



## Applications for grant funding - Community Transport

**Committee** Operations

**Date of meeting** 28 April 2023

**Date of report** 6 April 2023

### Report by Chief Executive

#### 1. Object of report

To request the Committee approve grant funding in support of projects provided by Community Transport operators across Strathclyde.

#### 2. Background

Community Transport operators deliver much needed transport to the local communities and voluntary groups, particularly the elderly, disabled and those on low income. These services are designed to promote and support the delivery of high quality, reliable and accessible transport to communities across the SPT area.

This report covers 18 Community Transport operators located across Strathclyde.

#### 3. Outline of proposals

Applications for funding have been made by Community Transport (CT) operators for the work streams detailed below.

Approval by the Partnership is sought for the following funding applications:

##### 3.1. Coalfield Community Transport (CCT)

Funding applications have been received from CCT in respect of support for their core transport activities, and a specific service, the Cumnock/Sorn Connector Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service.

In respect of CCT's core transport activity, funding of up to £50,000 is sought towards their 2023/2024 running costs (including driver costs, training costs, vehicle insurance, vehicle maintenance and fuel) to allow them to continue providing their services at an affordable cost. CCT provides accessible, affordable transport for socially or economically disadvantaged groups, voluntary groups and third sector organisations in East Ayrshire.

In respect of the Cumnock Connector & Sorn DRT service, funding of up to £32,291 is sought to allow the continuation of this service for the year 2023/2024.

Total amount sought: up to £82,291.

##### 3.2. Community Transport Glasgow (CTG)

Funding applications have been received from CTG in respect of support for their core transport activities and specific services including the CB2 registered local bus service, special needs club transport and children's playscheme transport. Club and playscheme transport delivered by CTG are arranged by SPT on behalf of Glasgow City Council (GCC).

In respect of CTG's core transport activity, funding of up to £120,000 is sought towards their 2023/2024 running costs (including driver costs, training costs, vehicle insurance, vehicle maintenance and fuel) to allow them to continue providing their services at an affordable cost. Such activities include providing training to volunteers, voluntary groups and staff in relation to driving; other transport solutions including group transport to third sector organisations - Healthy Journeys Volunteer Car Scheme, lunch clubs and exercise classes for older adults.

Funding of up to £60,974 is sought towards the 2023/2024 running costs of local bus service CB2. The CB2 community bus service operates in Drumchapel between Antonine Road, Drumchapel Shopping Centre and Peel Glen Road – filling a gap in the local bus network and providing a key interchange link to mainstream bus services. By way of background, SPT funded a new vehicle for the provision of this service in 2022.

CTG also seeks grant funding specifically for their East Dunbartonshire CT project, of up to £25,000 towards their 2023/2024 running costs (including driver & training costs, vehicle running costs, maintenance fuel). Such activities include providing training to volunteers, voluntary groups and staff in relation to transport solutions for this projects group transport, 'Shoppa Hoppa' and day trip activities.

In addition to the above, full funding for club and playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. From the club transport allocation, funding is sought by CTG for up to £217,000 to provide transport for up to 15 clubs in Glasgow including those with special needs, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. Up to £16,500 is sought by CTG from the Playscheme allocation to provide transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow during the key school holiday periods. These amounts are to support the running costs of these activities.

Total amount sought: up to £439,474.

### **3.3. Getting Better Together (GBT)**

A funding application for up to £40,000 has been received from GBT in respect of core funding support for the organisation's CT Activities. GBT provides accessible, affordable transport for socially or economically disadvantaged groups, voluntary groups and third sector organisations in North Lanarkshire. The funding will support vehicle maintenance, staff and training costs.

An additional application for £57,000 has been received from GBT to replace two high mileage wheelchair accessible vehicles. These are operated on the NHS/CT Hub project on which Getting Better Together CT is utilised for transporting patients, staff, medical equipment, samples and documentation pertaining to patients on behalf of NHS Lanarkshire covering all NHS acute sites in Lanarkshire and Glasgow. Funding is sought to replace the current 16-seater minibuses with two new more efficient wheelchair accessible people-carrier type vehicles. It should be noted that the daily mileages of these vehicles are beyond the range of electric vehicles, but two wheelchair accessible people carriers will replace the 16-seater minibuses currently used, thereby offering fuel efficiencies.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £97,000.

### **3.4. Larkhall District Volunteer Group (LDVG)**

A funding application for up to £53,000 has been received from LDVG. LDVG's CT service provides services to various community groups and an access to education service for the children of the travelling community. In addition, a volunteer car scheme for access to medical appointments was launched in 2019 and the organisation is seeking to continue a pilot scheme of a shopping bus service for a particular deprived area of Larkhall. The funding will be used to support the running costs of the transport service during 2023/2024.

An application for up to £6,500 has also been made in order to support group transport in the South Lanarkshire area that was previously provided by SPT's MyBus service.

Total amount sought: up to £59,500.

### **3.5. North Area Transport Association (NATA)**

Funding applications have been received from NATA in respect of support for their core transport activities and specific services including the CB1 and CB4 registered local bus services, special needs club transport and children's playscheme transport. Club and playscheme transport delivered by NATA are arranged by SPT on behalf of Glasgow City Council.

In respect of NATA's core transport activity, funding of up to £20,000 is sought towards their 2023/2024 running costs (including driver costs, training costs, vehicle insurance, vehicle maintenance and fuel) to allow them to continue providing their services at an affordable cost. Such activities include providing training to volunteers, voluntary groups and staff in relation to driving, and other transport solutions including group transport to third sector organisations.

In respect of the CB1 and CB4 local bus services, funding of up to £62,416 is sought towards the 2023/2024 running costs of these services. The CB1 community bus service operates from Glasgow City Centre to Townhead and Drygate.

The CB4 service operates between Glasgow City Centre and Sighthill. Both this and service CB1 fill gaps in the local bus network and provide key interchange links to mainstream bus services. By way of background information, in 2018 and 2022 SPT assisted NATA to upgrade the vehicle used on these services to meet the current terms of the Glasgow Low Emission Zone.

In addition to the above, full funding for club and playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. From the club transport allocation, funding is sought for up to £47,000 for club transport, to provide transport for 19 clubs in Glasgow including those with special needs, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. Up to £7,700 is sought by NATA from the playscheme allocation, to provide transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow, during the key school holiday periods.

Total amount sought: up to £137,116.

### **3.6. South Ayrshire Community Transport (SACT)**

SACT provides accessible, affordable transport for socially or economically disadvantaged groups, voluntary groups and third sector organisations in South Ayrshire. A funding application for up to £35,100 has been received from SACT in respect of core funding support for the organisation's CT Activities during 2023/2024.

In addition, bus service CB8, has been operated by SACT since August 2017. This service connects the rural community of Barr with Girvan, providing a key link for shopping, healthcare and other amenities offered in Girvan, and interchange with mainstream public transport services.

A funding application has been received from SACT for up to £16,000 in order to allow the continuation of the three day per week operation of the CB8 service.

During 2019, agreement was reached with SACT to operate a MyBus Rural DRT service on behalf of SPT, service R700, together with an additional (fourth) day per week of operation on service CB8 which was included as part of that package. An application for up to £55,725 has been received in order to allow the continuation of these services during 2023/2024.

Total amount sought: up to £106,825.

### **3.7. South West Community Transport (SWCT)**

An application has been made from SWCT for core funding of up to £35,144 for their CT activities for 2023/2024. This will allow them to support the running costs (vehicle and staff costs) of the organisation's group transport activities.

A further application has been made for up to £25,000, specifically for the organisation's volunteer escort/car scheme for health appointments following withdrawal of other funding streams.

Full funding for club and playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. Up to £9,000 is requested by SWCT, for the delivery of playscheme transport, providing transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow, during key school holiday periods.

In addition, a separate amount for up to £21,000 is sought in order to provide continuation of group transport in the south Glasgow and Renfrewshire areas, previously provided by SPT's MyBus service.

Total amount sought: up to £90,144.

The Partnership is also asked to note the following funding applications which have been granted under delegated powers:

### **3.8. Ardgowan Hospice**

A funding application for up to £30,000 has been received from Ardgowan Hospice in respect of support for the organisation's volunteer car scheme, which provides transport to hospitals in the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde area for cancer treatment and out-patient hospice attendances, for residents in the Inverclyde area.

The funding will be used to support vehicle running costs (fuel, insurance, maintenance, etc.) and volunteer expenses.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £30,000.

### **3.9. Blantyre Volunteer Group (BVG)**

A funding application for up to £28,000 has been received from BVG, in order to support the organisation's provision of safe, accessible CT services for groups and individuals.

The funding will assist with the running costs of their vehicles and volunteers so that they can continue to provide group transport to the local community of Blantyre and the surrounding area during 2023/2024.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £28,000.

### **3.10. Community Central Halls (CCH)**

An application for up to £30,000 has been made by CCH for funding to support their expanding CT service, which operates within the most deprived communities of northwest Glasgow. This will allow them to continue to provide their transport service to all ages, abilities and ethnicities in these areas during 2023/2024.

Full funding for club and playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. Up to £7,500 is requested by CCH for the delivery of playscheme transport, providing transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow, during key school holiday periods.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £37,500.

### **3.11. Community Transport East Renfrewshire (CTER)**

A funding application for up to £25,000 has been received from CTER, which operates group transport to local voluntary and community groups, shopping trips, etc for the elderly and disabled, a volunteer car scheme which provides transport of patients to GP, clinic and hospital appointments, principally in the East Renfrewshire Council area. The funding will be used to support vehicle running costs (fuel, insurance, maintenance, etc.) and staff-related costs during 2023/2024.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £25,000.

### **3.12. East Kilbride Community Transport (EKCT)**

A funding application for up to £15,000 has been received from East Kilbride Community Transport in order to support the organisation's provision of safe, accessible CT services for groups and individuals, in East Kilbride and in other parts of South Lanarkshire. The funding will assist with the vehicle running costs, staff wages and volunteer expenses in order to cover the services the organisation provides during 2023/2024.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £15,000.

### **3.13. Glenboig Development Trust (GDT)**

A funding application for up to £25,000 has been received from GDT. Glenboig Development Trust's CT service provides transport to a wide variety of groups, nurseries, social work, children and youth groups, elderly and disabled groups, uniformed organisations and other third sector organisations. In addition, shopping trips are operated from villages in the Glenboig area of North Lanarkshire where there is limited access to shops and public transport for local residents. The funding will be used to support the running costs of the transport service.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £25,000.

### **3.14. Inverclyde Voluntary Council for Social Services (IVCSS)**

A funding application for up to £25,000 has been received from IVCSS. IVCSS provides transport to assisted special needs schools and elderly day care

centres in the Inverclyde area. The service is operated entirely by volunteers and is one of the largest types of provider using this model. The funding will be used to support the running costs of the transport service.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £25,000.

### **3.15. New Tannahill Centre (NTC)**

A funding application for up to £12,000 has been received from the New Tannahill Centre (NTC), part of Ferguslie Park Housing Association. Partnering with an experienced CT operator, Community Transport Glasgow, transport activities have been undertaken to support the local community, including food deliveries and after-school care. NTC are seeking to continue their CT project, supporting the above activities and transport to a lunch club, reducing loneliness and social isolation within the community's elderly population.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £12,000.

### **3.16. Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group (PGVTG)**

A funding application for up to £12,000 has been received from PGVTG in respect of support for the organisation's CT activities. PGVTG provide accessible, affordable transport for socially or economically disadvantaged groups, voluntary groups and third sector organisations in the Inverclyde area. The funding will be used to support vehicle running costs (fuel, insurance, maintenance, etc.) and staff-related costs during 2023/2024.

A separate amount of up to £8,000 is sought to continue provision of group transport in the Inverclyde area, previously provided by SPT's MyBus service.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £20,000.

### **3.17. Renfrewshire Council SOOPiR Bus (RC SOOPiR)**

A funding application for up to £8,500 has been received from Renfrewshire Council's 'SOOPiR' (Strengthening Opportunities for Older Adults in Renfrewshire) bus project. This project was launched in late March 2019 and provides transport for older people and community groups in Renfrewshire to access activities that will improve the lives of socially isolated people who are unable to use public transport due to their limited mobility. These consist of outings to leisure facilities or other outings that improve the users' quality of life, reduce loneliness, increase social interaction, increase physical activity, and promote their wellbeing. The funding will be used to support the running costs of the service during 2023/2024.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £8,500.

### **3.18. West Dunbartonshire Council**

West Dunbartonshire Council submitted an application for £30,000 to continue their CT project, having formed a Community Transport Action Group (CTAG) accordingly. An early pilot project partnering with South West Community Transport (SWCT) was undertaken, providing a Healthcare Appointment Transport Service (HATS) in the G81 (Clydebank) area. The service was then taken inhouse by WDC, following acquisition of a suitable vehicle and having built up experience within the team.

WDC are now looking to extend the scope of their project to all postcodes within the West Dunbartonshire area.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: Up to £30,000.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Community Transport provides a key role in improving access to goods, services and facilities for communities in the West of Scotland and in particular for elderly, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. In addition to their core group transport activities, and in furtherance of SPT's aims and objectives, CT providers also provide specific community services filling gaps in mainstream transport network provision.

If approved and combined with GCC and other sources of funding, then this represents just under £1.3m investment in the Community Transport Sector in the West of Scotland, of which up to £963,650 is being funded directly by SPT, and the remainder funded by GCC.

#### **5. Committee action**

The Operations Committee is asked to approve the following items for financial year of 2023/2024:

- Grant funding of up to £82,291 to Coalfield Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £439,474 to Community Transport Glasgow;
- Grant funding of £97,000 to Getting Better Together;
- Grant funding of up to £59,500 to Larkhall & District Volunteer Group;
- Grant funding of up to £137,116 to North Area Transport Association;
- Grant funding of up to £106,825 to South Ayrshire Community Transport; and
- Grant funding of up to £90,144 to South West Community Transport.

In addition, the Partnership is asked to note the following awards made under delegated powers:

- Grant funding of up to £30,000 to Ardgowan Hospice;
- Grant funding of up to £28,000 to Blantyre Volunteer Group;
- Grant funding of up to £37,500 to Community Central Halls;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Community Transport East Renfrewshire;
- Grant funding of up to £15,000 to East Kilbride Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Glenboig Development Trust;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Inverclyde Voluntary Council for Social Services
- Grant funding of up to £12,000 to New Tannahill Centre;
- Grant funding of up to £20,000 to Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group;
- Grant funding of up to £8,500 to Renfrewshire Council SOOPiR Bus;
- Grant funding of up to £30,000 to West Dunbartonshire Council.

All grants are subject to appropriate governance checks being carried out.

## 6. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In line with the Regional Transport Strategy.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>All awards will be subject to SPT's terms for Grant Funding.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>The funding requirements have been considered within the 2023/2024 Community Transport and MyBus budgets for these applications, totalling up to £963,650. Additionally, identified Glasgow Club and Playscheme transport of up to £304,700 will be recharged in full to Glasgow City Council.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>Seeks to reduce the incidences of social exclusion by supporting community transport projects which complement the activities of SPT and other transport providers.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Climate Change, Adaptation & Carbon consequences	<i>None directly.</i>

**Name** Neil Wylie  
**Title** **Director of Finance & Corporate Support**

**Name** Valerie Davidson  
**Title** **Chief Executive**

For further information, please contact *Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy and Delivery* on 0141 333 3407.



## APPENDIX 1

### 2023/2024 Community Transport Funding Applications

Approval by the Operations Committee is sought for the following funding applications:

Organisation	Workstream	SPT Funding	GCC Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
CCT	Core Funding	£ 50,000.00			
CCT	Cumnock Connector DRT & Sorn Extension	£ 32,291.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 82,291.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 82,291.00</b>
CTG	Core Funding	£ 120,000.00			
CTG	CB2 Service	£ 60,974.00			
CTG	Glasgow Club Runs		£ 217,000.00		
CTG	Playscheme Transport		£ 16,500.00		
CTG	CT East Dunbartonshire	£ 25,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 205,974.00</b>	<b>£ 233,500.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 439,474.00</b>
NATA	Core Funding	£ 20,000.00			
NATA	CB1 & CB4 services	£ 62,416.00			
NATA	Glasgow Club Runs		£ 47,000.00		
NATA	Playscheme Transport		£ 7,700.00		
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 82,416.00</b>	<b>£ 54,700.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 137,116.00</b>
SACT	Core Funding	£ 35,100.00			
SACT	CB8 Service	£ 16,000.00			
SACT	DRT	£ 55,725.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 106,825.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 106,825.00</b>

The Operations Committee is asked to note the following applications which have been granted under the Scheme of Delegation:

Organisation	Workstream	SPT Funding	GCC Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
Ardgowan Hospice	Core Funding	£ 30,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 30,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 30,000.00</b>
BVG	Core Funding	£ 28,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 28,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 28,000.00</b>
CCH	Core Funding	£ 30,000.00			
CCH	Playscheme Transport		£ 7,500.00		
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 30,000.00</b>	<b>£ 7,500.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 37,500.00</b>
CTER	Core Funding	£ 25,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 25,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 25,000.00</b>
EKCT	Core Funding	£ 15,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 15,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 15,000.00</b>
NTC	Core Funding	£ 12,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 12,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 12,000.00</b>
GBT	Core Funding	£ 40,000.00			
GBT	Vehicle Replacement x2			£ 57,000.00	
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 40,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 57,000.00</b>	<b>£ 97,000.00</b>
GDT	Core Funding	£ 25,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 25,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 25,000.00</b>
LDVG	Core Funding	£ 53,000.00			

LDVG	MyBus	£ 6,500.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 59,500.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 59,500.00</b>
PGVTG	Core Funding	£ 12,000.00			
PGVTG	MyBus	£ 8,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 20,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 20,000.00</b>
RC SOOPiR	Core Funding	£ 8,500.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 8,500.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 8,500.00</b>
IVCSS	Core Funding	£ 25,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 25,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 25,000.00</b>
SWCT	Core Funding	£ 35,144.00			
SWCT	Volunteer Escort/Care scheme Health Appointments	£ 25,000.00			
SWCT	Playscheme Transport		£ 9,000.00		
SWCT	MyBus	£ 21,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 81,144.00</b>	<b>£ 9,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 90,144.00</b>
WDC	Core Funding	£ 30,000.00			
<b>Total grant sought</b>		<b>£ 30,000.00</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 30,000.00</b>

<b>Grand Totals Granted to Date</b>	<b>£ 906,650.00</b>	<b>£ 304,700.00</b>	<b>£ 57,000.00</b>	<b>£ 1,268,350.00</b>
	<b>(SPT)</b>	<b>(GCC)</b>	<b>(Other)</b>	<b>(Combined)</b>