

COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION DETAILS		
Ref No: CGS/10/15	Grant Request: £5,000	Total Project Cost: £23,995
Project Title: The Bridge Community Transport Initiative – Gala Wheels		
Brief Summary: Gala Wheels provides offers a community service by providing vehicles to transport the elderly or those with mobility issues at affordable rates. The service ensures the reduction of social isolation for those who are unable to use public transport, allowing them to take part in everyday life and community activities without restriction. One of the vehicles currently used is now at the end of its useful life and the grant will contribute towards the cost of a replacement vehicle which will be fully adapted to accommodate the physically impaired as well as the able bodied.		
Match-Funding From Other Sources:	Robertson Trust (£7,500 - agreed); Christina Mary Hendrie Trust (£2,500 – confirmed); Langhope Rig Wind Farm (£2,000 – confirmed)	
Contribution by Organisation:	£6,995. Under the rules of the scheme, a minimum 10% is required for requests over £500 which can be cash or in-kind.	
ORGANISATION DETAILS		
Name of Organisation: The Bridge		
Type of Organisation: Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee		
SBC Members/Officers who are members of organisation:	Councillor Sandy Aitchison	
The following information has been received and checked by an Officer as correct:-		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signed and dated Constitution (<i>all organisations</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Bank Statement less than 3 months old (<i>all organisations</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independently approved annuals accounts (<i>all organisations over a year old</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Estimate of Income/Expenditure for first 12 months (<i>newly formed organisations only</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quotations/Estimates (<i>project grants only</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support (<i>project/support involving children or vulnerable adults only</i>)		
SBC Grant Received in last 2 years: Chief Executive: 2013 (£14,741 – Operational Grant); 2014 (£16,000 – Operational Grant) Environment & Infrastructure: 2013 (£26,160 – Community Transport & £17,000 Social Car Scheme) Community Grant Scheme: 2013 (£4,453 – Tweed Wheels Replacement Vehicle)		
ASSESSMENT		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The organisation has been in receipt of a grant from the Community Grant Scheme in 2013 to purchase a replacement vehicle for Tweed Wheels which has been signed off appropriately 2. The organisation is properly set up and appears to be operating in line with its Constitution 3. The organisation has submitted accounts to 31st March 2014 which have been checked and appear in order 4. The organisation has savings of £184,795 which is less than one full year's typical income of £499,725, however it should be noted that £86,485 of these savings are restricted to support staffing, transport costs, leaving a balance of £98,310. Any organisation which has more savings than the amount of income it receives in a year and which is not set aside for a specific purpose is unlikely to receive a grant. This amount of savings satisfies the terms of the Community Grant Scheme 5. The organisation has submitted a quotation for the cost of an adapted vehicle which appears to be in order 6. The application demonstrates a need for the project as one of the existing vehicles used by Gala 		

Wheels is approaching the end of its useful life. The new vehicle will help to reduce the level of vehicle maintenance costs which have been rising due to the age of the existing vehicle

7. The project meets the scheme outcome 'communities have more access to better quality local services or activities' which links to the SOA outcomes:-
 - Growing the economy
 - Reducing Inequality
 - Maximising the impact of the low carbon economy
8. The project meets the Corporate Plan priorities:-
 - Encourage** sustainable economic growth
 - Improve attainment and achievement levels** for all our children and young people, both within and outwith the formal curriculum
 - Provide high quality support, care and protection** to children, young people, adults, families and older people
 - Build the capacity and resilience** of our communities and voluntary sector
 - Maintain and improve** our high quality environment
 - Develop our workforce**
 - Develop our assets and resources**
 - Ensure** excellent, adaptable, collaborative and accessible public services
9. The organisation has demonstrated the support and involvement of the wider community whose use of the community vehicles has steadily risen since inception in 2006. Feedback from users has demonstrated that this is a valuable service which many rely on to reduce social isolation and assist with mobility issues. The organisation consulted with user groups and volunteer drivers to determine the best type of vehicle to meet the community need
10. The organisation receives annual support for the Community Wheels Initiative from Environment & Infrastructure. The Passenger Transport section has confirmed it does not specify how monies are to be spent but it is likely to be used to cover running costs with little or no funding available for replacement costs. The organisation also receives annual support for the Social Car Scheme but all of this funding is used to cover mileage for client trips
11. The organisation has met the external funding requirements of the scheme, having secured a high level of support from a variety of external funders. It is unable to approach Awards for All for funding for this project as Tweed Wheels have already gained funding from this source for a similar project. The organisation has exhausted all other external funding options for this project and requires funding from CGS as the last part of match funding to enable the project to go ahead
12. Membership of the organisation is open to all and it appears committed to equal opportunities. The organisation has provided an Equality Statement confirming that it has its own Equal Opportunities & Harassment Policy and has a strong commitment to ensuring equality for all. The project will provide an adapted vehicle which is capable of accommodating the physically impaired as well as the able bodied. An initial Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and there are no apparent concerns.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to approve to the value of £5,000, conditional on match-funding being achieved for the project.

Assessment Criteria

- *Grants received before*
- *How group has made use of previous grants*
- *How group is set up and managed*
- *Finances and financial need for funding*
- *Need/demand for project/activity*
- *How well the project meets the Community Grant Scheme outcomes (Communities have more access to better quality local services of activities; Communities have more access to better quality environment; Communities have more pride in their community; Communities have more access to better quality advice and information; More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty)*
- *Support and involvement of wider community*
- *Efforts to secure other sources of funding*
- *How group has taken account of equal opportunities*

