



22 July 2020

### **Be: Noosa Connect – SCUH transport pilot**

*Be: Noosa Connect* is a partnership between our community, transport provider Be: (formerly Comlink) and Sandy Bolton MP to assist our frail and elderly residents in the Noosa electorate to access health and hospital services at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH).

The aim of the pilot is to identify those in our community, via our community referral agencies and SCUH, who have scheduled appointments however have no method, network or travel subsidies available to attend these appointments. Transport will then be provided via trained and qualified volunteers through *Be: Noosa Connect*.

The pilot will also serve the dual purpose of collating data to identify the current level of need to expand the service if required, what 'gaps' are being experienced, and why. Results of the trial will be presented to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, the CEO of Sunshine Coast Health and Hospital Services . As one of our valuable community organisations, we are asking for your help in two ways:

- 1) to refer any elderly or frail residents who have indicated to you they cannot access their health appointments due to lack of transport options. Simply provide them with our telephone number and we will take care of the rest: 5319 3100.
- 2) Does your organisation have any volunteers who would be eager to join our 'drivers pool' with, or without their car?

Our project partner, Be: (formerly Comlink) would require the following information from potential volunteer drivers:

- Volunteer full name (as per licence) and contact details (address, phone/mobile, and email)
- Drivers Licence class (C as a minimum and LR preferred) and Brief outline of suitability (i.e. previous driving experience or work with aged care)
- Proof of current Influenza vaccination (or willing to have influenza vaccination)

Be: will cover the cost of:

- Police check and Drivers Authorisation Application fee (if driving a Be: vehicle) or Restricted Drivers Authorisation (if driving own vehicle) – usually reimbursed after 3 months
- Drivers Authorisation medical (initial doctor's appointment only) – reimbursed after 3 months Blue Card (and Yellow Card application), and Reimbursement for influenza vaccination

Please email your volunteer driver details to our office at [noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au).

If your organisation is able to assist in any way to get this pilot started for those in need, please let us know via email, or by contacting our office on 5319 3100.

Warmest regards,

**Sandy Bolton MP**  
**Member for Noosa**

