

## DELEGATED DECISION

### Regeneration and Local Services

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

### LTP3 Grant Funding for Community Transport.



---

## Report of Adrian White – Head of Transport and Contract Services

---

### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To seek approval to allocate LTP3 (Year 7) grant funding to 'Dene Valley Community Transport', 'Weardale Community Transport' and 'Shildon community Bus'. This funding contribution will assist with the purchase of new minibuses to replace vehicles from the current fleets.

### Background

- 2 'Dene Valley Community Transport' currently operate 5 vehicles under Section 19 Licence (2 non-accessible and 3 accessible), undertaking numerous activities in and around the local community. Two of the accessible vehicles are approximately 7-8 years old and starting to incur significant maintenance costs.  
The only option is to replace a Ford Transit Minibus as this vehicle is proving totally unreliable and becoming uneconomic to maintain and keep on the road.
- 3 'Weardale Community Transport' – currently operate 9 vehicles under Section 19/22 Licence, undertaking various activities in and around the local and regional area. One of the vehicles (sub 9 seater people carrier) is currently used to provide a local DRT service. This service operates on a daily basis providing links to local villages for various services. The current vehicle is approximately 10 years old and starting to incur maintenance costs. In effect becoming uneconomic to maintain. The proposal is to replace this vehicle with an accessible Nissan ENV-200 Electric vehicle.
- 4 'Shildon Community Bus' – Operates as a 100% voluntary organisation. They currently operate 2 fully accessible, 16 seat minibuses which provide transport for 50+ groups and 600+ local residents. Approximately 2 years ago DfT announced a funding

programme to provide CT organisations with minibuses. Shildon received one of those buses but had very little input into the specification. As a consequence the vehicle is not really fit for purpose. Therefore the proposal is to sell this vehicle and use the money to contribute towards a new vehicle which better fits with the operation of the organisation.

- 5 Full details of the aims & objectives of all the schemes are outlined in the attached business cases. (Appendix 2)

### **Proposal**

- 6 It is proposed that DCC allocate LTP3 capital funds as follows:
- £33,079 to 'Dene Valley Community Transport'
  - £16,831 to 'Weardale Community Transport'
  - £33,079 to 'Shildon Community Bus'
- These figures represent a 70% contribution towards the total cost of the vehicles which are £47,256, £24,045, £47,256 respectively. The remaining 30% of the cost being made up from funds for each organisation + resale of the old vehicles.  
Vehicle cost, specification etc. is outlined in Appendix 2.
- 7 It is proposed that all organisations enter into the standard 5 year SLA, which covers all legalities of service operation. (Appendix 3.)

### **Recommendations and reasons**

- 8 You are recommended to approve the allocation of funding to 'Dene Valley Community Transport', 'Weardale Community Transport' and 'Shildon Community Bus' as detailed above.

### **Decision**

9

### **Background papers**

10 N/A

---

**Contact: Adam Robinson Tel: 03000 268522**

---

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

**Finance** - £33,079, £33,079 £16,831 allocated from LTP3 capital funds.

**Staffing** - no implications

**Risk** - no implications

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty** - no implications

**Accommodation** - no implications

**Crime and Disorder** - no implications

**Human Rights** - no implications

**Consultation** - Discussions have taken place with the relevant CT organisations. Business cases have been provided and an in depth understanding of the financial side of the organisations has been gained. DCC officers and 'Dene Valley Community Transport/Weardale Community Transport/Shildon Community Bus' have a full understanding of the arrangements and are in full agreement with the proposal. Consultation has taken place with the cabinet portfolio holder (Cllr. Carl Marshall).

**Procurement** – no implications

**Disability Issues** - no implications

**Legal Implications** - no implications

