

A number of car schemes are available for Greensands Medical Practice patients who would otherwise be unable to get to medical appointments or visit patients in hospitals. This leaflet gives basic details of volunteer and community organised schemes. It also gives information about the Free NHS transport service available to eligible patients and how you could reclaim transport costs incurred for essential visits to hospital.

1. Volunteer car schemes and Community transport schemes

Volunteer car schemes provide a door-to-door lift for those who would otherwise be unable to get to medical appointments (at surgeries, hospitals, dentists etc.) and visit friends and relatives in hospital. Journeys are provided by voluntary drivers and are booked through a coordinator. Most cars can accommodate foldable wheelchairs but please note that drivers can't act as carers. Please check wheelchair space at the time of booking.

Community transport schemes are usually a bit more expensive but tend to have greater availability of drivers (e.g. 80 in the Royston scheme). All the schemes are run slightly differently; this is detailed in the cost section. Please note the times that transport is available for each scheme.

You are advised to book as far ahead as possible for all schemes - preferably at least 48 hours.

Bookings for some schemes can only be made during the week but all have answerphones. If your local scheme cannot help at the time, a neighbouring scheme may be able to help you. You may have to pay the cost of the additional distance a vehicle would have to come to reach you.

| Volunteer Car Scheme | Phone number and email | Villages served | Cost |
|--|--|--|--|
| Dunton Good Neighbour Scheme | 07926 021 155 Messages checked between 5 and 6pm Monday - Friday. Will call you back within 24 hours to make arrangements. | Dunton Eyeworth | £3.00 return to doctor's Practice. Fixed prices to hospitals e.g. Lister or Bedford Hospital £10.00, Addenbrooke's Hospital £12.00. |
| Gamlingay & Hatleys Car Scheme | 07519 493 701 | Gamlingay Croydon East Hatley Hatley St George Little Gransden Great Gransden Waresley et al. | Minimum £1.00. Cost based on 25p per mile travelled by the driver. Fixed prices to hospitals etc., e.g. Addenbrooke's Hospital £10.00. |
| Goodwill Fund | 01767 631548 | Wrestlingworth Eyeworth Cockayne Hatley Tadlow | Parking fees only. Drivers are reimbursed from the Goodwill Fund. |
| Potton Vineyard Church Good Neighbour Scheme | 01767 261764 Line manned 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday. | Potton, primarily | None. All costs are met by Potton Vineyard Church. |
| Royston & District Community Transport (RDCT) | 01763 245228 Line manned 9am - 3pm Monday - Friday. info@roytrans.co.uk Book at least two working days ahead if possible. Transport available at all times. | All villages served by Greensands Medical Practice | Minimum £4.50. 50p per mile travelled by driver. 90p per mile for wheelchair accessible vehicle. |

| Community Transport Scheme | Phone number, email and transport times | Villages served | Cost |
|---|--|---|---|
| Link-a-Ride | 01525 840522 Line manned 9am -12 noon Monday - Friday. linkaride@gmail.com enquiries: 01525 840511 Book at least one week ahead. Transport available: 8.30am - 5pm, limited service at weekends. | Potton Dunton Eyeworth Wrestlingworth (and all other Central Bedfordshire villages) | £10.00 to join the scheme then £1.50 for each single journey. The scheme can be used for anything <i>other than</i> hospital appointments. Easy-access vehicles can accommodate wheelchairs. Drivers will assist you to to/from your door/destination. |
| Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) Service 28 | 01480 411114 Line manned 8am - 4pm Monday - Friday. Book by 1pm the day before travel. Transport available: 8.30am - 3pm Monday-Saturday; only 11am -12.30pm Thursday. | Abbotsley Arrington Croydon Gamlingay East Hatley Hatley St George Great Gransden Little Gransden Tetworth Waresley | Journeys are charged like a bus fare. Concessionary passes can be used. DRT will take you to Gamlingay surgery or other places in South Cambridgeshire and St Neots. Help is offered with wheelchairs but staff cannot stay with patient. |
| Ring-a-Car | 01480 411114 Line manned 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday. info@cotransport.org Book 1 - 2 weeks ahead. Transport available at all times. | Aimed at residents in Huntingdonshire but available to all Greensands Medical Practice area. | £15.00 per year to join then cost is based on mileage from Molesworth. All cars can take one wheelchair. Driver can wait one hour then charge is £1.00 per 15 minutes. |



**Transport Services
available to
Patients of
Greensands Medical Practice
(Volunteer, Community
and free NHS schemes)**

2. Free NHS Non-Emergency Patient Transport

The NHS will provide free non-emergency transport if you cannot get to and from our hospitals or health appointments to which you have been referred, subject to eligibility, depending on your medical needs, mobility and support needs. Transport is provided by the Private Ambulance Transport Service.
Phone **0208 045 4254** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) to check if you are eligible and, if so, to arrange transport. You need to book 2 weeks and 2 working days in advance and be ready to travel at least 2 hours before your appointment.

3. Help with any transport costs

You and your carer may be entitled to reclaim your costs for travel to appointments, including parking, on proof of eligibility and of the appointment to which you have been referred. This could be if you or your partner receives low income benefits. Your appointment must be on a separate visit to when the referral was made.
Phone **0300 330 1343** for the Low Income Scheme helpline and other queries.