

Miscarriage charity saved as funding axe reversed

City service offers support to women who suffer heartbreak

EXCLUSIVE
By EWAN FERGUS

A LIFELINE miscarriage charity is celebrating after the Scottish Government agreed to reverse a decision to withdraw its funding.

But the Glasgow-based charity Scottish Care and Information on Miscarriage (SCIM) has warned it still faces a struggle to raise enough money to continue its work.

The reversal from the Scottish Government comes after the Evening Times revealed the charity faced closure when its grant was axed.

SCIM, which is based in High Street, is the only



■ Maureen Sharkey is grateful for the support given by Evening Times readers

organisation of its kind in Scotland and each year supports hundreds of women across the country who have suffered the heartbreak of miscarriage.

Charity chairman, Colin Patrick said: "I want to thank everyone who got involved in the campaign, you know the charity is doing something worthwhile when so many

people rally to our support."

Senior counsellor Maureen Sharkey said: "It was particularly good how people came forward offering their own experiences, many of our clients believe that they are unable to sustain their pregnancy and would not have had their children if it wasn't for the support from SCIM. It is humbling to

have such support. We would like to thank Evening Times readers for their support."

A Scottish Government spokeswoman said: "Based on an updated application, for a significantly lower amount of funding, the Scottish Government is pleased to be able to provide more than £7000 to support the Scottish Care and Informa-

tion on Miscarriage (SCIM) in their work.

"The loss of a child is an extremely traumatic experience and we believe it is absolutely crucial that families are given the support and information they need.

"This funding is part of our goal to ensure that families affected by bereavement get this much-needed help."

SCIM, who have been running for almost 20 years, said losing the grant could have meant the end of all the services they provide.

And the Government cash is only a fraction of the total needed to provide counselling support to women in Scotland and the charity say it is essential that a more secure method of funding is found.

For more information log on to <http://www.miscarriagesupport.org.uk>

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E-cigarettes deal signed by Rangers

RANGERS has become the latest club to sign a sponsorship deal with an electronic cigarettes firm.

Fans over the age of 18 will be able to buy and 'smoke' E-Lites on the stands of Ibrox stadium and selected hospitality areas.

It follows Celtic's announcement it has signed a deal to promote the brand at matches.

The deal was criticised by politicians and the charity Ash Scotland who said it was helping fuel addiction.

Chief Executive Craig Mather said: "We welcome E-Lites to our portfolio of platinum partners and sponsors.

"E-Lites is the biggest name in electronic cigarettes."

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