

Seend & District Link Scheme – Summary for the Parish Council

The last year saw a significant bounce back in Link activity as health appointments and travel began to return towards pre covid levels. There has been a shift in the profile of the locations clients have requested with a shift away from the large district hospitals (-19% vs previous year) towards smaller and private hospitals (+100% vs previous year). The probable drivers of this change are the difficulty getting NHS appointments and more appointments being held virtually.

The value to our local community is immense and In the last year, our volunteer drivers travelled 3709 miles (+56% vs 2021) and gave up 324 hours of their time demonstrating the need locally for this critical community service.

In total we now have 11 drivers, 1 coordinator, treasurer and chair. We continue to attempt to recruit new drivers as we need the widest pool of people in order to be flexible to our clients' needs.

Overall, the scheme remains ready to continue to provide a hugely valuable service to our community and once again I sincerely thank the Parish Council for their support.

Garry Reason

Chair, Seend & District Link Scheme