Community Transport:
Making transport more inclusive for communities across Scotland

What is community transport?

Community transport supports people to live independently, participate in their communities and access local services and amenities. Run by charities, community groups and other not-for-profit entities it offers a reliable and resilient way to meet transport needs. Services are person-centred and targeted towards those most likely to be **underserved or excluded by mainstream transport**, including people who are less mobile or live in sparsely populated areas.

What services does the sector provide?

Demand-responsive journeys enable people to access everyday services, such as the shops or vital health services, whilst scheduled community buses connect and **integrate communities with the wider transport network**, supporting a **modal shift** from private cars to shared transport. Yet, many services run on small, short-term grants, **fighting to sustain themselves** rather than receiving the funding and support that would enable them to plan, thrive and develop.

Who are the Community Transport Association?

The Community Transport Association (CTA) is a national charity supporting charities and community groups across the UK to provide community transport solutions. [CTA has a large presence in Wales, serving approximately 100 CT organisations of which 80 are CTA members.]

cta
community transport association

We ask that Government:

Support Sustainable Funding:

- **Develop a new funding model for CT** which is appropriate for the specialist services provided by the sector, and reflects the specific needs of the communities served
- **Co-produce funding solutions** with communities, the community transport sector, and local and national governments
- **Provide multi-departmental funding** to reflect community transport's contribution to outcomes across a wide range of departments

Prioritise Decarbonisation:

- **Recognise community transport's contribution** to the low carbon and active travel agenda, as a shared mobility mode that helps achieve a modal shift away from the private car
- **Support community transport to become an alternative transport solution** for those penalised by green transport policies, for example low emission zones which penalise rural dwellers who rely on the private car
- **Ensure that green funding and infrastructure is equally available** to the CT sector and responsive to the needs of accessible vehicles

Champion Health Transport:

- **Ensure that CT is included and integrated** into the planning and delivery of health services by introducing transport coordinators to all health boards
- **Evaluate NEPT services** and ensure that ambulance services and CTs are working in an integrated way