

Newbury Cancer Care The Rosemary Centre West Berkshire Community Hospital Benham Hill RG18 3AS

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5th September 2023

Dear Newbury RFC Members, Supporters and Community Friends

We are very proud to be associated with Newbury RFC and are so grateful for all of your support over the past year. Such support is very important to a local charity like ourselves as it enables us to deliver a range of vital services to cancer sufferers, and their families, throughout West Berkshire.

Our most significant development work is focussed on increasing and enhancing the diagnostic and treatment services that operate out of the West Berkshire Community Hospital (WBCH). We are in the early stages of design and building work to reconfigure space in the Rosemary Centre which will increase the number of chemotherapy chairs from 4 to 8 and, at the same time, increasing the number of days on which they operate.

Demand for our core services of transport and the award of hardship grants continues to be strong, with the latter showing a very high year-on-year increase. We have been working with partner organisations to provide counselling and complimentary therapy sessions, and a few months ago we started a Monday morning coffee drop-in session for anyone to come along and share their experiences or just be part of a supportive group. We continue to support the end-of-life Rainbow Rooms facility at the WBCH with equipment and patient and family welcome packs for the annex rooms, which have kitchen facilities and a sofa bed.

We will be celebrating our 40th anniversary in 2024 and are planning to hold a seminar as part of our constitutional commitment to provide educational support to health professionals, and we are of course looking forward to your 2024 Pink Day in February.

I would like to repeat our plea for volunteer drivers to provide a flexible response to an increasingly complex, and ever changing, demand for transport to consultations and treatment at a variety of local and more distant hospitals.

Once again, on behalf of our past, present and future service users, our sincere thanks for all of your support and for providing opportunities to engage with other community spirited organisations.

Best Regards, Dave Ormrod, Chairperson

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