



A Guide to Community Transport

At a glance

Community Transport refers to a variety of transport services provided by non-profits, charities, or local authorities, primarily aimed at supporting the elderly, disabled, or those in remote areas by ensuring access to essential services like healthcare, shopping, and social activities.

Transport Schemes

- **Community Buses** are local bus services run by community groups, often in rural or underserved areas
- **Community Car Schemes** involves volunteer drivers using their own cars to assist those without access to a car or public transport.
- **Hospital Transport** provides transport for patients attending hospital appointments, especially those without other options.
- **Wheels to Work** can help individuals get to work or training through car shares or access to mopeds, bicycles, or cars.
- **Dial-a-Ride** a pre-booked door-to-door transport service.



Find out more about driver training here

Challenges

Community transport is vital in Wales, especially for those who can't access conventional public transport, including the elderly, disabled, and rural residents. Challenges include transport-related poverty, social isolation, environmental impact from reliance on individual vehicles, and the high costs of private transportation, all exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis.

Solutions

Community transport provides a vital solution by connecting individuals to essential services, reducing social isolation, and offering reliable, eco-friendly transportation options. It serves as a cost-effective, flexible, and community-led alternative to conventional transport, addressing the needs of those who struggle with access and affordability.

Benefits

Community transport promotes social inclusion by improving access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. It also enhances environmental sustainability by reducing carbon emissions and contributes to overall well-being by offering accessible and affordable transport solutions.

Key Stages

- 1 Understand your Community's Needs**
Collect and analyse evidence on current transport provision and community needs. Engage with residents, businesses, and neighbouring areas through surveys, questionnaires, community events or meetings.
- 2 Create an Action Plan**
Develop a comprehensive budget with costings, funding options, and cashflow projections for the transport service. Create a detailed action plan outlining tasks, deadlines, and responsibilities to track progress and keep the project on course.
- 3 Seek out Partnership Opportunities**
Contact Community Transport Providers for potential partnerships or solutions, if there are no local options, seek support from the Community Transport Association, or collaborate with neighbouring councils.
- 4 Funding**
Find out about any grants or funding opportunities that may be available to you.

Useful Information

CTA – 2045 Roadmap for Community Transport in Wales

Llwybr Newydd:Wales Transport Strategy.

Powers to Provide Community Transport

Power to Establish Car Sharing Schemes - Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s26

Power to make arrangements for taxi fare concessions - Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s28

Power to investigate provision of public transport services and to publicise information on such services - Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s29

Power to make grants for bus services - Transport Act 1985 s106A

Powers & justifications can differ, councils should consider their specific circumstances. For advice & guidance, councils may wish to contact their One Voice Wales Development Officer.

admin@onevoicewales.wales

Volunteers are a key asset and play a crucial role in providing community transport schemes.

Recruiting & Supporting Volunteers

County Voluntary Councils & WCVA

can provide support setting up community initiatives & promote volunteering.

CoMoUK is the national charity for shared transport

The Community Transport Association is a great source of specialised support

Existing Services & Projects

Welshpool Community Transport offer 'Taxi Tokens' to vulnerable people within 10 miles of the town to help them access services

Llanfair Clydogau & Cellan Community Council secured funding to run a pilot project to provide a minibus service for residents to access the local town of Lampeter.

Dolen Teifi provides community transport initiatives in Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire

Flintshire Community Travel incorporates **Ring and Ride**, Welsh Border Community Transport and Flecsi Services

PACTO co-ordinate the various community transport schemes in Pembrokeshire

Llangattock Community Council secured funding to undertake a study into the potential use of electric buses and car share schemes with a view to setting up a transport stakeholder group and undertake the work to establish a community transport scheme around the hub town of Crickhowell.



Watch our **One Voice Wales Guide to Community Transport Webinar**

Funding Information & Potential Opportunities

Community Transport Association Top Tips to Funding

Funding Cymru

National Lottery – People & Places

Motability Foundation

One Voice Wales offer a training module on 'Making effective grant applications'

Want to Find Out More?

For more information on the One Voice Wales Cost-of-Living Crisis project contact the team at:



CoLC@onevoicewales.wales



<https://bit.ly/3KYHftK>