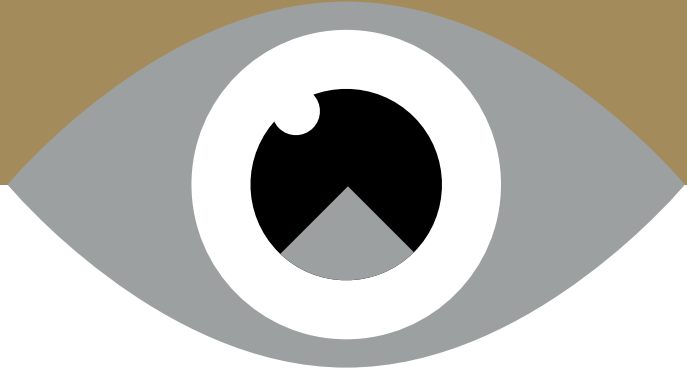


# A workforce vision for the UK

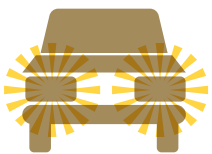
## TWO YEARS ON

Our Workforce Vision aims to ensure that optometrists remain at the forefront of eye care provision, and continue to be valued and recognised as key healthcare professionals.

#AdvancingOptometry



### Key achievements over the last year



A government-commissioned research study into headlight glare, launched as a result of our campaign in partnership with the RAC

220m

220 million media opportunities achieved, making us the leading and trusted voice for optometry



The House of Lords Integration of Primary and Community Care Committee has recognised optometrists as essential in identifying and treating conditions in primary care settings



Our manifesto to end the eye care crisis in England which calls for optometrists to be the first port of call for anyone with an eye care issue

### Developing resources to upskill the workforce

Established the  
**1st**  
optometric  
education affix

**5400+**  
higher qualifications  
awarded to further  
expand optometrists'  
careers in 2024

**400**  
completions  
of the new supervisor  
training courses

**49**  
GOC CPD  
points  
available



9 online research learning modules, in partnership with Ulster University, and funded via the National Institute for Health and Care Research



### Influencing policy in the devolved nations

- Promoted the role of primary care optometrists to provide safe care for cataract patients, and reduce hospital backlog in Scotland.
- Attended the Welsh Optometric Committee, which advises the Welsh government on all aspects of optometry, as a formal observing member.
- Highlighted that eye care services are no longer readily accessible to people on Universal Credit in Northern Ireland.



### UK Eye Care Data Hub

We collaborated to create an interactive dashboard that forecasts future local eye care needs. It will support evidence-based workforce planning and commissioning in each of the four UK nations, as well as demonstrate to eye-care professionals where their skillset will be most highly valued.