

Community Transport Glasgow

Allocated funds £900,000



THE ASK

Community Transport Glasgow (CTG) applied for funding to upgrade its ageing fleet from diesel to low-carbon passenger vehicles.

WHY IT WAS SELECTED

CTG's social purpose is to provide not-for-profit transport solutions to enable affordable, reliable and accessible transport to the vulnerable communities we serve. This made them a good fit for the fund.

THE PROJECT

We launched Glasgow's first ever all-electric minibuses. This gave us an ideal test bed for the operation of electric minibuses across the country. CTG currently provides transport solutions to 75,000 passengers a year who will benefit from this project.

Graham Dunn, Manager at Community Transport Glasgow

"As a third sector organisation, this funding is transformational to Community Transport Glasgow (CTG), as it has enabled us to renew our ageing fossil fuel fleet with a new fully electric fleet. The funding from the Green Economy Fund not only enables CTG to build on our social purpose, it also reduces our service's environmental impact on our local communities."



How this project serves the GEF aims

Putting the planet and people first

By keeping vulnerable communities connected, this project helps to reduce social isolation and loneliness – a major mental health issue in Scotland.

The estimated CO₂ emissions saved will be 43.22 tonnes per annum. This equates to 216.1 tonnes saved over a five-year period.



We must keep evolving

Building this transportation framework in Glasgow has allowed us to test how electric minibuses could work across the country – a huge step towards supporting economic development and the journey to Net Zero.



Support where it's needed most

The project helps vulnerable, disadvantaged and elderly people across the city access vital appointments and community activities.



We're already making an impact, and will continue to do so

Overall costs for CTG have been reduced through the savings made in relation to fuel and maintenance costs.



Reliable bus services are being provided for the communities in Scotstoun, east end and greater Glasgow.

1-4. Community Transport Glasgow unveiled its new fleet at Glasgow Botanic Gardens in January 2020. Graham Dunn, Manager at CTG, gave SPEN CEO Frank Mitchell, members of the local community and Glasgow actress Elaine C Smith a tour of the new Orion E low floor accessible vehicles.



Key findings

Through analysis of the projects monthly reporting, we were able to identify the following key findings:

The manufacturing of electric minibuses is limited due to this being fairly new technology on the market.

The car club projects highlighted the difficulty of obtaining car insurance due to no previous insurance history.

Car clubs found there was a need for volunteer drivers, but they were hard to come by.

Procurement stages can be time consuming and may cause delays to project timescales.

Long lead times for EVs have been a common challenge for GEF projects. This delayed the arrival of vehicles and had an impact on their delivery plans.

Successfully operating electric vehicles provides confidence for future purchasing decisions.

