

## 2019/2020 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

*Locality: Tweeddale*

*Ref. No.: CF190 –TW –The Bridge*

*Organisation Name: Tweed Wheels, The Bridge*

*Funding Requested: £10,000*

ABOUT THE GROUP			
<b>Organisation Structure</b>	Company Limited by Guarantee		
<b>Annual Accounts Balance</b>	£92,439.80 as of 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? £88,517 as restricted funds in line with their reserves policy, this will allow the company to sustain for a period of 3 months if all other funding sources were terminated.			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Fund	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project Brief	<b>The Bridge are looking to purchase a replacement mini bus as the existing vehicle is 9 years old and needs replaced.</b>
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	Tweed Wheels has been providing an accessible community transport service for the people of Tweeddale for over 21 years. The service supports some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the community, through age, ill health, frailty or disability - including those with learning disabilities, who are unable to access other modes of transport.
Total Expenditure (£)	£41,697

Community Fund Request (£)	£10,000	
10% Match-funding	£1,697	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
	£10,000	The Clothworkers Foundation – Application Pending – Spring 2020
	£10,000	The Robertson Trust – Application Pending – Spring 2020
	£10,000	The National Lottery – Application Pending – spring 2020
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	

<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	
<p>What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?</p>	<p>The current bus is 9 years old and will be decommissioned. There is no re-sale value in parts currently and any parts that can be used as part of the new customized bus will be used.</p> <p>In the 12 month period ending April 2019, the Tweed Wheels mini bus was used for 4,927 passenger trips. Older people have represented over 35% of these journeys. Other community groups have used the bus including; community youth organisations, groups with learning disabilities and other community groups such as churches and sports clubs.</p> <p>'We have been using the Tweed Wheels minibus for trips away for several years now and many of these trips would not have been possible without it. Young people in rural communities like Tweeddale often lack the opportunities that their peers in cities and towns with cheaper and more regular public transport connections have, and having access to a minibus allows us to offer opportunities and experiences that would not otherwise be possible'.</p>

	<p>The new bus will replace the existing mini bus that is ageing and in need of repair. The new bus will be fully accessible with a chair lift and removable seats which will mean that there will be space to accommodate additional wheelchairs by removing seats. In retaining a mini bus The Bridge will continue to be able to provide a service and accommodate the large numbers that are currently accessing transport</p>
<p>What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?</p>	<p>The service supports a wide variety of people and members of the community in Tweeddale. Accessing a bus has greatly improved older people quality of life; in providing them with the opportunity to make essential appointments as well as to maintain a social presence in their communities. It also allows the opportunity for a wide range of community groups to enjoy trips away.</p> <p>The bus allows those in rural communities who may be isolated due to lack of affordable and accessible public transport to still be connected.</p> <p>The bus is used for wider community benefit for both health reasons as well as encouraging varied social experiences. The bus can also be used to attend health and social care appointments, both locally and further afield with the nearest hospital being over 20 miles away.</p> <p>The Bridge offer regular shopping trips where passengers can attend to their banking needs and are able to collect regular prescriptions.</p> <p>The vehicles will be accessible and wheel chair user friendly.</p>
<p>What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?</p>	<p>Support for the service is evidenced by the on-going demand. Some journeys are unable to be met due to lack of capacity.</p> <p>Local organisations, such as the Pensioners Association, Riverside House Sheltered Housing, Peebles Nursing Home, Interest Link, Tweeddale Youth Action depend on Tweed Wheels for transport and use the service regularly.</p> <p>There is also the opportunity for members of the community to volunteer as drivers. All volunteers are PVG checked and MiDAS trained.</p>
<p>What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?</p>	<p>Additional funding has been sought and the Bridge are currently fundraising.</p>

	The business model means that operating costs for the bus will be covered via the funds made at the Tweeddale Thrift Shop in Innerleithen. Also for any groups that wish to use the bus they are required to be a member of The Bridge at a £15 annual membership.
What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	The bus will remain operational and will continue to be maintained and serviced by The Bridge. Running costs will also be met by The Bridge.
Quotes received for items of expenditure	Quote received from Minibus Options
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	N/A

### **SBC OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend to approve to the value of £10,000

This application meets the criteria of the Tweeddale Community Fund

*Additional Terms and Conditions:*

Award will only be made when the match funding of £30,000 as detailed above is confirmed