



# Six Steps

## to library services for blind and partially sighted people

There are almost two million blind and partially sighted people in the UK who, like everyone else, need library and information services to support their daily life. Public libraries are a vital link for people and we need to make them as accessible as we can.

To help us to maintain a clear minimum standard for our services, Share the Vision, the Society of Chief Librarians and the Scottish Library and Information Council call on all public library services to take the following Six Steps.

**1**

Ensure that all blind and partially sighted customers are connected to the most appropriate service for their reading needs using the Six Steps and that they are able to make full use of an accessible public library service

**2**

Use Reading Sight ([www.readingsight.org.uk](http://www.readingsight.org.uk)), the free website supporting blind and partially sighted people to access reading and reading services

**3**

Provide local collections of accessible reading materials and information in physical or digital formats, and be able to signpost customers to a wider range of resources

**4**

Plan your digital and physical access strategies in consultation with blind and partially sighted people

**5**

Designate a champion for the reading needs of blind and partially sighted people, who has familiarised themselves with the specialist resources and services available

**6**

Support and promote Make a Noise in Libraries fortnight ([www.rnib.org.uk/manil](http://www.rnib.org.uk/manil)) run annually by the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)

These actions will cost little, but will make a significant impact on the service you offer to blind or partially sighted people in your libraries.

Please make sure everyone knows about the “Six Steps” and please visit one of our web pages for more details and to make sure you are signed up to the Promise.

[www.goscl.com](http://www.goscl.com) • [www.readingsight.org.uk](http://www.readingsight.org.uk) • [www.scottishlibraries.org](http://www.scottishlibraries.org)

