



CTAI secures funding for cross border services study

THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Association of Ireland (CTAI) has secured a grant of €15,000 under the European Union's INTERREG IIIA Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland to carry out a study on cross border local transport services. This grant has been matched with a further €2,500 each from the Department of Transport in the Republic of Ireland and the Department for Regional Development in Northern Ireland.



The study will be carried out from January to June 2007 and will involve the following actions:

- Identifying the barriers to the implementation of cross border passenger transport services by local operators.
- A consultation exercise, incorporating local needs surveys, to ascertain the level of demand/need for cross border rural transport services.
- Investigating Models of Good Practice in the delivery of successful cross border local transport services.
- Supporting the work of authorities in removing barriers and assisting the development of 'joined up' transport policy in RoI and NI.
- Feedback the findings of research to local stakeholders and to assist the Department of Transport and the DRD to disseminate them more widely to all relevant stakeholders throughout RoI and NI.
- Design and plan appropriate services for pilot cross border local transport services. ■

Launch of CTAIS web site

THE CTAIS web site www.communitytransport.ie was launched on 26 September 2006 at the meeting of the Cross Border CT Forum in Enniskillen. The content of the web site, which is available in both English and Irish, includes details of the services provided – advice & information with FAQs, advice notes, training programmes and materials, guides & handbooks; downloadable newsletters; information on the CTAI, CTAIS Steering Group and Cross Border CT Forum; Useful Links to other relevant organisations. ■



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Events

CTAI AGM 2007

Thursday, 8 February

RDS, Dublin

Seminar on Integrated transport services

Thursday, 8 February

RDS, Dublin

CTAI Regional Training Days 2007

Friday, 9 February, RDS, Dublin

Thursday, 29 March, Limerick City

Wednesday, 30 May, Cavan

Sustainable Community

Transport 2007 (Part of Convergence)

Friday, 20 April

Dublin City Centre

Access & Mobility Exhibition 2007

9 & 10 February

RDS, Dublin

New member of staff at CTA NI

KELLIE ARMSTRONG has recently started work as Support & Development Officer at the CTA in Northern Ireland. Kellie previously worked for North Belfast CT and Peninsula CT in Co. Down. She is also experienced in advertising and training. ■

Own Account Transport Operations

Introduction

OWN ACCOUNT transport operations are those carried out for non-commercial and non-profit-making purposes by a natural or legal person, provided that:

- The transport activity is only an ancillary activity for that natural or legal person
- The vehicles used are the property of that natural or legal person or have been obtained on deferred terms by them or have been the subject of a long-term leasing contract and are driven by a member of the staff of the natural or legal person or by the natural person him/herself.

Own-account carriers are permitted to carry out this type of transport operation without discrimination on grounds of nationality or place of establishment provided that they:

- Are authorised in the State of establishment to undertake transport by coach and bus on the conditions of access to the market laid down by national legislation;

- Meet legal requirements on road safety as far as the standards for drivers and vehicles are concerned.

The own-account transport operations referred to above are exempt from authorisation but subject to a system of certificates.

Own-account Transport Operations Certificate

The certificate entitles the holder to carry out international transport operations by coach or bus for own-account. It is issued by the competent authority of the Member State where the vehicle is registered and is valid for the entire journey, including any transit journeys.

The relevant part of the certificate must be completed in indelible letters in triplicate by the person or the representative of the entity carrying out the operation and by the competent authority. One copy must be kept by the administration and one by the person or entity. The driver must keep the original or a certified true copy on board the

vehicle for the entire duration of any international journeys. It must be presented to the enforcement authorities on request. The person or entity, as appropriate, is responsible for keeping the certificate. The certificate is valid for a maximum of five years.

Certificates can be obtained from the Department for Transport, International Road Freight Office in Cambridge, England for Northern Ireland and cost £5 for each year of validity.

Certificates can be obtained from the Department of Transport Public Transport Division in the Republic of Ireland and the following fees apply.

On application for a certificate	€2.54
On grant of a certificate	€7.62

Sources

Council Regulation (EEC) No 684/92 of 16 March 1992

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2121/98 of 2 October 1998 ■

D1 Provisional Driving Licence

YOU MAY APPLY for your first provisional licence for vehicles in category D1 after you have been granted a driving licence for category B. If you have previously held, or are currently the holder of, a D1 provisional licence and if such licence was, or is, your first such provisional licence, you may apply to have a second provisional licence.

A person shall be regarded as an applicant for a first provisional licence in respect of a particular vehicle category if s/he has not held such a licence in the preceding five years. In addition, you may **not** apply for a provisional licence if you are disqualified by age, ill health or

otherwise or if you do not have your normal residence in Ireland. You may not apply for a provisional licence in respect of a particular vehicle category if you already hold a full driving licence in respect of that category which was issued by the competent authority in a Member State of the European Union or of the European Economic Area.

You may **not** apply for a third or subsequent provisional licence in respect of a particular vehicle category unless you submit either of the following with your application:-

- (a) evidence of having undergone a driving test in the vehicle category in question in the two year period prior to the application. (In such instance a two year provisional licence will be granted)
- (b) evidence of having applied for a driving test in respect of the vehicle

category in question. (In such instance a one year provisional licence will be granted).

A provisional licence holder is required at all times to display L-plates in a vertical position to the front and rear of the vehicle which they are driving and is **not** permitted to carry passengers on such a vehicle.

Applying for a Provisional Licence

You must be normally resident in Ireland to apply for a provisional licence.

You should apply to the Motor Taxation Office of your local County Council or City Council.

For more detailed information, please visit www.communitytransport.ie to obtain our Factsheet or contact us on 049 432 3849 or advice@communitytransport.ie ■

Making it happen ... local transport co-operation

THE CTA NI recently published a Guide to good practice in local transport co-operation. It was launched by David Cairns MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, NI Office, at the CTA NI annual conference at the Europa Hotel, Belfast on 14 November 2006.

This publication gives nine examples of good practice, in the form of case studies, where local communities are finding appropriate solutions to their transport problems. These local passenger transport schemes have co-ordinated their activities with other agencies to improve the overall availability and accessibility of the local service. The services are important in helping people go about their daily lives, for work and for leisure. In many cases before they existed some of the users felt trapped at home with no way of seeing friends or going to the shops.

The examples have been selected to give a good geographical spread from across the UK and Ireland and to illustrate a mixture of different kinds of schemes – from urban to rural, from voluntary to commercial. The examples include Accessible Community Travel Services, Newcastle, Co. Down, Accessible Community Transport Southside, Dublin, Bridge Accessible Transport, Derry City, Clare Accessible Transport, Co. Clare, Out & About, Magherafelt, Co. Derry and Rural Link, Co. Tyrone.

The principal common feature of all the examples is the level of co-operation that takes place between local agencies. Partnership has proved effective in making better use of existing resources.

The case studies show that there are joint operations between public transport, social services transport, health transport,

David Cairns MP (on right) with Keith Halstead, CEO CTAUK, (on left) and Bryan Myles, Director NI for CTAUK (centre) at the launch.



education transport, voluntary sector transport and in some instances the commercial sector. All the projects involve practical, creative partnerships between the local community, public sector agencies and often the private sector. There is general agreement that such co-ordination, whether on an individual vehicle basis or area-wide, is an excellent way forward. ■

Bussing it across borders

ON THE 18th May 2006 North South Rural Voice hosted a cross border community transport conference; 'Bussing it across Borders'.

Those attending included community transport service providers, community representatives, policymakers and politicians. 'Bussing it across Borders' provided the opportunity for those attending to work together to suggest viable solutions to some of the barriers to developing cross border transport and to develop a plan for the way forward. Graham Lightfoot from the CTAIS set the scene with a presentation, which included information on some of the issues associated with operating a community transport service on a cross border basis.

The event served to highlight the importance and necessity of addressing the issues associated with developing a cross border community transport service. Those attending were given the chance to have their input into the event through time for discussion and workshops and the table below lists some of the main issues raised.

Route licensing
Operator licensing
Driver licensing
Concessionary travel eligibility
Digital tachographs
Speed limiters on vehicles

Funding

Community transport providers receive funding to provide a service in their area and can only carry passengers from their side of the border. This means that someone living in a rural area, but

possibly across the border, which "may only be a ditch" in some areas, cannot access a much needed service.

Clarity is needed as to how the Rural Transport Fund in NI will be administered as a result of devolving responsibility for it from the DRDNI to the new local councils and the way in which the mainstreaming of the Rural Transport Initiative in RoI will be implemented from 1/1/2007.

Report

A report on the conference has now been produced and has been disseminated to all those who attended the event as well as politicians and policymakers in the border region and at national level, ensuring that cross border community transport is kept to the fore.

For a full copy of the report, go to: www.communitytransport.ie or visit www.nsrv.info, email info@nsrv.info or telephone 00353 (0)42 9690806. ■

Community Transport Training Network – Schedule of courses & events

Community transport training day

RDS Dublin, 9 February 2007

This regional training day has been organised as part of the CT Training Network's programme and to coincide with the Access & Mobility Exhibition 2007. The programme for the day is set out below and includes practical workshops aimed at all of the various actors involved in making community transport groups successful organisations.

The workshops have been divided into three streams:

- Stream 1 is for on-vehicle staff
- Stream 2 is for office based staff and managers
- Stream 3 is for board/management committee members.

Time has been allocated to visit the Exhibition, which includes vehicle converters, software providers and equipment suppliers. Exhibitors of particular interest to community transport groups are located in a specific part of the Exhibition and include suppliers of low floor minibuses, MPVs and software designed for CT operations as well as the CTAI's own stand.

Fees for CTTN Members €50 per delegate
 CTAI Members €75 per delegate
 Non Members €100 per delegate

Fees are inclusive of tea/coffee and a light lunch.

For a booking form please visit www.communitytransport.ie or e-mail Damien@communitytransport.ie

Time	Stream 1 On-vehicle staff	Stream 2 Office staff and managers	Stream 3 Management Committees
0930 – 1000	Registration		
1000 - 1200	Customer relations	Choosing the right vehicle	Good governance for charitable organisations
1200 - 1400	Lunch and visit to Exhibition		
1400 - 1630	Manual Handling	Presentation skills	Roles and responsibilities of committee members
After 1630	Visit to Exhibition		

Revised timetable for MiDAS training

There has been a delay in the delivery of the MiDAS Driver Assessor/Trainer training courses under the Community Transport Training Network. This delay has been necessary in order to ensure that the "localisation" of the training materials to be used in these courses has been fully approved. The "localisation" was required to make the materials appropriate to the regulations and practices in the Republic of Ireland. A revised timetable for the Driver Assessor/Trainer and the Passenger Assistant Trainer training courses is contained in the leaflet enclosed with this Newsletter.

Seminar on Integrated Transport Solutions

RDS, Thursday, 8 February 2007 from 1500-1730.

This seminar will look at progress made in taking an integrated approach to the delivery of local passenger transport services. It will bring together stakeholders from a variety of sectors to examine how working together can deliver the transport services which local communities and individuals need. The presentations will involve reviews of developments in Ireland, Britain and Sweden as well as case studies from Ireland, England and Sweden. Details of a workshop on transport co-ordination held over three days in the USA in 2006 will also be presented.

Speakers:

Graham Lightfoot,
Community Transport Association of Ireland.
Garth Goddard,
Programme Director – Transport, Centre of Excellence NW, England.
Tracy Jessop,
Head of Passenger Transport, Planning & Transportation Department, Norfolk County Council, England.
Lena Fredriksson,
Trivector Consultants, Sweden.
Laura Ward,
Clare Accessible Transport, Ireland.
Amy Conrick,
Community Transport Association of America.

Fees for CTAI Members €35 per delegate
 Non Members €65 per delegate

Fees are inclusive of tea/coffee.

For a booking form please visit www.communitytransport.ie or e-mail Damien@communitytransport.ie

Information Session 'Seat Belts & Child safety', 30 January 2007

An advice training session on relevant legislation in relation to seat belts and child safety on minibuses. This session will have a checklist on how children should be travelling in vehicles and what steps an organisation should take to ensure they have the correct child seating for all ages and heights.

11am–12.30pm

Venue: Old Mill, Keady, Co. Armagh.

Cost: CTA Non-member £10/€15; CTA Member FREE

Booking details: Contact CTA on 028/048 9040 3535