

Community Transport Grants 2024/25

January 2024

Part One: What is community transport?

In all parts of the UK, thousands of community transport staff and volunteers are helping people to stay independent, participate in their communities and access vital public services and employment.

Community Transport is about providing flexible and accessible community-led solutions in response to unmet local transport needs, and typically represents the only means of transport for many vulnerable and isolated people, often older people or people with disabilities.

Using everything from minibuses to mopeds, typical services include voluntary car schemes, community bus services, school transport, hospital transport, dial a ride, wheels to work and group hire services. ¹

What does Community Transport mean to residents?

Community Transport represents so much more than simply travelling from a to b. We know that it offers a wide range of economic, social and health benefits for residents that may need a helping hand. Community Transport connects people, reduces loneliness and isolation, and provides better access to local community resources.

The background to the grants

The Community Transport grants have been run by both Councils for a number of years, in recognition that there are different providers offering different forms of flexible transport locally. One of the overall aims of these grants is to encourage groups to work collectively together and share assets (vehicles, volunteers or even premises) to make best use of any financial assistance or resource that already exists.

Part Two: Community Transport Grants Criteria

WHO CAN APPLY?

Organisations (not individuals) who are either:

- 1. Registered charities, or
- 2. Private companies who will run their scheme as not-for-profit or offset any income or

¹Source: https://ctauk.org/about-cta/what-is-community-transport/

profit with social value, and who will

3. Provide the service in **Adur** and/or **Worthing**

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The money is provided by Adur District and Worthing Borough Councils. The budget is for the period March 25 - March 26. There will be one round for these grants in the financial year 2024/25.

The total Adur budget is **£12,000** The total Worthing budget is **£20,000**

BASIC FUNDING CRITERIA

Your organisation must:

- ✓ Have a constitution or set of governing rules
- Hold up to date accounts and/or records of expenditure
- Own a bank account; or a partner organisation willing to hold the money for you
- Have up to date and relevant policies (such as safeguarding or insurance) to run your project or service
- ✓ Be ready! The project will start/continue within one month of receiving the money

CRITERIA FOR THE FUND

Your Community Transport project must:

- Reduce social isolation and loneliness of residents.
- Help mobilise those who struggle with public transport.
- Provide affordable community transport that is accessible to those who struggle with the costs of other forms of transport.
- ✓ Work with other local organisations to join up your service.
- Be able to evidence the need for the project and make best use of the money offered.
- ✓ Have a simple but targeted marketing plan to reach those who need your service.

EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE WILL CONSIDER FUNDING

- Help towards asset costs staff, volunteers, rent, vehicles and associated expenditure - this does not cover the purchase of vehicles.
- A central person, resource or digital solution to enable collaboration with all Adur and Worthing Community Transport providers

PROJECTS WE CAN'T CONSIDER

- Those that don't benefit the residents or communities of the Adur and/or Worthing
- Organisations that discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation.
- Any project related to political activities or sponsorship.

KEY DATES

The Community Transport Grants will open on: Wednesday 15th January 2025. They will close on: Sunday 2nd February 2025 at midnight.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- In Adur, there are also <u>Adur Community Grants</u> and you are also eligible to apply for funding if you are a charity or voluntary group;
- In Worthing, there is <u>Community Chest</u> for applications.
- <u>Sussex Community Foundation</u> may also be able to help.
- <u>West Sussex County Council</u> has grants to support Community Transport.
- <u>Community Works</u> are a good point of contact for support and guidance, including fundraising.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- After we have received your application, we will email you an acknowledgement. We will then check that you are eligible and have supplied the information we need.
- After the deadline, we will collate all applications and discuss them with internal and external partners to whom the application may be relevant.
- The final decision rests with Adur District Council Cabinet Member for Communities & Wellbeing and Worthing Borough Councils' Deputy Leader.
- We hope to let you know if you have been successful or not within one month after the deadline has passed. If you are offered a grant, you will receive payment up front, before your project starts (once you have agreed to our terms and conditions).
- You have to return a monitoring form to us once you have spent the money or completed your project; this is expected within one month of completion.

Contact Details:

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