



Applications for grant funding - community transport

Date of meeting 3 November 2023

Date of report 17 October 2023

Report by Chief Executive

1. Object of report

To request the Committee approve grant funding in support of a project delivered by Coalfield Community Transport.

2. Background to report

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.

3. Outline of proposals

An application for funding has been received from Coalfield Community Transport (CCT) for funding towards the purchase of a new 16 seat wheelchair accessible minibus, convertible to carry up to five wheelchairs. CCT have experienced an uplift in demand for their services, both from additional groups in their own immediate area (Cumnock) and from several groups further afield in the northern area of East Ayrshire. This additional vehicle, joining CCT's fleet of 11 vehicles, would allow groups in that part of East Ayrshire to be able to use the vehicle, avoiding the cost of having to use a vehicle from CCT's Cumnock base. In addition, CCT are exploring the extension of their provision into the North Ayrshire area, and this vehicle would support that expansion. The financial support sought is up to £75,000 towards the purchase of an additional vehicle.

4. Committee action

The Operations Committee is recommended to approve grant funding of up to £75,000 to Coalfield Community Transport.

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

5. Consequences

Policy consequences

In line with Regional Transport Strategy.

Legal consequences

Any sums awarded would be subject to SPT's terms and conditions for Grant Funding.

Financial consequences	<i>The grant funding provided by SPT to CCT towards the purchase of a new minibus will be accommodated within the 2023/2024 capital budget, under project 10052 "Purchase of Operational Vehicles".</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>Seeks to reduce the incidence 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 & 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	Other Funding	Total Funding
CCT	Purchase of a new wheelchair accessible minibus	£ 75,000.00	£ -	£ 75,000.00
Total grant sought		£ 75,000.00	£ -	£ 75,000.00
Grand Totals Granted to Date				
		£ 75,000.00 (SPT)	£ - (Other)	£ 75,000.00 (Combined)