



## Community Transport Projects: grant funding

**Committee** Operations

**Date of meeting** 09 November 2018

**Date of report** 18 October 2018

### Report by Senior Director

#### 1. Object of report

To recommend the Committee approves grant funding to Coalfields Community Transport to support an extension of their 'Connector' bus service to Sorn village, and to North Area Transport Association for the purchase of a new minibus. Additionally, to inform the Committee of recent grant funding awards to Getting Better Together and the Rural Development Trust respectively, approved under delegated powers.

#### 2. Background

Community Transport operators deliver much needed transport to 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.

The operators covered by this report include Coalfields Community Transport (CCT), North Area Transport Association (NATA), Getting Better Together Ltd (GBT) and The Rural Development Trust (RDT).

This report follows a number of earlier applications previously approved by the Committee, and under delegated powers, as considered on 4 May 2018<sup>1</sup> and 24 August 2018<sup>2</sup> respectively.

#### 3. Outline of proposals

Applications for funding have been made by community transport operators for the workstreams detailed below. A summary of the funding applications is provided in Appendix 1.

##### 3.1 Coalfields Community Transport

A funding application has been made by Coalfields Community Transport to extend their Cumnock Connector service to the village of Sorn, providing connections to main corridor bus services, providing enhanced access to jobs, services and amenities. This follows an earlier award of £69,476 approved on 4 May 2018.

Total amount sought: £15,951.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.spt.co.uk/documents/latest/op04052018\\_minute.pdf](http://www.spt.co.uk/documents/latest/op04052018_minute.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.spt.co.uk/documents/latest/Ops240818\\_agenda8.pdf](http://www.spt.co.uk/documents/latest/Ops240818_agenda8.pdf)

### 3.2 North Area Transport Association

A funding application has been made by NATA for up to £95,000 for the purchase of a new 16 seat low floor Euro 6 Minibus. The new bus will be deployed on either of NATA's Community Bus Services (CB1 - Townhead or CB4 - Sighthill) replacing an older minibus currently operating and ensuring compliance with the forthcoming Glasgow City Centre Low Emission Zone requirements. This follows earlier awards totalling £172,943, approved on 4 May and 24 August 2018.

Total amount sought: up to £95,000.

### 3.3 Getting Better Together

A funding application has been made by GBT for core funding of £32,000 in respect of 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 a volunteer car scheme.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £32,000.

### 3.4 The Rural Development Trust

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.

Total amount awarded under delegated powers: £40,000.

## 4. Conclusions

Community Transport provides a key role in improving access to goods, services and facilities for communities in the west of Scotland, in particular for elderly, disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. In addition to supporting their core groups 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.

## 5. Committee action

The Operations Committee is recommended to approve for the current financial year of 2018/19:

- Grant funding of up to £15,951 to Coalfields Community Transport; and
- Grant funding of up to £95,000 to North Area Transport Association.

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

- Grant funding of up to £32,000 to Getting Better Together Ltd; and
- Grant funding of up to £40,000 to The Rural Development Trust.

## 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 for these applications have been considered within the 2018/19 Enhanced DRT/Community Transport budget and SPT capital budget for the purchase of buses and operational vehicles.</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>   |

**Name** Charles Hoskins  
**Title** Senior Director

**Name** Gordon MacLennan  
**Title** Chief Executive

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

## Appendix 1 – Community Transport funding applications summary table

| Organisation         | Workstream                           | SPT Enhanced<br>DRT Funding | SPT Capital Budget<br>for the Purchase of<br>Buses | Funding Granted to<br>Date 2018/19<br>Financial Year |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| GBT                  | Core Funding                         | £32,000                     |  |  |
| <b>Totals - GBT</b>  |                                      | <b>£32,000</b>              | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>N/A</b>   |
| RDT                  | Core Funding                         | £40,000                     |  |  |
| <b>Totals - RDT</b>  |                                      | <b>£40,000</b>              | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>N/A</b>   |
| CCT                  | Cumnock/Sorn Connector               | £15,951                     |  |  |
| <b>Totals - CCT</b>  |                                      | <b>£15,951</b>              | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>£69,476</b>                                       |
| NATA                 | Vehicle Replacement CB1/CB4 services |                             | £95,000  |  |
| <b>Totals - NATA</b> |                                      |                             | <b>£95,000</b>                                     | <b>£172,943</b>                                      |
| <b>Grand Totals</b>  |                                      | <b>£87,951</b>              | <b>£95,000</b>                                     |  |