



Applications for grant funding: Community Transport

Committee Operations

Date of meeting 26 April 2019

Date of report 4 April 2019

Report by Senior Director

1. Object of report

To recommend the Operations Committee approves grant funding in support of projects provided by Community Transport (CT) 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, as summarised in Appendix 1.

The operators are members of the West of Scotland Community Transport Network, established by SPT in March 2013, to develop and support the sector through enhanced co-ordination.

In support of the Community Transport Sector and other industries, Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) recently announced a number of successful funding awards to Community Transport Operators as part of their Green Economy Fund (GEF). The fund is for use on the decarbonisation of heating and transport. Full details on the SPEN GEF can be found at:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/green_economy_fund.aspx

Subsequently, SPT has received a number of match-funding requests as detailed within the relevant following sections.

3. Outline of proposals

Applications for funding have been made by community transport operators for the work streams detailed below. A summary of the funding applications is provided in Appendix 2.

3.1 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 £120,000 is sought towards their 2019/20 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, a number of 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 £55,771 is sought towards the 2019/20 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.

CTG also seeks grant funding specifically for their East Dunbartonshire project, £25,000 is sought towards their 2019/20 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 this allocation, funding is sought by CTG for up to £210,000 for club transport, providing transport to over 20 clubs in Glasgow including those with special needs, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. A further amount of up to £14,500 is sought by CTG from this allocation for Playscheme transport, providing 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 £425,271.

3.2 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 £23,000 is sought towards their 2019/20 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, a number of transport solutions; including group transport to third sector organisations.

In respect of the CB1 and CB4 local bus services, funding of up to £59,444 is sought towards the 2019/20 running costs of these services. The CB1 community bus service operates from Glasgow city centre to Townhead and Drygate. By way of background information, SPT recently assisted NATA upgrade the vehicle used on this service to meet the current terms of the Glasgow Low Emission Zone¹.

¹ <https://busesmag.keypublishing.com/2019/03/26/spt-grant-helps-glasgow-community-transport-association-comply-with-lez/>

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.

In addition to the above, full funding for Club and Playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. From this allocation funding is sought for up to £47,000 for club transport, providing transport to over 20 clubs in Glasgow including those with special needs, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. A further amount of up to £7,500 is sought by NATA from this allocation for Playscheme transport, providing transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow, during the key school holiday periods.

Total amount sought: up to £136,944.

3.3 Coalfields Community Transport (CCT)

Funding applications have been received from CCT in respect of support for their core transport activities, specific services including the Cumnock/Sorn Connector Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service, and a match funding application to accompany a SPEN funding award.

In respect of CCT's core transport activity, funding of £50,000 is sought towards their 2019/20 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 DRT service, this service was extended to cover the village of Sorn during 2018, and accordingly funding of £35,427 is sought to allow the continuation of this service for the year 2019/20.

A match-funding application has been received from CCT to accompany a grant from SPEN's Green Economy Fund. £40,000 is sought in order to assist with the purchase of an electric minibus, associated charging infrastructure and staff training. SPEN has agreed to contribute £160,000 to this project.

Total amount sought: £125,427.

3.4 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 £33,845 has been received from SACT in respect of core funding support for the organisation's Community Transport Activities during 2019/20.

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 £10,000 in order to allow the continuation of this service.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £43,845.

3.5 South West Community Transport (SWCT)

An application has been made from SWCT for core funding of £30,560 for their Community Transport Activities for 2019/20. This will allow them to support the running costs (vehicle and staff costs) of the organisation's group transport and volunteer escort/car scheme for health appointments.

Full funding for club and Playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. From this allocation, up to £7,500 is requested by SWCT based in Glasgow, for the delivery of Playscheme transport, providing transport for children attending activity clubs across Glasgow, during key school holiday periods. Budget for Playscheme transport is provided by GCC.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £38,060.

3.6 Community Central Halls (CCH)

An application for £20,000 has been made by CCH for funding to support their expanding Community Transport 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 2019/20.

Full funding for club and Playscheme transport is provided from Glasgow City Council to SPT. From this allocation, 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. Budget for Playscheme transport is provided by GCC.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: up to £27,500.

Members should be aware that further grant funding applications for community transport projects are expected during 2019/20 and will be reported to the Committee in due course.

3.7 Blantyre Volunteer Ltd (BVL)

A funding application for £20,000 has been received from BVL, in order to support the organisation's provision of safe, accessible community transport 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 2019/20.

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

3.8 Community Transport East Renfrewshire (CTER)

A funding application for £20,000 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 2019/20.

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

3.9 Glenboig Development Trust (GDT)

A funding application for £20,000 has been received from GDT. Glenboig Development Trust's Community Transport service provides transport to a wide variety of groups, nurseries, social work, children & youth groups, elderly & 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 & 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: £20,000.

3.10 Larkhall & District Volunteer Group (LDVG)

A funding application for £46,456 has been received from LDVG. LDVG's Community Transport 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 will be launched during 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 2019/20.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £46,456.

3.11 Renfrewshire Council SOOPiR Bus

A funding application for up to £25,000 has been received from Renfrewshire Council's 'SOOPiR' (Strengthening Opportunities for Older Adults in Renfrewshire) bus project.

This new project² launched in late March 2019 project will provide transport for older people and community groups in Renfrewshire to provide activities that will improve the lives of socially isolated people who are unable to access public transport due to their mobility. These might consist of outings to leisure facilities or other outings that will 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 2019/20.

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

3.12 Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLAN)

A funding application for £2,500 has been received from VASLAN in respect of support for the organisation's 'Cam-glen' volunteer car-sharing scheme in South Lanarkshire. This principally provides a car-share scheme to provide transport to the elderly/infirm to attend medical appointments in the Glasgow area. The funding will be used to support volunteer's mileage allowances during 2019/20.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £2,500.

3.13 Ardgowan Hospice

A funding application for £22,500 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.

² <https://www.paisley.org.uk/2019/03/soopir-bus-hits-the-road-to-tackle-loneliness-in-older-adults/>

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

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £22,500.

3.14 Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group (PGVTG)

A funding application for £10,000 has been received from PGVTG in respect of support for the organisation's Community Transport 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 2019/20.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £10,000.

3.15 Inverclyde Voluntary Council of Social Services (IVCSS)

A funding application for £20,000 has been received from IVCSS in order to support the organisation's transport activities. These are provided by volunteers and consist of transport to ASN schools, day care centres, care homes for the elderly, and for outings and activities for children with disabilities or other additional support needs during the school holidays. The funding will be used to support the organisation's fleet replacement programme.

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

3.16 Getting Better Together (GBT)

A funding application for £32,000 has been received from GBT in respect of core funding support for the organisation's Community Transport 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 & training costs.

In addition, an application for £21,000 has been received from GBT to replace an older 8-seat vehicle (previously supplied by SPT), which is used on a variety of community work within GBT's portfolio.

Total amount sought: £53,000.

3.17 Rural Development Trust (RDT)

A funding application has been made by the Rural Development Trust for core funding of £40,000 in respect for support for their Community Transport Activities. This will allow them to support the running costs (vehicle and staff costs) of a range of community transport services, which includes group transport and transport to doctors' surgeries for rural residents.

A match-funding application has been received from RDT to accompany a grant from SPEN's Green Economy Fund. £42,000 is sought in order to assist with the purchase of an electric minibus, associated charging infrastructure and staff training. SPEN have agreed to contribute £343,000 to this project, accompanied by LEADER funding of £68,733, and Renewable Energy Fund of £29,457.

Total amount sought: £82,000.

4. Conclusions

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 SPEN funding, then this represents over £1.7m investment in the Community Transport sector in the West of Scotland.

5. Committee action

The Operations Committee is recommended to approve the following items for the current financial year of 2019/20:

- Grant funding of up to £425,271 to Community Transport Glasgow;
- Grant funding of up to £136,944 North Area Transport Association;
- Grant funding of £125,427 to Coalfields Community Transport;
- Grant funding of £82,000 to the Rural Development Trust; and
- Grant funding of £53,000 to Getting Better Together.

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

- Grant funding of £43,845 to South Ayrshire Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £38,060 to South West Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £27,500 to Community Central Halls;
- Grant funding of £20,000 to Blantyre Volunteer Ltd;
- Grant funding of £20,000 to Community Transport East Renfrewshire;
- Grant funding of £20,000 to Glenboig Development Trust;
- Grant funding of £46,456 to Larkhall & District Volunteer Group;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Renfrewshire Council;
- Grant funding of £2,500 to Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire;
- Grant funding of £22,500 to Ardgowan Hospice;
- Grant funding of £10,000 to Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group; and
- Grant funding of £20,000 to Inverclyde Voluntary Council of Social Services.

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

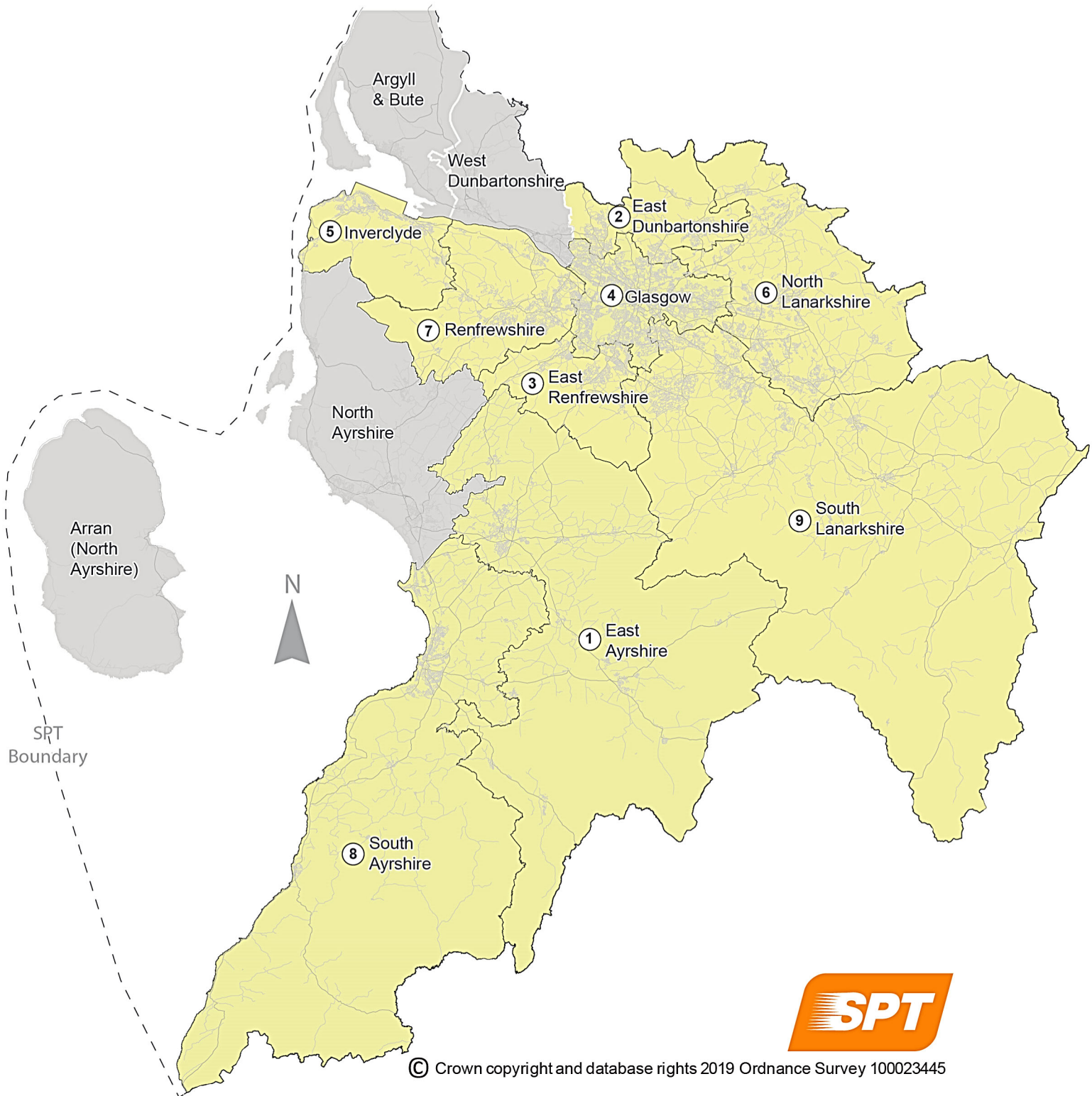
6. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In line with Regional Transport Strategy.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>Any funding approved will be awarded subject to SPT's Grant Funding terms and conditions.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>The funding requirements have been considered within the 2019/20 Enhanced DRT/Community Transport budget for these applications. Additionally, identified Glasgow Club and Playscheme transport of £294k is recharged in full to Glasgow City Council. Grants to IVCSS, and grants to match-fund SPEN applications (to CCT & RDT), will be drawn from the 'Purchase of Buses & Operational Vehicles' budget.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None.</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.</i>

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Title Senior Director

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For further information, please contact *Gordon Dickson, Bus Development Manager* on 0141 333 3407.



1. East Ayrshire

Coalfields Community Transport (CCT)

2. East Dunbartonshire

Community Transport Glasgow
(East Dunbartonshire Project)

3. East Renfrewshire

Community Transport East Renfrewshire

4. Glasgow

Community Transport Glasgow (CTG)
North Area Transport Association (NATA)
South West Community Transport (SWCT)
Community Central Halls (CCH)

5. Inverclyde

Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group
Inverclyde Volunteer Council of Social Services
Ardgowan Hospice

6. North Lanarkshire

Glenboig Development Trust
Getting Better Together

7. Renfrewshire

Renfrewshire Council SOOPiR Bus

8. South Ayrshire

South Ayrshire Community Transport (SACT)

9. South Lanarkshire

Rural Development Trust
Blantyre Volunteer Ltd
Larkhall & District Volunteer Group
Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire

Appendix 2: 2019/20 Community Transport Funding Applications

Organisation	Workstream	SPT Funding	GCC Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
CTG	Core Funding	£120,000			
CTG	CB2 Service	£55,771			
CTG	Glasgow Club Runs		£210,000		
CTG	Playscheme Transport		£14,500		
CTG	CT East Dunb	£25,000			
Total grant sought		£200,771	£224,500		£425,271

NATA	Core Funding	£23,000			
NATA	CB1 & CB4 services	£59,444			
NATA	Glasgow Club Runs		£47,000		
NATA	Playscheme Transport		£7,500		
Total grant sought		£82,444	£54,500		£136,944

CCT	Core Funding	£50,000			
CCT	Cumnock/Sorn DRT	£35,427			
CCT	Electric Vehicle	£40,000		£160,000	
Total grant sought		£125,427		£160,000	£285,427

SACT	Core Funding	£33,845			
SACT	CB8 Service	£10,000			
Total grant sought		£43,845			£43,845

SWCT	Core Funding	£30,560			
SWCT	Playscheme Transport		£7,500		
Total grant sought		£30,560	£7,500		£38,060

CCH	Core Funding	£20,000			
CCH	Playscheme Transport		£7,500		
Total grant sought		£20,000	£7,500		£27,500

BVL	Core Funding	£20,000			
Total grant sought		£20,000			£20,000

CTER	Core Funding	£20,000			
Total grant sought		£20,000			£20,000

GDT	Core Funding	£20,000			
Total grant sought		£20,000			£20,000

LDVG	Core Funding	£46,456			
Total grant sought		£46,456			£46,456

RC SOOPIR	Core Funding	£25,000			
Total grant sought		£25,000			£25,000

Organisation	Workstream	SPT Funding	GCC Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
VASLAN	Core Funding	£2,500			
Total grant sought		£2,500			£2,500
Ardgowan Hospice	Core Funding	£22,500			
Total grant sought		£22,500			£22,500
PGVTG	Core Funding	£10,000			
Total grant sought		£10,000			£10,000
IVCSS	Funding towards fleet repl.	£20,000			
Total grant sought		£20,000			£20,000
GBT	Core Funding	£32,000			
GBT	Funding towards fleet repl.	£21,000			
Total grant sought		£53,000			£53,000
RDT	Core Funding	£40,000			
RDT	Electric Vehicle	£42,000		£441,190	
Total grant sought		£82,000		£441,190	£523,190
Grand Totals Granted to Date		£824,503 (SPT)	£294,000 (GCC)	£601,190 (Other)	£1,719,693 (Combined)