

MEDIA RELEASE

12 September 2019

Confident drivers asked to volunteer

Volunteer drivers spent 958 hours on the road helping local seniors and people with disabilities get to and from their medical appointments last financial year and, with demand increasing, more city drivers are urgently needed.

Under Melton City Council's Volunteer Transport Program, licenced drivers are asked to commit as little as a few hours a month, or as much as five days per week if they choose, using Council vehicles.

City of Melton Mayor Cr Bob Turner praised the program's existing volunteers and encouraged more people to get involved.

"It's amazing to think that a small group of people committed this amount of time to do good deeds for people they'd often never met before," Cr Turner said.

"Even if you only have a few hours to spare, every little bit will help more residents get to appointments they otherwise might not be able to attend.

"It's such a valuable program to the clients who rely on it, and I'd really encourage calm and confident drivers to consider signing up and helping out."

The service transports eligible City of Melton clients to medical appointments at hospitals and clinics across various locations, and there is a particular need for drivers who are comfortable driving in and around Melbourne city where a number of the appointments take place.

All volunteers use a Council vehicle to provide the service and are also responsible for monitoring the health and wellbeing of the clients they are transporting.

To volunteer or find out more about the Volunteer Transport Program, please contact Gaisha Laida via gaishal@melton.vic.gov.au or 9747 7200. Volunteers need to be fully licenced and will need to undergo a police check.

ENDS

Melton City Council media enquiries (not for publication): Kylie Kitchen – Media and Communications Officer on (03) 9747 7132.