

North Yorkshire County Council
Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

27 March 2023

Community Transport Funding

Report of the Assistant Director – Travel, Environmental and Countryside Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services (BES) and BES Executive Members on funding applications for Community Transport (CT) and to seek approval to award grants.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on the 26 July 2011, the Council's Executive approved a methodology for distribution of grant funding for Community Transport in North Yorkshire and delegated authority to the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services in conjunction with Executive Members, to award individual grants up to £100,000.
- 2.2 This report seeks approval to determine grant applications where sufficient information is available for full project assessment.

3.0 Summary of Application

- 3.1 Two applications by registered charities are being considered in this report and have been assessed against the guidelines agreed by Members. Project assessment sheets are included at Appendix 1 and a summary is set out in paragraph 4 below.
- 3.2 As part of the assessment process the applications have been circulated to a grants panel which involves staff from Health and Adult Services (HAS), Stronger Communities and Integrated Passenger Transport (IPT). No objections have been raised.

4.0 Application Assessment – Full Application

- 4.1 Hambleton Community Action provides Wheels2Work scheme in the areas of Hambleton, Richmondshire, and Harrogate. The scheme provides affordable transport (mopeds) to individuals age 16 and over to enable access to work, training or education. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase of 8 replacement mopeds.
- 4.2 Sherburn Visiting Scheme provides transport to health care, shopping and other essential services, and well-being opportunities. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase of a new accessible minibus to replace an existing minibus, which is now 13 years old and becoming increasingly expensive to maintain.

4.3 Table 1 Summary of Applications

Applicant	Description	Cost £ 2022/23	Total £	Recommendation
Hambleton Community Action (Wheels2Work)	8 x mopeds (75%)	15,600	15,600	Approve
Sherburn Visiting Scheme (75%)	New wheelchair accessible minibus (75%)	47,895	47,895	Approve
TOTAL		63,495		

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council is entitled to award grants to promote well-being within the County under the general power of competence within the Localism Act 2011, subject to being compliant with the subsidy control regime rules.
- 5.2 It is considered following an assessment that the grant funding for these projects above for community transport are in line with the Subsidy Control Regime.
- 5.3 The grant applicants will be required to enter into a grant agreement with the County Council which will be drafted by legal services.

6.0 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse equality impacts arising from the proposed standards. It is the view of officers that the proposals will not have significant adverse impact on any groups of people with protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010. Proper regard has been given to the public sector equality duty and a 'decision not to EIA' document has been completed and is appended at Appendix 2.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Assuming the recommendations are accepted, this is affordable from the community transport element of the IPT base budget.

8.0 Climate Change Implications

- 8.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse climate change impacts arising from the recommendation. The replacement an older minibus and mopeds will decrease greenhouse gas emission and pollutions. Although replacement vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and has some direct impact on greenhouse gas emission and pollution, community transport does contribute to less individual journeys in private car transport. See Appendix 3.

9.0 Recommendation

- 9.1 That the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services approves grant funding to the individual two applicants for the projects listed in Table 1 at 4.3.

MICHAEL LEAH

Assistant Director – Travel, Environmental and Countryside Services

Author of Report: Dianne Pottage

Background Documents: None

Project Name	Wheels2Work	Date: February 2023
Name of Organisation	Hambleton Community Action	
Main contact name	Liz Lockey	
Telephone	01609 780458	Email: chief.officer@hambletoncommunityaction.org
Total funding requested	£15,600	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>The Wheels2Work scheme provides flexible, affordable transport to individuals to enable access to work, education or training in the areas of Hambleton, Richmondshire, and Craven.</p> <p>Hambleton Community Action is requesting 75% toward the purchase of 8 replacement mopeds.</p>		
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Increasing demand for the Wheels2Work service.
Supports the Council's priority outcomes (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Improving access to employment, education and training.
Meets or exceeds quality standard (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	CBT training provided as well as safety equipment
Demonstrates organisational efficiency, financial management and partnership approach	Y	Works in partnership with a wide range of local organisations, makes good use of volunteers
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	This project will enable approximately 30 people access work, education or training over three years
Is funding request for core support		No
Does the organisation hold commercial contracts for transport		No
Would approval of the grant give a competitive advantage		No
Comments	Funding is required for service continuity. Valuable service targeting individuals with no other means of appropriate transport.	
Recommendation	Approve	

Project Name	Replacement Minibus	Date: February 2023
Name of Organisation	Sherburn Visiting Scheme	
Main contact name	Andy Wharton	
Telephone	01977 681828	Email: sherburnvisittingscheme@yahoo.co.uk
Total funding requested	£47,895	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>Sherburn Visiting Scheme is requesting 75% contribution for the purchase of a new accessible minibus to replace the current vehicle which is now 13 years old and becoming increasingly expensive to maintain.</p> <p>The vehicle will be used to provide door-to-door services enabling access to health care, shopping and other essential services, and well-being opportunities.</p>		
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Valuable local service which otherwise would not be available
Supports the Council's priority outcomes (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Individual and group access to services and reduced isolation.
Meets or exceeds quality standard (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	MIDAS training provided to all driving staff and volunteers
Demonstrates organisational efficiency, financial management and partnership approach	Y	Good use of volunteers and works with other CT schemes in the area.
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	Extend current area of operation to include Monk Fryston, Hillam, Byram and Burton Salmon
Is funding request for core support	No	
Does the organisation hold commercial contracts for transport	No	
Would approval of the grant give a competitive advantage	No	
Comments	This grant would enable the organisation to continue to provide the wide range of services that help maintain access to essential services and reduce social isolation.	
Recommendation	Approve	

Initial equality impact assessment screening form	
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.	
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Service area	Integrated Passenger Transport
Proposal being screened	Approval to determine Community Transport Capital Grant applications.
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Dianne Pottage
What are you proposing to do?	<p>Award of two applications by registered charities assessed against the guideline agreed by Members.</p> <p>At its meeting on 26 July 2011 the Council's Executive approved a methodology for the distribution of grant funding for Community Transport in North Yorkshire.</p>
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>The Community Transport Strategy for North Yorkshire recognises that there should be appropriate access to community transport services across the county. The community transport sector has a role to play in the delivery of this strategy.</p> <p>The Community Transport Strategy for North Yorkshire recognises that the type and location of services should be dictated largely by the individual operators, based on their local knowledge.</p>
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No. As the proposal will result in a grant award, resources for Community Transport services will either be maintained or improved.
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics</p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? • Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? • Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your <u>Equality rep</u> for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>	

Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		No	
Disability		No	
Sex		No	
Race		No	
Sexual orientation		No	
Gender reassignment		No	
Religion or belief		No	
Pregnancy or maternity		No	
Marriage or civil partnership		No	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		No	
People on a low income		No	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		No	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	Community Transport is set up to improve services following the identification of gaps in existing services. Maintaining or improving level of service will improve transport opportunities for individuals, including those with protected characteristics.		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No, the proposal will have no significant effect on how other organisations work.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	X	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	No adverse impact is anticipated. New or replacement vehicles will maintain or improve things for people with protected characteristics.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Michael Leah		
Date	13/03/2023		



Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Funding applications for Community Transport
Brief description of proposal	To update the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services (BES) and BES Executive Members on funding applications for Community Transport and to seek approval to award grants.
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Service area	Integrated Passenger Transport
Lead officer	Dianne Pottage
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	
Date impact assessment started	February 2023

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

Applications were invited from Community Transport operators to submit a bid for a capital grant to fund the cost of a minibus (up to 75%) or replacement mopeds (up to 75%) to maintain service continuity and development, with additional cost met through local fund raising or application to local and national granting.

No applications were received for funding towards the cost of electric vehicles.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

The proposed award of Capital Grants is affordable from the community transport element of the IPT base budget

Appendix 3

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	<p>Emissions from travel</p>	<p>X</p>		<p>X</p>	<p>The replacement of an older minibus and mopeds will decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Replacement vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and there may be an increase in pollution</p>	<p>Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to better understand and inform future decisions how the transition to electric vehicles could be made.</p>	<p>Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to better understand and inform future decisions how the transition to electric vehicles could be made.</p>
	<p>Emissions from construction</p>		<p>X</p>				
	<p>Emissions from running of buildings</p>		<p>X</p>				
	<p>Emissions from data storage</p>		<p>X</p>				

Appendix 3

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Other		X				
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		X				
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		X				
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>	X		X	<p>The replacement of an older minibus and mopeds will decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Additional vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and there may be an increase in pollution.</p>	<p>Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to better understand and inform future decisions how the transition to electric vehicles could be made.</p>	<p>Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to better understand and inform future decisions how the transition to electric vehicles could be made.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		X				

Appendix 3

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
Enhance conservation and wildlife						
Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape		X				
Other (please state below)		X				

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The replacement of an older minibus and mopeds will decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Although replacement vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and has some direct impact on greenhouse gas emission and pollution, community transport does contribute to less individual journeys in private car transport.

It is anticipated there will be minimal, if any impact on the distinctive features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Dianne Pottage
Job title	Public & Community Transport Officer
Service area	Integrated Passenger Transport
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Signature	Dianne Pottage
Completion date	22 February 2023

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Michael Leah

Date: 13/03/2023