

Covid-19 Response Grants 2020

Meadowbank Car 4U

Who are Meadowbank Car 4U?

Meadowbank Car 4U provide free transport for people with cancer. The organisation comprises of local men and women who volunteer and work together to fundraise, co-ordinate journeys and drive people with cancer to and from hospital appointments.

Anyone who is registered with any of the medical practices located within Meadowbank Health Centre in Polmont is eligible to use this free service.



How was the grant used?

- The grant enabled the free transport service to recommence by supporting the organisation to source Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) of a satisfactory standard and quality. It also enabled the purchase of 'bubble screens' which provide a protective barrier in the volunteers' cars protecting both driver and patient on their journeys.

What had to change due to Covid-19?

- The service was suspended in early March due to Covid-19 to ensure the safety of both patients and volunteer drivers. Once the announcement that cancer treatment was to recommence, requests for transport were being received. The organisation was eager to restart the patient service, but to do so they were required to have the correct PPE and safety procedures in place.



Cancer patient?
**Need help
getting to
hospital?**



What difference has the grant made?

- Ten volunteer cars are now fully equipped with PPE and bubble screens.
- The service re-commenced from August 2020.
- Patients can now plan their day much more efficiently knowing they can have a door to door service. This alleviates and reduces the stress levels of people going to hospital for such vital treatment.
- The purchase of PPE and the fitting of bubble screens in volunteer cars has certainly been a great investment. Having this equipment has also given volunteer drivers and patients the confidence to travel safely again.
- Twenty patients have used the service allowing transport to 92 appointments.

Appointment venues included:

Beatson - Lanarkshire and Glasgow, Queen Elizabeth Glasgow, Golden Jubilee, St John's Livingston, Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Kings Park, New Edinburgh Royal.

All from a representative from Meadowbank Car 4U

'Our volunteers' are able to do what they enjoy, helping people, safe in the knowledge that we have put in place a rigorous risk assessment process, quality PPE and bubble screens.

Many of our drivers are retired and enjoy the interaction with the patients and getting out of the house.'

'Community groups in our area are very supportive of our charity, we have received donations from many of them who have perhaps had a member use our service.'

'It takes away the stress of getting to hospital at what is already a very stressful situation.'

