

New Venues For Blood Donation Sessions

Item 11

Across the UK we have approximately 1650 venues that we use to host Blood Donation sessions, in order that we can keep our blood stocks at a safe level.

To help us reduce our venue hire costs we are looking for low cost, or even free venues, to ensure our donation sessions cost effective. If you can offer any suggestions please get in touch. Not every venue is suitable, below are the main criteria that we consider to be essential.

The Venue size – Essential

We require a large open space to run a session safely and effectively. **Please provide us with details of the room shape and dimensions of the space you are suggesting so we can ascertain if the room is large enough to be used. (190m² is ideal)**

Ideally the area should be on the ground floor, or with lifts available if on an upper floor (A lift must be capable of holding at least 265kg). We need easy access to Male/Female/Accessible toilets also access to drinking water.

Location – Each site will be considered individually

The location should be well served by public transport, have ample parking for our donors, paid or free.

Unloading & Parking – Essential

We carry our equipment in a 7.5 tonne lorry, gateways must be at least 3.65m wide. The lorry is 3.35m high so please be aware of any height restrictions.

When unloading we must be able to park in an area that is safe for our staff. The lorry we must be off the public highway, ideally in an area free of pedestrians, and onto hard standing as our equipment is moved on 16 wheeled cages. We can consider unloading on the Public Highway, so long as parking restrictions permit this, but only on roads we consider to be safe.

We will need parking for our Lorry and a minibus and 1 additional car.

Availability - Each site will be considered individually

Our donation sessions last in the region of 9 hours from the team arriving on site to the team departing. Start/end times can vary slightly but between 11:15 – 21:00 Mon -Fri and 8:30-17:00 on weekends and bank holidays is a good indication of hours.

To match the donation patterns of donors ideally venues will be available on multiple days of the week, also on Bank Holidays. If you want to propose an educational establishment, then we ideally need this to be available to us during both term and holiday periods, as holiday only access does not generally match donation patterns.

We will be looking to establish regular sessions, usually at least 6 per year, possibly more depending on the locality, and for at least a minimum of 2 years of regular donation sessions.

If you can suggest a venue that meets this criteria, when do please get in contact with our Venue Development Team (Team Email: Venue.DevelopmentTeam@nhsbt.nhs.uk). The local Business Support Officer is Joanna Workman (joanna.workman@nhsbt.nhs.uk 07384809837). She works part-time with the Venue Development Team and part time with the Donation Team.