

# CTA's Scotland Conference 2025: Healthy Communities

## AGENDA

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Doors Open</b>
<b>9.30am – 10am</b>	<b>Registration, Networking &amp; Refreshments</b>
<b>10am – 10.05am</b>	<b>Welcome</b> Nicola Mitchell, Development Manager, CTA
<b>10.05am – 10.15am</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Dr Victoria Armstrong, Chief Executive, CTA
<b>10.15am – 10.45am</b>	<b>Healthy Communities in Research: Our Report</b> David Kelly, Scotland Director and Head of Policy & Campaigns, CTA

In 2019, the Scottish Parliament passed legislation placing new duties on NHS Boards to work with Community Transport operators to improve access to health & social care. But nearly 6 years on, with NHS waiting lists longer than ever and NHS budgets under growing pressure, has there been any progress? And, if not, why not?

This presentation will share data and evidence from our new report uncovered by CTA through Freedom of Information requests, a nationwide operator survey and a pilot passenger survey.

<b>10.45am – 11.15am</b>	<b>Healthy Communities in Action: Case Studies</b> Jeff Zycinski, Manager, Partnerships for Wellbeing Donald MacNeill, Chief Executive, Comunn na Gàidhlig
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Scotland's public health challenges are well-known. An ageing population. An obesity and inactivity crisis. Intensifying demand for social care. A loneliness epidemic.

What community solutions does our sector offer? How are Community Transport operators helping to bring people together, encourage active travel or deliver non-emergency patient transport? And how can we capture this social value for funders, politicians and policymakers?

In this session, we'll showcase and learn from two Community Transport operators making their communities healthier.

**11.15am – 11.45am      Morning Networking Break**

**11.45am – 12.15pm      The MiDAS Transformation Journey**  
Dr Victoria Armstrong, Chief Executive, CTA

The Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme (MiDAS) has been the gold standard for enhancing the safety and care of passengers for 30 years. MiDAS provides a UK-wide recognised standard for the assessment and training of drivers and passenger assistants to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to provide safe, legal and comfortable journeys to passengers.

We'll hear why CTA has been on a journey to modernise the content and delivery of each of the courses available under the MiDAS umbrella to ensure they are of the highest quality and fit for purpose for the 21st century. We'll learn about the new MiDAS Passenger Assistant Training Scheme (PATs) training for anyone who has care or supervision responsibilities of passengers traveling by road, the latest to undergo transformation, joining MiDAS Standard and MiDAS Accessible.

**12.15pm – 12.45pm      Lightning Talks: Our Partners**  
BCD Insurance Services – Tristan Scaife  
Passenger Lift Solutions – Morgan Clissett  
EVM UK – Lorna Miller  
Motability Foundation – Dani De'ath  
The Fuel Store – Craig Kemp  
Mistral Specialist Vehicles – Cameron Yeoman

From major independent funders to UK corporates plugged-in to global supply chains, we're partnering with people, businesses and organisations who share our values to shape and develop offers, opportunities and discounts that are tailored to the needs of Community Transport operators.

In this quick-fire Lightning Talks session, we'll hear from 6 of CTA's partners who can help you with funding, insurance, vehicle purchasing and leasing and more.

**12.45pm – 1.30pm      Lunch & Networking**

**1.30pm – 2.30pm      Healthy Communities in Partnership: Policy & Practice**

Dr Margaret Douglas, Consultant in Public Health,  
Public Health Scotland  
Susan Forbes, Health Improvement Officer,  
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership  
Michael Simpson, Sustainability Manager (Transport &  
Active Travel), NHS Assure

How can we win better recognition, secure fairer funding and develop closer partnerships with our colleagues in health & social care? In this panel, we'll hear experts, funders, policymakers and stakeholders from across the sector in conversation, discussing the key challenges and opportunities, as well as offering their advice and support.

**2.30pm – 3pm**

**Afternoon Networking Break**

**3pm – 3.45pm**

**Healthy Communities in Action: Case Studies**

Peter Fenton, Coordinator, South West Ross  
Community Car Scheme  
Ewan Bush, Connecting Communities Project Officer,  
Garve and District Development Company  
Jim Patterson, Beeline Community Transport

We'll hear from 3 more Community Transport operators who are nurturing healthier communities across the Highlands and Moray. They'll tell stories from their respective journeys as Community Transport operators, sharing ideas, innovations and inspiration for you to take home.

**3.45pm – 4pm**

**Closing Remarks**

Lara Henderson, Development Manager, CTA

**4pm – 5pm**

**Drinks & Networking in the Waterside Bar**

**5pm**

**Close**