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# The Cogwheel Trust CIO

Registered charity 1157141

Counselling changes lives. Sometimes it saves lives.

## Message for supporters

### Covid 19 Emergency and Cogwheel Trust

These are incredibly challenging times for everyone both as individuals but equally for organisations and businesses. As you will have seen in the news, many charities are fighting for financial survival and regrettably Cogwheel is no exception. We need to be completely open about this.

There has been a successful transition to providing counselling sessions online, and the Trustees are extremely grateful for the support of everyone involved in this process. Currently we are pleased to deliver up to 60 sessions a week, but this is significantly less than the usual 120 sessions/week that the charity normally provides. This is resulting in a drop of around 50% in income from client contribution

We are facing a significant financial deficit each week, and even in normal times it is challenging for Cogwheel to break even. The charity does have a small amount of reserves for exceptional circumstances like this, but if no decisive action is taken now the charity will have run of cash by the early Autumn.

There is some good news: the management team have been working hard applying for funding and have had some success in recent days. However, much of this agreed funding is ringfenced for specific longer term use rather than the ongoing cost of running the service.

The Trustees have two challenges: to ensure that Cogwheel can survive this emergency, and for Cogwheel to emerge afterwards as a viable organisation to meet the mental health challenges of the post Covid 19 lockdown. Work on the latter is proceeding at pace and the website will be updated accordingly.

The Trustees would warmly welcome any donations of financial support which can be made directly through this website.

**Trustees Cogwheel Trust CIO 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

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Chair of Trustees: Jeremy Barnett, Head of Counselling: Esther McNeill