

East Kilbride & District

DEMENTIA CARERS GROUP

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Finding Scotland's Real Heroes – Carer of the Year

To: All Carers & Service Users	From: Brian Doig
cc: Committee, Staff and Volunteers	
Date: 23 rd May 2022	Re: Daycare Review

The story so far:

20th March 2020: Centre closed due to lockdown. Staff on Furlough.

14th June 2021: Daycare resumed 3 days per week, M W F for 3 service users.

5th July 2021: Daycare increased to 5 days; Monday to Friday for 3 people.

19th July 2021: Daycare capacity increased to 4 service users, 5 days.

8th December 2021: Memory Café recommenced.

5th March 2022: Increased to 6 days: Monday to Saturday for 4 people.

At each stage we have worked within guidelines and restrictions from Government and followed advice from the Scottish Government, NHS Scotland (including Healthcare Improvement Scotland), Health & Social Care Partnership and the Care Inspectorate. We have adapted our service provision regularly to comply with advice and/or restrictions.

We have deliberately taken a cautious route back to protect carers, service users and their families; staff, volunteers and their families; and the future of our service.

18th April 2022: All Covid related restrictions in Scotland were lifted, but as new Covid cases in Scotland reached 5,000 per day, we elected to retain our cautious approach to keep people safe.

May 16th 2022: Following a consultation with staff and volunteers, the Group felt that with a number of safeguards in place, it was now appropriate to plan towards increasing our capacity to 6 service users, 6 days per week.

Our increase in capacity will be carried out on a gradual, phased basis to avoid too much disruption or lack of continuity for those already attending and to allow staff to get to know new service users, allowing us to provide a personal service. With a large waiting list for daycare, priority will be given to people currently receiving no support.

Our Covid Risk Assessment will be reviewed and updated ahead of any increase, and all safety measures required to maximise safety will be retained or implemented, in accordance with the new “Infection prevention and control standards for Health and adult social care settings” (Healthcare Improvement Scotland May 2022).

It is testament to our procedures and practices so far that despite a number of staff and service users having had Covid over the last two years, no one that we are aware of has contracted or passed it on at Daycare.

We welcome your thoughts and comments on this matter and are happy to listen to concerns or suggestions. Some of the continuing measures to maximise safety include (listed overleaf):

- Daycare Risk Assessment to be revised and updated.
- We will work in accordance with the standards outlined in “Infection prevention and control standards for Health and adult social care settings” (Healthcare Improvement Scotland May 2022).
- We will continue to work under the advisement of the Scottish Government, NHS Scotland (including Healthcare Improvement Scotland), the Health & Social Care Partnership and the Care Inspectorate.
- Daily cleaning of the centre and bus to a high standard, including the use of anti-bacterial wipes on all hard surfaces that people come in contact with such as light switches, handrails, switches, chair arms and communal activities.
- Staff to use PPE when providing personal care.
- Masks to be worn by staff when providing close proximity face to face support.
- Masks will be made freely available for anyone who wishes to wear one at any time.
- Staff to continue with LFD Testing twice weekly and record results.
- Anyone testing positive will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days or until two negative tests have been recorded 24 hours apart after a minimum of 5 days and the individual is symptom free and feeling well enough to return to daycare/work.
- Ventilation in centre and bus to be maintained via open windows.
- Regular washing of hands and use of hand sanitiser to be maintained and encouraged.
- Any Service User presenting with symptoms of Covid to refrain from attending daycare.
- Service User Temperature checks prior to boarding bus will continue.
- We suggest that Service Users wear clean clothing on each visit to maximise Hygiene and minimise risk of infection.
- Communal activities will be sanitised after use and participants will be asked to sanitise hands before and afterwards.
- We will continue to visit external premises as part of our commitment to keeping our service users active within the community, but we commit to choosing venues responsibly and in line with our own standards.
- The safety and wellbeing of all will remain our foremost priority.