



WESSEX CANCER TRUST

Cross Solent Travel Arrangements for Cancer Patients

During Covid-19 Lockdown

There have again been changes for IOW NHS patients who need to cross the Solent for hospital treatment. Here are details of those changes and information which will assist the planning of journeys.

Ferries

The Red Jet will revert to a very limited service from Monday 16th Nov until further notice. Here's the revised timetable:

Monday to Friday

Departing Southampton: 05:35, 06:55, 08:15, 16:15, 17:35, 18:55, 20:15

Departing West Cowes: 06:15, 07:35, 08:55, 16:55, 18:15, 19:35, 20:55

Saturday & Sunday

Departing Southampton: 06:55, 08:15, 16:15, 17:35, 18:55

Departing West Cowes: 07:35, 08:55, 16:55, 18:15, 19:35

You may need to catch the car ferry instead.

If you need to catch the car ferry as an NHS patient whether you take your car over or travel as a foot passenger on Red Funnel the cost will be £10.60 regardless of the length of your stay.

You are advised to call the Red Funnel Travel Centre to make your bookings - 023 8001 9192

Hovertravel are operating as normal. Here's a link to the webpage and timetable:

<https://www.hovertravel.co.uk/timetables/>

Frequent travellers will know that when the hovercraft service is affected by adverse weather or by technical issues the default choice is to travel on the Wightlink Fast Cat. After Friday 13th Nov that service will be suspended.

In such circumstances Hovertravel have very kindly offered to transport passengers free of charge to Fishbourne where you can catch the car ferry. Your Hovertravel ticket will remain valid in such circumstances.

Parking

For those travelling as a foot passenger to Southampton. Red Funnel have offered the use of their car park at East Cowes free of charge. The way to arrange this parking is to email travelcentreadmin@redfunnel.co.uk and give the details of the request and an advisor will make the arrangements for you.

If you are using the Red Jet, then contact Wessex Cancer Trust on 01983 524186 and we might be able to find you a free car parking space in Cowes.

There are no such arrangements in Ryde for those needing to use the hovercraft.

Daisy Buses

The Wessex Cancer Trust Daisy Bus services remain operative in both Southampton and Portsmouth. Current advice is for all intending to utilise the service to **call the appropriate driver before travelling**. This is because less people are currently crossing the Solent for treatment and normal timetables are not in use. The Southampton Daisy Bus will meet and drop off at the Red Funnel Red Jet or at the car ferry and the Portsmouth Daisy Bus will continue to meet and drop off at the hovercraft.

If the hovercraft is not running the Portsmouth Daisy Bus will pick you up from the Wightlink terminal at Portsmouth Harbour.

Southampton – 0774 777 6874

Portsmouth – 0779 000 1072

Cross Solent Travel Scheme

The Cross Solent Travel Scheme is a discretionary, non-means tested measure providing financial support to NHS patients travelling to the mainland to receive specific treatments for chemotherapy, radiotherapy or renal dialysis.

It has been agreed that those needing to travel by car ferry will currently be eligible to claim via this scheme for a partial refund of ferry costs. Retain ferry tickets and submit completed forms to Oncology at St Mary's Hospital who will aid in their process.

Here's a claim form:



Cross Solent Travel
- Claim Sheet revise

Questions

Any questions can be addressed to the Isle of Wight Wessex Cancer Trust helpline on 01983 524186 which is in operation Mon – Fri 10am – 3pm. Outside of those hours email isleofwight@wessexcancer.org.uk and we will respond as soon as practicable.