



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

# Restoring Vision. Strengthening Systems. Changing Lives.

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Scotland | Pakistan | Scottish Charity No. SC051191

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## A Year of Transformation

The year ended 31 August 2025 was the most significant in Sight Relief's four-year history, not because of the numbers, but because of what they represent: a shift from outreach to lasting system change.

*"We began as a team who drove into the mountains with spectacles and a mission. This year we embedded eye care into government health facilities, trained 200 local health workers, and partnered with Dr Andrew Blaikie from University of St Andrews. The mountains haven't changed, but what happens inside those valleys has."*

Our Winter Rendezvous fundraising event raised over £13,000 in a single month, a reflection of the extraordinary generosity of the Scottish community whose support makes everything possible. We received our first institutional grant from the Ulverscroft Foundation. We delivered our third consecutive surgical eye camp in the remote valleys of the Hindu Kush Mountain range of Pakistan. And we launched the Haripur Primary Eye Care Integration Pilot, a WHO-aligned model that we believe can become the blueprint for district-level eye care across Pakistan.

None of this happens without our donors, volunteers, and partners. Thank you for believing in this mission.

**Isma Tahir Khan, Saddaqt Khan & Ali Askar Khan — Trustees, Sight Relief**

## Who We Are

**A charity built on a simple belief: nobody should be blind from a curable condition.**

Sight Relief is a Scottish charity providing sight-saving eye care to underprivileged communities, with a focus in developing countries. We are registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) as charity SC051191.

We were founded by a Scottish-Pakistani optometrist and professionals who witnessed first-hand the devastating impact of preventable blindness in remote communities and chose to do something about it.

26 million people in Pakistan are either blind or have impaired vision. Approximately 3 million of those are children. The vast majority of cases are curable or preventable.



We carry out eye screening camps in rural areas, dispensing spectacles, facilitating cataract surgery, and building the sustainable local capacity needed for long-term change.



# What Drives Us

*"To provide sight saving eye care to the under-privileged, by building capacity to allow them to self-sustain and provide ongoing eyecare to their people, with a focus in developing countries."*

## Our Three Core Values

 <p><b>Dedication</b></p> <p>We are driven by a genuine commitment to our mission to help eliminate curable and preventable blindness. This commitment goes beyond eye camps — it is about transforming health systems for generations.</p>	 <p><b>Quality</b></p> <p>We continuously pursue the highest standards in our eye camps with professionalism and honesty. Every patient receives clinical-grade assessment regardless of ability to pay.</p>	 <p><b>Transparency</b></p> <p>We strive to provide complete financial transparency on the social and humanitarian benefits to our donors and supporters. Every pound raised is accountable.</p>
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## Sustainable Development Goals — Our Alignment

Sight Relief is dedicated to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular focus on two goals that sit at the heart of our work:

<p><b>SDG 3</b></p> <p><b>Good Health &amp; Well-being</b></p> <p>We advance universal eye health by providing free clinical care, training frontline health workers, and integrating eye care into government primary health systems. Our pilot in Haripur directly supports SDG Target 3.8: achieving universal health coverage, including financial risk protection and access to quality essential health services for all.</p>	<p><b>SDG 11</b></p> <p><b>Sustainable Cities &amp; Communities</b></p> <p>We build lasting infrastructure for eye care in underserved communities — from training Lady Health Workers to establishing permanent referral pathways — ensuring that communities have self-sustaining access to care. We support SDG Target 11.1: by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable services. We build resilient communities through health system strengthening.</p>
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Beyond these two primary SDGs, our work contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty — by restoring the sight of working-age adults and enabling economic participation), SDG 4 (Quality Education — by correcting vision in children who would otherwise struggle to learn), SDG 5 (Gender Equality — through our focus on reaching women and girls, who make up approximately 68% of attendees at some facilities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals — through our academic and government partnerships).

# The Four-Phase Model

Sight Relief follows a structured four-phase approach designed to move communities from emergency outreach to permanent, self-sustaining eye care infrastructure. In 2024–25, we were operating across all four phases simultaneously.

<b>1</b> Phase	<b>Eye Screening Camps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision assessments using Snellen charts, ophthalmoscopy, and refraction</li> <li>• Distribution of corrective glasses, ready readers, and pharmaceutical eye drops</li> <li>• Identification and referral of cataract patients for sight-restoring surgery</li> <li>• Community education and eye health awareness raising</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> Phase	<b>Local Capacity Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of local volunteers and community health workers</li> <li>• Training in eye screening, patient registration, and traffic management</li> <li>• Building coordinator networks for future camp logistics and communications</li> <li>• Lady Health Worker referral pathway development</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Phase	<b>Formal Training &amp; Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal training for Lady Health Workers and Medical Officers using Arclight devices</li> <li>• WHO-aligned standardised referral protocols embedded in existing government systems</li> <li>• Technology integration: Arclight ophthalmoscopes, vision testing kits, referral pads</li> <li>• Formal partnerships with District Health Offices and academic institutions</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> Phase	<b>Permanent Eye Care Facility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community needs assessment and facility site selection with local government</li> <li>• Rural outreach clinics with vision screening, spectacles, and telemedicine</li> <li>• Local workforce development and long-term training of healthcare professionals</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation, and data collection for academic publication</li> </ul>

In 2024–25, Sight Relief was delivering Phase 1 eye camps across Pakistan, conducting Phase 2 and 3 capacity building through the Haripur pilot with the District Health Office, and advancing Phase 4 planning through partnership with the district health officer for a permanent surgical facility within the current health system.

# 2024–25 at a Glance



### Eye Camps Delivered

Multiple eye camps in Haripur district and remote mountain regions during the year, reaching communities with no access to affordable eye care. Every patient seen, every pair of glasses dispensed — entirely free of charge.



### Haripur Pilot Launched

The primary eye care integration pilot launched in April 2025, covering 7 government facilities in Phase 1. Over 2,000 patients screened in the first two months and 1,000+ spectacles dispensed.



### 200+ Workers Trained

Lady Health Workers, Medical Officers, and optometrists trained in WHO-aligned Arclight-supported primary eye care across Haripur district, building skills that remain in communities permanently.

## Our Impact at a Glance *Cumulative Reach and Impact*

**20,000+**

Patients Screened

**500+**

Cataract Surgeries

**15,000+**

Spectacles Dispensed

**200+**

Health Workers Trained

**7+**

Gov. Facilities Reached

## What We Did in 2024–25

### Eye Camps — Rehana & Ghazi (May 2025)

#### A child receives their first pair of glasses

Eye camps were conducted in Rehana and Ghazi in May 2025. Full clinical teams delivered comprehensive vision testing, free spectacles, and medical treatment to hundreds of patients in Haripur district.

19 cataract surgeries were funded at the Rehana camp, and a further 20 at the Ghazi site all performed at partner surgical facilities in Haripur district.

Patients were pre-identified through community outreach by Lady Health Workers, ensuring that elderly women, children, and the most marginalised patients were prioritised.



### Dr Andrew Blaikie & Arclight Training (April 2025)



In April 2025, Dr Andrew Blaikie — one of the world's leading experts in global eye health and the co-creator of the Arclight ophthalmoscope — travelled to Pakistan to visit our team.

He trained our optometrists and Medical Officers in person, advised on the clinical design of the pilot, and met with government health officials. His visit gave our work international academic credibility.

This partnership with the University of St Andrews is not just about training. It opens the door to peer-reviewed publication of our findings — meaning the Haripur model could be adopted across Pakistan and beyond.

"To see what the Sight Relief team has built in such a short time is remarkable. The model is sound, the partnerships are real, and the impact is measurable." — Dr Andrew Blaikie (University of St Andrews) during his visit to Pakistan.

## Haripur Primary Eye Care Integration Pilot



*Arlight-supported eye examination at a government facility, Haripur district. © Sight Relief 2025*

### Training session for Medical Officers and Lady Health Workers, Haripur

The most significant development of 2024–25 was the launch of the Haripur Primary Eye Care Integration Pilot, in formal partnership with the District Health Office (DHO) Haripur and the University of St Andrews.

The WHO-aligned model trains Lady Health Workers to identify and refer patients; Medical Officers to conduct Arlight-supported eye assessments; and Sight Relief optometrists to attend each facility regularly for clinical management and cataract identification.

Phase 1 covered 7 government facilities; Phase 2 expanded to 7 further sites. In the first two months alone, over 2,000 patients were screened and 1,000+ spectacles dispensed.





### 7 Phase 1 Facilities

TDH Sarai Niamat Khan, TDH Ghazi, RHC KTS, BHU Mung, TDH Khanpur, RHC Khangra, and BHU Amazai — all fully operational within the first two months of launch.



### 68% Female Attendance

At BHU Amazai, approximately 68% of attendees were women — demonstrating that the LHW community referral model is successfully reaching the most marginalised group.



### Surgical Pathway Established

100 cataract patients identified and entered into the surgical referral pathway to the partner hub at RHC KTS within the first two months of the pilot.



*Cataract surgery at Booni Upper Chitral Rural Health Unit. Each surgery takes approximately 20minutes and is life changing for the patient. © Sight Relief 2025.*

## Remote Mountain Eye Camp (June–July 2025)



*The Hindu Kush mountain range — the landscape Sight Relief crosses to reach communities with no access to eye care.  
© Sight Relief 2025*

Our third consecutive surgical eye camp took place in late June and early July 2025. A clinical team of over twelve people, including optometrists, dispensing opticians, a visiting surgeon, and support staff, was deployed to isolated mountain villages accessible only by jeep on unpaved mountain tracks.

For one week, the team became the only eye care available to communities of tens of thousands. Over 2500 patients were screened, 1200 spectacles dispensed and 68 cataract surgeries performed in a rural health facility. Everything was provided entirely free of charge: cataract surgeries, spectacles, eye drops, and comprehensive clinical assessments. Accommodation, transport, pharmaceuticals, and clinical consumables were all funded from donations raised in Scotland.

## Fundraising & Community Engagement

The 2024–25 year saw some of the most generous moments in Sight Relief's history. Here is a snapshot of what our community gave:

**£13,000+**

Fundraiser

Our Winter Rendezvous event — auction, pledges, ticket sales, and donations — raised over £13,000 in a single month. Our highest ever. The Scottish community showed up in the most extraordinary way.

**£3,000**

Ulverscroft Grant

In August 2025 we received our first institutional grant — from the Ulverscroft Foundation. A huge milestone. It means the wider charitable world is recognising what you have known all along.

**£500**

Rotary Club Donation

The Rotary Club of St Andrews donated £500 in February 2025 — a sign of our growing connections with Scottish civic institutions.

Throughout the year, regular income was received via payroll giving (Toucan Giving / Charities Trust), individual standing orders, and generous one-off donations from individuals across Scotland and beyond.

## Who We Serve

Sight Relief prioritises the people who face the greatest barriers to eye care — those for whom geography, poverty, gender, and age have placed care completely out of reach.



### Women & Girls

In communities where cultural norms restrict female mobility, our Lady Health Worker referral model ensures women can access care they would never otherwise reach. 68% female attendance at some facilities proves this is working.



### Children

Uncorrected vision impairment devastates a child's capacity to learn. A child receiving their first pair of glasses is among the most powerful — and affordable — interventions we can make.



### Elderly Individuals

Cataract is the world's leading cause of blindness and disproportionately affects older adults. A 20-minute surgery can restore sight lost for years, giving people back their independence and ability to work.

26 million people in Pakistan are either blind or have impaired vision. Approximately 3 million of those are children. Our beneficiaries live in some of the most remote communities on earth — in mountain valleys accessible only by jeep, hours from the nearest town. Most have never seen an optometrist. Many have lived with correctable vision impairment for years.

## Who We Work With

No charity achieves lasting impact alone. Sight Relief's partnerships span government, academia, civic organisations, and the voluntary sector.

<p><b>District Health Office (DHO) Haripur</b></p> <p>Formal government partnership for the primary eye care integration pilot. DHO provides facility access, LHW coordination, and institutional endorsement — the critical element that makes the pilot sustainable.</p>	<p><b>University of St Andrews — Arclight Project</b></p> <p>Academic and clinical collaboration with Dr Andrew Blaikie. Includes Arclight device procurement, field training, clinical supervision, and pathway to peer-reviewed publication of pilot findings.</p>
<p><b>Ulverscroft Foundation</b></p> <p>Institutional grant funder. First grant of £3,000 received August 2025, marking Sight Relief's entry into the institutional funding landscape.</p>	<p><b>Toucan Giving / Charities Trust</b></p> <p>Payroll giving and institutional fundraising platform through which regular donor income is received. Key channel for Scottish employer payroll giving schemes.</p>
<p><b>Sehberg Trust</b></p> <p>Community collaboration for women and children's eye care</p>	<p><b>Rotary Club St Andrews</b></p> <p>UK civic fundraising. Rotary Club St Andrews donated £500 in February 2025.</p>

# 09 — Governance & Structure

How Sight Relief is governed

## Governing Document

Sight Relief operates as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered with OSCR as charity SC051191 on 11 August 2021. The charity is governed by its constitution (deed of trust). No changes were made to the governing document during the year ended 31 August 2025.

## Board of Trustees

<p><b>Isma Tahir Khan — Lead Trustee &amp; Clinical Director</b></p> <p>Qualified independent prescribing optometrist registered with the College of Optometrists. Responsible for clinical programme delivery, Pakistan team coordination, and day-to-day administration. Serves voluntarily.</p>	<p><b>Ali Askar Khan — Operations &amp; Community Trustee</b></p> <p>Deep knowledge of target communities in rural Pakistan. Responsible for logistics, local government partnerships, and fundraising support. Serves voluntarily.</p>
<p><b>Saddaqt Khan — Finance &amp; Management Trustee</b></p> <p>Experienced financial and management consultant. Responsible for financial governance, accounting oversight, and institutional relationships. Serves voluntarily.</p>	<p><b>Meeting Structure</b></p> <p>Full board meets monthly with formal minutes recorded. Sub-committee meets weekly on operational matters. All significant expenditure requires full board approval. No trustee receives remuneration.</p>

## OSCR Compliance — New 2025 Requirements

All trustees confirmed they are not subject to automatic disqualification under the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 (in force 31 August 2025). Trustee personal information submitted to OSCR Online in accordance with requirements effective 30 June 2025.

## Financial Controls & Overseas Transfers

All funds are held in the charity's Bank of Scotland account. All overseas transfers are made exclusively through regulated banking. A documented money trail log is maintained for every transfer. Financial records are reviewed monthly by the board and annually by the independent examiner. No informal mechanisms are used at any stage.

# 10 — Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Independently examined by Omar Nabi FCCA, Ahmad & Nabi McMullan Accountants, Glasgow.

	2024–25 £	2023–24 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Donations and fundraising	28,865	34,618
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>28,865</b>	<b>34,618</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Eye care programme delivery — Pakistan	19,455	8,507
Arclight devices & clinical training	2,806	—
Logistics and operational costs	1,545	—
Website, IT & communications	580	150
Fundraising and events costs	198	3
Donor management platform	119	—
Equipment, memberships & miscellaneous	375	1,389
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>25,078</b>	<b>10,049</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>3,787</b>	<b>24,569</b>
Funds brought forward at start of year	38,985	14,416
<b>FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD — CASH AT BANK</b>	<b>42,748</b>	<b>38,985</b>

*Notes: Eye care programme delivery covers all Pakistan expenditure — cataract surgeries, pharmaceuticals, spectacles, staff costs, camp logistics, pilot coordination, and training materials. All funds transferred via regulated banking. Closing balance £42,748 verified against Bank of Scotland statement 31 August 2025.*

## Statement of Balances as at 31 August 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank and cash — opening balance (per bank statement)	38,985	14,416
Surplus for the year	3,787	24,569
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>42,748</b>	<b>38,985</b>
Represented by: Cash at Bank of Scotland (verified)	42,748	38,985




### Accounting Policies

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

- Incoming resources are recognised when received into the Bank of Scotland charity account.
- Resources expended are recognised when paid from the charity account.
- The charity maintains a single unrestricted fund. No restricted funds existed during the year.
- Amounts transferred to Pakistan in PKR are recorded at the GBP amount leaving the charity bank account. Where payments were made in PKR from a Pakistan account pre-funded by the charity, the GBP equivalent at the transfer rate recorded in the money trail log is used.
- The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

# Looking Ahead to 2025–26

Building on the strongest year in our history, we enter 2025–26 with ambitious plans that reflect our growing capacity, deepening partnerships, and confidence in the model we have developed.

 <p><b>Mountain Eye Camp 2026</b></p> <p>Our fourth consecutive camp in remote Pakistan (June 2026), targeting 1,500–2,000 patients, 100–150 cataract surgeries, and 1,000–1,500 spectacles. Locations: Kosht, Terich, and Torkhow valleys.</p>	 <p><b>Haripur Pilot Scale-Up</b></p> <p>Expanding the primary eye care pilot to additional 7 facilities, deepening Medical Officer integration, and progressing towards district-wide coverage. Research into an Academic publication.</p>	 <p><b>Permanent Operating Theatre</b></p> <p>Establishing a dedicated cataract operating theatre within the government health system, in partnership with the District Health Office making surgery permanently available locally.</p>
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- Develop a District Mobile Vision Access Programme for continuous screening between annual camp cycles.
- Expand the UK volunteer programme to enable Scottish clinical professionals to participate in eye camps.
- Seek further institutional funding from foundations and grant-making bodies to scale the Haripur model to other districts.
- Continue SIDA membership and engagement with the Scottish international development sector.
- Publish academic findings from the Haripur pilot in collaboration with a UK academic institute.

## Independent Examiner's Report — To the Trustees of Sight Relief

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

**Respective Responsibilities:** The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) does not apply.

**Basis of Statement:** My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, including review of accounting records and comparison of accounts with those records.

**Examiner's Statement:** In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that accounting records have not been kept in accordance with the 2005 Act, or to which attention should be drawn to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Omar Nabi FCCA**

Ahmad & Nabi McMullan Accountants, Glasgow

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2026

## Independent Examiner's Report — To the Trustees of Sight Relief

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

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**Omar Nabi FCCA**

Ahmad & Nabi McMullan Accountants, Glasgow

Date: 06/05/2026



**Sight Relief (SCIO) | Scottish Charity No. SC051191**

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*Trustees: Isma Tahir Khan | Saddaqaat Khan | Ali Askar Khan*

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