chief Executive Olivia Curno

# London’s sight loss charity

Sight is the sense people fear losing the most. Yet 1 in 12 people living in London are at risk of losing their sight – and this figure is set to increase.

For those already living with sight loss, London is not accessible. Blind and partially sighted people face isolation, poverty, discrimination and exclusion.

It doesn’t have to be this way.

We promote positive eye-health to ensure losing your sight is something you never have to face. And we support and connect London’s best projects for blind and partially sighted people so everyone living with sight loss is fully included in our society.

Help us to improve the lives of people with sight loss, now and for the future.

## Connect with us

Call us: 020 7620 2066

Email us: hello@visionfoundation.org.uk

Website: [www.visionfoundation.org.uk](http://www.visionfoundation.org.uk)

Twitter: [Vision\_Fdn](https://twitter.com/Vision_Fdn)

Facebook: [VisionFdn](https://www.facebook.com/VisionFdn)

Instagram: [Vision\_Fdn](https://www.instagram.com/vision_fdn/)