Video transcript - RNIB Cymru Manifesto

[Tafsila is talking to camera in close-up.]

Tafsila: Every day, blind and partially people encounter barriers.

[The screen splits in two. Tafsila keeps talking to us in the lefthand screen, but there is different footage on the righthand side.

Initially, it is video of streets and pavements with markings.]

Tafsila: The world around us wasn’t built with us in mind.

[The screen goes back to one view. Tafsila is walking down the street using a white cane, with her son by her side. They go inside her house.]

Tafsila: I’m Tafsila Khan and I live here in Cardiff with my three children and husband.

[Tafsila is talking to camera, sitting on a sofa with her two daughters.]

Tafsila: It’s kind of just kind of “who mum is” really. I’ve got a visual impairment but that doesn’t really stop me from doing what I can.

[Tafsila is in close-up, talking to camera.]

Tafsila: My condition affects the back of the eye, the retina. I also have Nystagmus which is the involuntary movement of the eyes.

[The screen splits in two. Tafsila keeps talking to us in the lefthand screen, but we see footage, from behind, of her, unaccompanied, walking down the street using a white cane, on the righthand side of the screen.]

Tafsila: And I also now have cataracts.

[As the footage of her walking continues on the right, there is a very blurred image of the street ahead on the left. This represents Tafsila’s view as she walks.]

Tafsila: I’ve had to adapt quite a few times as my sight has changed over the years and I now use a long white cane to help me keep my independence and my confidence.

[The screen goes back to one view and footage of Tafsila walking alongside Cardiff Castle wall, using a white cane, with the road on her right. She approaches ramps and new street furniture on the pavement.]

Tafsila: I like coming into the city. Before lockdown I would come in on my own, now there’s ramps and things that have been put in that are kind of hard to see or know that they’re coming when you approach them.

[We see a very blurred image of the street ahead in the centre of the screen, representing what Tafsila can see. This includes unclear images of obstacles, such as bikes, in her path.]

[Tafsila is talking to camera.]

Tafsila: There’s also signs around that obviously I can’t access and I’m not really sure where I’m allowed to go and where I’m not allowed to go.

Being such an independent person before all of this, it’s really knocked my confidence in getting about on my own.

[The screen splits into two. There is footage of the city centre on the left and footage of Tafsila and her son entering their house.]

Tafsila: If things keep changing in this way and not consulting people like the visually impaired community, it’s just going to stop people going out, knock their confidence and affect their mental health.

[The screen goes back to one view. Tafsila talks directly to camera in close-up.]

Tafsila: It’s crucial that public spaces are designed with disabled people in mind. We need to create a Wales that breaks down barriers for blind and partially sighted people.

Let’s create a new normal that works for everyone.

Transcript ends.