Scotland - Registration Changes

The way sight loss is registered in Scotland is changing.

As of 1 April 2018, the Scottish Government introduced the new Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) Scotland form. This replaces the BP1 form.

However, the CVI form does not include children and young people under the age of 16 years.

Instead, arrangements for supporting them will follow the Visual Impairment Network for Children and Young People (VINCYP) Pathway (a clear pathway to access specialist assessments and support).

VINCYP aims to improve the care and outcomes for children and young people with visual impairment by better co-ordinating services across health, education, social work and voluntary organisations.

Once a child or young person is diagnosed as having a sight impairment then - with their parent’s/carer’s consent - the ophthalmologist or paediatrician will notify the VINCYP contact within their Health Board.

This person will then refer them on to the appropriate visual impairment professionals in health, education, habilitation, social work and voluntary organisations for the services and support required.

The ophthalmologist or paediatrician will also issue a letter confirming the diagnosis. This can be used when requesting possible entitlement to further support (such as disability benefits and travel assistance).

VINCYP:  http://www.vincyp.scot.nhs.uk/

RNIB Scotland - Children, Young People and Families (CYPF):  

RNIB Helpline: 0303 123 9999

Date published: 06/09/2018