


EYECAN.



ANNUAL REFLECTION REPORT 2024

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INTRODUCTION

This reflection report highlights our key goals, achievements, and lessons learned throughout 2024, providing a clear picture of our significant progress. It showcases our focus on innovation, quality operations, and growth, making sure that everything we do supports our long-term vision:

“To work together with our partners to deliver inclusive, high-quality services that enhance the lives of all islanders experiencing sight loss.”

By aligning with these goals, we demonstrate our commitment to being open and responsible, while also staying true to our strategic direction. This approach sets the stage for ongoing development and helps build trust with everyone involved.



Cycle Sessions

[Image shows two people sat on a tricycle outside Cycle Without Limits Building]



Luddite Press Workshop

[Image shows group of adults around a table discussing art and instructor of press equipment]



Boxing.je Sessions

[Image shows EYECAN member and Boxing instructor practicing boxing moves]

OUR VISION, MISSION & VALUES

This year, EYECAN has made great strides in improving our visibility and solidifying our role as an important charity. Our active participation in the Government of Jersey's Disability and Inclusion Advisory Board shows our commitment to supporting fair policies and practices for everyone on the island.

We've also worked closely with other charities through meetings with our leaders and groups focused on specific issues, helping us collaborate more effectively to meet the needs of the community. Our ongoing partnerships with opticians and businesses have been essential in providing support and raising awareness about living with visual challenges.

These efforts highlight our strong dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of the people we assist.



[Image shows EYECAN table with merchandise and service banners, at the Embrace our Difference event]

“We are one of three charities dedicated to supporting the Government of Jersey’s Disability and Inclusion team in developing island-wide practices that benefit islanders living with disabilities.”

In 2024, we encountered challenges in our efforts to better understand the needs of our community. Although data sharing and collaborative work with the Government of Jersey remain our top priorities, progress has not been as swift as we had hoped. Despite our investment in funding a liaison role specifically designed to facilitate this development, the expected advancements have yet to fully materialise. We remain committed to strengthening this position and will continue to strive for improved collaboration and data sharing to better serve islanders.

“We are proactively seeking to understand how we are perceived from the outside, listening to feedback, and being responsive. Additionally, we have played a leading role in fostering collaboration between the Crown Dependencies and Southwest charities that support individuals with sight loss.”

Our team has developed a set of core values that we strive to uphold in all our activities. These values stem from a reflection on our past experiences and a clear vision of our aspirations. They are consistently reflected in our work and interactions, helping us maintain a positive and inclusive environment.



[Image shows EYECAN staff smiling at a community event, with service banners in the background]

OUR PROPOSITION

Priority Pillar 1

We are committed to a program of continuous reflection and review of our activities. Input from members and clients, have been invaluable in helping us understand needs and preferences. As a result, we've expanded our services to reach individuals who may not typically engage with what we offer.

This year, we've introduced a variety of new activities, including a family day, swimming, cycling, cookery sessions, and pub lunches. We also had the pleasure of hosting visits from national charities and enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea at Government House.

Looking ahead, we have exciting plans for evening art and cookery lessons, as well as the development of specific peer support groups. Feedback has played a crucial role in shaping these initiatives, and we are committed to evolving our services based on the engagement and input received. To better serve our broader membership and clients who have not yet accessed our existing social activities, we may need to remove or amend certain activities. We greatly appreciate the understanding and ongoing support from our members and clients, in respect of this.

“We have connected with young families who can share experiences and feel confident reaching out, knowing that we are here to help and support.”



[Image shows child learning to cook in the EYECAN kitchen, stirring contents of a frying pan with adult supervision]

MEETING THE NEEDS OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Priority Pillar 2

This year, we've focused on truly understanding what our community needs. We've started gathering important statistical data from government resources, created sharing agreements, boosted our brand visibility, and sought collaboration with other sight loss charities across the UK.

We've also put together comprehensive training plans for our team and volunteers. Two of our dedicated staff members have even begun an accredited national study program in mobility and orientation. In addition, we've connected with the national charity “Visionary” to gain role-specific peer support and share best practices. These efforts are crucial for us as we aim to improve and expand our services effectively.



[Image shows EYECAN member with piece of art showing a moonlight scene]

“Our members achieved excellent results at the Eisteddfod.”

“One member was shortlisted for Inspirational Person of the Year at the Liberate Awards.”



[Image shows EYECAN member and staff, standing together at an awards evening]

WE COLLABORATE, EDUCATE AND FEEL PROUD OF WHAT WE DO

Priority Pillar 3

In 2024, we launched a busy schedule of events aimed at building and strengthening relationships with the Government's Education team and partner charities. We regularly collaborated with other sight loss charities and organised a comprehensive awareness program through youth groups, the Women's Institute, and important partners in various sectors, such as finance and retail. These efforts have been vital for expanding our reach and ensuring that our message and services are accessible to a broader audience.

“We have been recognised for our collaboration work with Andium Homes and nominated by Education for our enhanced level of work with young people”.



[Image shows EYECAN table, merchandise and service banners next to Andium Homes similar set up, at the Embrace our Difference event]

OUR GOVERNANCE, OUR PREMISES

Our foundation Priority Pillar

We have been seeking advice on the flexibility offered by the 1935 law that supports EYECAN, and we are currently reviewing our constitution to keep it relevant and inclusive. Over the past year, we have made changes to our staff structure and subcommittees. While we've updated some of our policies internally, we were lucky to receive complimentary support from Law at Work in honour of their twentieth anniversary. By the end of 2024, we aim to have a new staff handbook, revised operational policies, and a culture book that reflects our core values.

In addition, we've cultivated a culture focused on operational risk assessment, and under the leadership of our current management team, we have made notable progress in enhancing our storage and reporting obligations, both physically and digitally. This includes the development of a new client database, a new website host, and improvements to our centre with some external decoration.

“We have been creative and now use alternative accessible premises, with support from the private sector, to run our You and EYE coffee mornings”.



[Image shows EYECAN service banner and BDO service banner on display at BDO offices]

CONCLUSION



[Image shows EYECAN staff and committee members in a group photo at Westlea Centre]

As we reflect on a successful year for EYECAN, we are excited to share this update with everyone. Our achievements throughout 2024, are a result of the dedication of our volunteers, the trust and support from our clients, the guidance from our Management Committee, and the hard work of our staff. We sincerely thank every person who has contributed significantly to our progress over the last 12 months.

Looking forward, we remain committed to our vision and are eager about the opportunities that await us.



EMPOWERING ISLANDERS LIVING WITH SIGHT IMPAIRMENT.