



## Community Engagement Case Study

Electric vehicle provision for Sunflower Care staff: 3 Glens Community Care, Fort Augustus & Glen Moriston Community Company, Glengarry Trust and Highland Hospice

As the Sunflower Home Care team cover a very wide geographical area, access to reliable vehicles is crucial, and a lack of transport can be a hinderance to recruitment. 3 Glens Community Care and Highland Hospice worked in partnership with Fort Augustus & Glen Moriston Community Company and Glengarry Trust to address this challenge. Following a successful application to SSE Renewables Sustainable Development Fund, funding was secured for three electric cars and two e-bikes, which are leased to Highland Hospice for the Sunflower Home Care team to use. The key benefits of this new resource include:

- reduced journey times for the Sunflower Home Care staff who would normally walk;
- Sunflower Home Care staff making use of the e-vehicles, reducing wear and tear on private vehicles and opening up opportunities for the recruitment of carers without cars;
- making the carer role more attractive to new and existing carers, which in turn leads to greater job retention and recruitment;
- reduction in carbon emissions; and
- cheaper running costs than petrol or diesel cars.

Having established this pool of e-vehicles, 3 Glens Community Care is now working with Highland Hospice to identify scope for one of the vehicles to be used to support their befriending service and a community transport scheme. This would further enhance the ability of 3 Glens to support community need in relation to social care and wider day to day living in a remote area, which is very poorly served by public transport.