

North Yorkshire County Council
Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

26 March 2021

Community Transport Funding

Report of the Assistant Director – Transport, Waste 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 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 Five 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 section four 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 Age UK North Craven provides a range of services meeting the transport needs of older and disabled individuals, and those without access to Public Transport who would otherwise experience social isolation. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase of a new accessible minibus to replace an existing minibus, which is now 8 years old and becoming increasingly expensive to maintain.
- 4.2 Dial-a-Ride Scarborough & District provides safe, reliable, affordable and accessible community transport for older people, people with a disability or because of limited access to Public Transport. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase a new MPV to increase capacity to meet requests for transport.

- 4.3 Hambleton Community Action provides Wheels to Work scheme in the areas of Hambleton, Richmondshire, Harrogate, and Craven. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase of two electric mopeds to meet demand for the Wheels to Work scheme, and organisational drive to reduce emissions.
- 4.4 Nidderdale Plus Partnership provides transport services in the Nidderdale and Washburn Valley. This application is requesting a grant (60%) towards the purchase of an accessible minibus to operate in conjunction with the existing Volunteer Car Scheme to provide access to essential services.
- 4.5 Ryedale Community Transport provides Wheels to Work scheme in the areas of Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby. This application is requesting a grant (75%) towards the purchase of two electric mopeds and replacement battery to meet demand for the Wheels to Work scheme, and organisational drive to reduce emissions.
- 4.6 Table 1 Summary of Applications

Applicant	Description	Cost £ 2020/21	Total £	Recommendation
Age UK North Craven	New wheelchair accessible minibus (75%)	32,400	32,400	Approve
Dial-a-Ride Scarborough & District	New MPV, vehicle tracker and logo (75%)	20,171	20,171	Approve
Hambleton Community Action (Wheels to Work)	2 x electric mopeds (75%)	3,600	3,600	Approve
Nidderdale Plus Partnership	New wheelchair accessible minibus (60%)	24,000	24,000	Approve
Ryedale Community Transport (Wheels to Work)	2 x electric mopeds and replacement battery (75%)	6,923	6,923	Approve
TOTAL		87,094		

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 Consideration has been given as to whether the grant funding for any for the five projects above for community transport could constitute a “subsidy” as defined in Article 3.1 (1) (b) of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of the one part and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the other part (“the TCA”). Following consideration of this legislation and a full review of the proposed grants it is not likely that grants will amount to a “subsidy” and therefore the delivering of grants to the community transport providers is compliant with the subsidy control regime.

5.3 Whilst it is noted that the Dial-a-Ride providers are in receipt of the Department for Transport Local Authority COVID-19 Bus Service Support Grant Restart Scheme, as this is a scheme from central government it is assumed that this is compliant with the subsidy control regime rules.

5.4 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 of an older minibus will decrease greenhouse gas emission and pollutions, and the addition of electric mopeds would facilitate approximately 40,000 miles with zero emissions over five years. Additional vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and has some direct impact on greenhouse gas emission and pollutions. A Climate Change Impact Assessment is included as Appendix 3 of this report.

9.0 Recommendation

9.1 That the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services approves grant funding to the five applicants for the projects listed in Table 1 at 4.6.

MICHAEL LEAH
Assistant Director – Transport, Waste and Countryside Services

Author of Report: Dianne Pottage

Background Documents: None

Project Name	North Craven Community Transport	Date 12/02/2021
Name of Organisation	Age UK North Craven	
Main contact name	Jonathan Kerr	
Telephone	01729 823066	Email: jkerr@ageuknorthcraven.org
Total funding requested	£32,400	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>Age UK North Craven operate two minibuses providing a range of services meeting the transport needs of older and disabled individuals, and those without access to Public Transport who would otherwise experience social isolation.</p> <p>The organisation is requesting 75% contribution for the purchase of a new accessible minibus to replace the older vehicle, which is now 8 years old and becoming increasingly expensive to maintain.</p> <p>The vehicle will be used to provide daily door-to-door services enabling access to health care, shopping, 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	Increase in number of people supported and journeys made to access to essential services.
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 and development.	
Recommendation	Approve	

Project Name	Additional Wheelchair Accessible MPV	Date 12/02/2021
Name of Organisation	Dial-a-Ride Scarborough & District	
Main contact name	Julie Banks	
Telephone	01723 354434	Email: julie@scarboroughdialaride.org
Total funding requested	£20,171	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>Dial-a-Ride Scarborough & District is requesting a contribution of 75% towards the purchase of a wheelchair accessible VW Caddy Max to increase capacity to meet requests for transport. The vehicle will be used mainly for health related journeys and exclusively driven by volunteers.</p> <p>Daily services are available enabling access to healthcare, shopping, day and respite care, support groups etc.</p>		
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	High demand for services, and increase in requests for transport to hospital appointments outside the Scarborough area
Supports the Council's priority outcomes (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Clients are able to access health and other essential services. Being able to make these journeys with Dial-a-Ride enables people to remain in their home and communities supporting independence, and reducing social isolation.
Meets or exceeds quality standard (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Midas training provided to all driving staff & volunteers.
Demonstrates organisational efficiency, financial management and partnership approach	Y	Good use of volunteers, efficient scheduling system, and works closely with other voluntary groups.
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	Increase in number of people supported, and journeys made to access essential health services.
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	The vehicle will be staffed entirely by volunteers, making it a very sustainable solution.	
Recommendation	Approve	

Project Name	Wheels to Work	Date 12/02/2021
Name of Organisation	Hambleton Community Action	
Main contact name	Liz Lockey	
Telephone	01609 780458	Email: chief.officer@hambletoncommunityaction.org
Total funding requested	£3,600	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>The Wheels to Work scheme provides flexible, affordable transport to individuals to enable access to work, education or training in the areas of Hambleton, Richmondshire, Harrogate, and Craven.</p> <p>Hambleton Community Action is requesting 75% contribution towards the purchase of two electric mopeds to complement their existing fleet of petrol-powered 50cc and 125cc mopeds.</p> <p>This project will enable Hambleton Community Action to compare maintenance and running costs and will inform future vehicle selection.</p>		
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Increasing demand for the Wheels to Work service, and organisational drive to reduce emissions.
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	Makes good use of volunteers and works well with partner organisations.
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	Based on an average moped hire period of 6 months this project will enable up to 12 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 and development. Valuable service targeting individuals with no other means of appropriate transport.	
Recommendation	Approve	

Project Name	Nidderdale Community Transport	Date 12/02/2021	
Name of Organisation	Nidderdale Plus Partnership		
Main contact name	Helen Flynn		
Telephone	01423 714953	Email: helen@nidderdaleplus.org.uk	
Total funding requested	£24,000		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:			
<p>Nidderdale Plus Partnership is requesting a contribution of 60% towards the purchase of a fully accessible minibus to enhance community transport services provided to residents of Nidderdale and the Washburn Valley.</p> <p>The vehicle will be used in conjunction with the existing Volunteer Car Scheme to provide access to essential services, and will be driven by volunteers.</p> <p>Nidderdale Plus Partnership is an independent charity providing a range of services in conjunction with other organisations.</p>			
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Provision of door-to-door fully accessible transport for residents unable to use the Volunteer Car Service.	
Supports the Council's priority outcomes (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Access to health and other essential services. Enables people to remain in their home and communities supporting independence, and reducing social isolation.	
Meets or exceeds quality standard (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Midas training provided for all driving staff and volunteers	
Demonstrates organisational efficiency, financial management and partnership approach	Y	Good use of volunteers and works closely with other voluntary groups.	
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	Increase in number of people supported, and journeys made to access essential services.	
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 to increase access to essential services for residents of Nidderdale and Washburn Valley.		
Recommendation	Approve		

Project Name	Wheels to Work e-moped Pilot	Date 12/02/2021
Name of Organisation	Ryedale Community Transport	
Main contact name	Mark Hall	
Telephone	01653 699059	Email: mark@ryedalect.org
Total funding requested	£6,923	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:		
<p>The Wheels to Work scheme provides flexible, affordable transport to individuals to enable access to work, education or training in the areas of Ryedale, Selby, and Scarborough.</p> <p>Ryedale Community Transport is requesting a 75% contribution towards the purchase two electric mopeds, and battery replacement.</p> <p>This project will enable Ryedale Community Transport to compare maintenance and running costs and will inform future vehicle selection.</p>		
Clear evidence of unmet need (Yes/No and evidence)	Y	Increasing demand for the Wheels to Work service, and organisational drive to reduce emissions.
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	Makes good use of volunteers and works with partner organisations.
Quantified benefits of the project (yes/no and value per year)	Y	Based on an average moped hire period of 3 months this project will enable up to 40 people access work, education or training over five years.
Is funding request for core support		No
Does the organisation hold commercial contracts for transport		Yes
Would approval of the grant give a competitive advantage		No
Comments	Funding is required for service continuity and development. Valuable service targeting individuals with no other means of appropriate transport.	
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 five 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 Equality rep 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	17/3/2021		



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	IPT
Lead officer	Dianne Pottage
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	
Date impact assessment started	February 2021

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.

N/A

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

How will this proposal impact on the environment?		Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
<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>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 		
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.	Emissions from travel	X		X	The replacement of an older minibus will decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and the addition of electric mopeds in the Wheels to Work fleet would facilitate approximately 40,000 miles with zero emissions over five years. Additional minibus/MPV vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and there may be an increase in pollution.	Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to inform future decisions.	Evaluate use of e-mopeds to inform future Wheels to Work fleet replacement programme.
	Emissions from construction		X				
	Emissions from running of buildings		X				
	Other		X				

Appendix 3

How will this proposal impact on the environment?				Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
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.	Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Where possible/relevant please include: <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 		
Minimise waste : Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic		X				
Reduce water consumption		X				
Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)	X		X	The replacement of an older minibus will decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and the addition of electric mopeds in the Wheels to Work fleet would facilitate approximately 40,000 miles with zero emissions over five years. Additional minibus/MPV vehicles to maintain service continuity and development may increase the number of journeys made and there may be an increase in pollution.	Ensure service data is captured to assess passenger numbers/journeys to inform future decisions.	Evaluate use of e-mopeds to inform future Wheels to Work fleet replacement programme.
Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers		X				

Appendix 3

How will this proposal impact on the environment?		Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
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.					Where possible/relevant please include: <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 		
Enhance conservation and wildlife			X				
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

Appendix 3

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 an older minibus will decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and the addition of electric mopeds in the Wheels to Work fleet would facilitate approximately 40,000 miles with zero emissions over five years. Additional 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.

It is anticipated there will be minimal, if any, impact on waste, water consumption, resilience, conservation and 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	10 March 2021

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Michael Leah

Date: 17/03/2021