Cheviot Area Partnership

Transport related discussion output (prior to 19th June 2019)

Issues:

- Public transport not great, no joined up thinking. Elderly people struggle to access transport for the Borders General Hospital
- Transport to Borders General Hospital an issue – could multiple appointments for one area be clustered?
- Rural area –distances to access health and social care are an issue in many cases.
- Scottish Ambulance Service have tightened criteria for patient transport – creating big demand for community transport – which isn't free, though far cheaper than taxi's but need more volunteer drivers.
- Better links to community transport from BGH
- Organise BGH clinics on a geographical client basis to simply transport and make it more economical, sustainable and greener.
- Under 16 free rail pass. Young people shouldn't have to pay the full price for tickets
- Free bus passes for young people
- Transport – School leavers access to work and further information, reliance on limited bus services, how to move between rural areas
- Transport free for young people
- Free buses for the young to encourage them to access jobs/education but stay in the Borders.
- Accessible transport – getting to college, work, health appointments and social events. Any good examples elsewhere? Rural transport needs improved and Kelso links to main routes
- Transport links to the Cheviot area
- Lack of public and community transport
- Unreliable buses
- Poor public transport
- Improve bus service
- Transport NB - bus stops in on Jed high street. Need to deal with car parking on street!
- Too expensive and not enough options e.g. £8 for gala return. Bus drivers not believing people are the right age to have a bus pass.
- Need to maintain and improve bus services - connection to Hawick ok but more problematic to central Borders and beyond - need to avoid rural isolation – links to jobs and opportunities.
- Infrastructure of the future - start planning now.

- More sustainable methods of transport.
- Cycle pathways need to be improved.
- More sustainable modes of transport, lost the bus services!

Solutions:

- Transport links – better bus links, be creative to help people move around
- Access anywhere – Skype Doctor appointments – might be easier virtually for mental health, for young people?
- Skype facility to speak to a consultant? Access Anywhere in Highland and Lanark – digital upskilling?
- Community Transport
  - need to look at other projects in the Borders and Scotland
  - volunteer based and publicised - "how do you let people know" - think of audience mix of hard copy, digital, landline, notices and leaflets
- Transport - one stop shop to reduce number of journeys, co-ordination of appointments on a geographical basis
- Transport infrastructure required
- e-Car scheme minibuses would be available for community use
- Transport need amongst different age groups will have been mapped and timetables, availability etc. will have responded to this
- Different travel models will have been explored
- Needs to have a sustainable infrastructure
- Improved car parking provision
- Joined up thinking when planning transport and local services is evident
- Railway

Rural Transport Discussion Points (19.06.19)	Comments	Suggestions
Rural bus network How could rural bus networks better meet the needs of users? What role could technology have in providing a better service? Examples of good rural networks?	• Who puts timetables together? • Lack of communication/consultation by bus operators • Better linkage/connection between different buses & service operators • Bus competes with the rail network • No bus to/from Morebattle between Saturday night and Monday morning • Bus from Howdenburn misses the connection to the Edinburgh bus (different operators) • On-demand services • Jedburgh school children have to leave classes early to attend College and change in St Boswells • Joined up thinking needed! • Use taxi-buses – Demand Responsive Transport o It works, e.g. Smailholm works very well • Online bookings • Use tokens (entitlement based on need) – can be 'cashed in' by taxi firm •	• Waited service? • Adjust timings? • More encouragement to use public transport • Better connection times and more appropriate wait times • Technology - to book in advance • Make sure timetables correspond • App on phones which shows bus times – Borders Buses & Traveline already do this • Book a bus system / Community taxi services • Electronic/digital bus timetables in Kelso & Jedburgh bus stations and on some bus stops • Need to make sure that services run by different companies will wait for a 'connecting' bus when it's been delayed otherwise people are stranded! • Same applies at Tweedbank where a bus doesn't wait for a train to come in! • Young Scot card for use on buses?

Community transport
 	
Examples or ideas of flexible and innovative community transport solutions?
 	
Could communities play more of a role in providing transport solutions / opportunities?
 	
Are there other transport schemes we could learn from?
	• Cheviot Wheels
	• TeleHealth
	   o in surgery building?
	   o rooms in schools?
	   o Village halls?
	• Border couriers, hospital supplies, other delivery people etc. could provide alternative solutions
	• Community wheels is small scale (Teviot Wheels)
	• Volunteers are taking people to hospital appointments but taking business away from Taxis
	• Other examples: Richmond & District, Thirsk & District
	• Wheels services & RVS provided 31,000 passenger trips last year with volunteer drivers
	• Communities could commission a regular community transport service e.g. for shopping – but would have to be paid for.
	• Or car shares – care needed re. insurance
	• E-bike schemes – is there funding? Yes, Scottish Government funding now live
		• More volunteer drivers
		   o Using their own car (mileage?)
		   o Similar idea to Uber
		• West Linton taxi scheme
		• Fife model of booking transport – Ring & Ride
		• After school taxis drop off, can they pick up for hospital runs?
		• Car share - is there an app?
		• Tokens could also be used for community transport?

Other transport solutions What role could the new SBC E-Car club scheme & other car club schemes, and South of Scotland Economic Partnership, play in improving transport opportunities in the area?	• Could the eCar scheme be a solution for volunteer drivers? • Not many charging points in this area? • SBC car club is dual fuel • Loan out to local champions for trials • Evenings and weekends? • eCar scheme need to be placed in rural communities • Car share schemes need to be promoted • Taxi scheme	• App or Facebook page to share journey details so people can share • Have cars available 7 days a week • Electric charging points put into all new houses • Interchangeable batteries • More charging points