

Community Transport and the Local Authority

**SUPPORTING THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF
COMMUNITIES**

Public Transport Landscape P&K



Current P&K Public Transport Provision

51 Local Bus Services operate throughout Perth and Kinross. 40 are either wholly or partly subsidised by PKC

As at June 2023 there were 102 licensed taxis and 230 licensed PHV in PKC. However, many PHV solely operate school contracts and do not participate in general hire.

28 Community Transport groups operate in Perth and Kinross that the Council are aware of. There are 15 PKC minibuses available for groups to hire for outings.

Varying levels of service delivery from the Community Transport Groups from solely operating hospital car journeys to operating a registered local bus service

7 Railway Stations within Perth and Kinross

Scottish Citylink intercity service journeys consistently increasing and Ember and Flix being newer companies to join this market and also increasing services

Current and Future Challenges

Ongoing decline in local bus operators and no new local bus operators starting up

Increasing costs of operating bus services post covid and post Brexit

Bus driver shortages, particularly in our rural areas

Vast majority of the network operated by one commercial urban based operator

Changes to commercial networks has resulted in reduction of frequency, longer journey times and reduction in evening journeys

[Sweeney's Garage - Service 91 \(youtube.com\)](#)

Rural
Public
Transport:
Views of
the public
and views
of the
route

Transforming delivery of rural transport in P&K

- ▶ PKC formed a PSP with GCTG. Subsidise them to operate local bus service and a school transport contract. Low floor minibus to be provided.
- ▶ GCTG transport around 950 passengers a month. Their Service 55 won the Best Bus Service in Scotland Award at the 2024 Scottish Transport Awards. They commenced Service 23 on 02 Sept 2024.
- ▶ PKC purchased four x 8 seat vehicles from CBF to lend to CT groups in Muthill, Aberfeldy and Kirkmichael to deliver community led public transport solutions. SES will also receive one for Blairgowrie – Dunkeld rural area.
- ▶ PKC trialling small test of change with PKC staff and pool car undertaking school contract. Local businesses could look at this?



Local Authority and Community Transport Groups Partnership Approach

Partnership working combining all our resources can deliver public transport solutions effectively

- ▶ Communities often have vital resources but no funding
- ▶ Local Authorities have qualified staff that can support communities
- ▶ Local Authorities can direct revenue and capital funding to communities
- ▶ CT groups can deliver school transport for the LA
- ▶ Community empowered to deliver services in their area for their residents – agile and responsive

We can all
help make
a difference
together

The five Es for locally based transport

- Efficiency - Holistically examine all transport operating across the local area and address the real need.
- Equality – Policy and welfare interventions. Access in all areas.
- Effectiveness – Hub and spoke model with Community Transport Groups and small operators feeding into mainline routes
- Economic – growing our economy, tackling poverty
- Environment – Climate change action



Questions?

