



Notes from forum held 4th December 2023 Via Zoom and at Classics Museum – Belair Lounge

Facilitator: Amantha Bowen, Community Transport Lead

Note taker: Sam Yells, Community Transport Coordinator

Attendees: Maurice Flynn, Desiree Brown, Norma Taute, Khaliah Tapu, Ian Angus, Sarah Gibb, Sharon Hamilton, Jan Meredith, Giny Van Honk, Ann Deihl, Joanne Kelly

Via Zoom: Carol Costello, Nicky Patterson, Gillian Smith, Marion Peck, Peter Boyce, Marion Goodman, Rachel Haswell

1. Welcome: This session taking place both at Classics Museum – Belair Lounge and via Zoom.

2. Holiday break information (also posted on our website)

Transport group	Closing	Re-opens
Cambridge Community House Volunteer Driver Service	15 th December	8 th January
Coromandel Independent Living Trust	21 st December	1 st February
Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust	22 nd December	8 th January
Friends of Morrinsville – Health Shuttle	20 th December	15 th January
Matamata Community Health Shuttle	Statutory days	
North Waikato Transport Trust	22 nd December	16 th January
Raglan District Community Vehicle Trust	22 nd December	22 nd January
St John Community Health Shuttles *Phone lines will be closed for bookings from 21st Dec and will reopen on 9th Jan	15 th December	15 th January
Tairua Care and Friendship Club Inc.	Statutory days	
Te Awamutu Health Shuttle * Can book online 8th January, shuttle service resumes 15th January	20 th December	15 th January
Te Kauwhata Community House	22 nd December	8 th January
Te Kuiti 4H Mobility Van Service * Still take calls during Holiday period	22 nd December	11 th January
Whitianga Community Services Trust	21 st December	8 th January

**Please try to contact the transport groups directly for any urgent transport needs as they may be available for a limited service.*

3. WRC Community Transport Fund Distribution

- Community Transport fund application open 19th November and closing on 10th of December.
- CT Grant fund budget available per annum is \$200,000 to support CT groups.
- Good to let us know how much is needed (even if in excess of \$20,000) when applying although we cannot guarantee the full amount requested would be approved.
- Reassuring applicants that receiving a grant from Waikato DHB/Te Whatu Ora would not be “double dipping” and would not preclude them from applying to Waikato Community Transport Fund for whatever else they may require, as this is a separate pool of funding.

4. Accountability Report

- We are still in the process of finalising the Accountability Report and the recipients of the previous funding round last July will be contacted directly once finalised.
- The accountability report from the previous round of funding won’t affect whether they will be approved in the current funding round (FY 2024).

Some of the questions that will be asked in the Accountability Report:

- How many trips undertaken
- What kind of trips
- Share some stories / who was impacted
- Volunteer hours
- Updated copy of budget

Proposed pattern schedule of Fund distribution from this point on:

- November – December: Funding application round
- January – February: Approval of applications
- By March: Distribution of funds
- September: Accountability report (interim) due
- March: Accountability report (final) due

5. Fuel card

Some benefits of fuel cards:

- Considerable discounts on fuel
- Track Purchases
- Detailed Reports
- Enhanced security and fraud prevention
- Food and Drink Discounts
- Reward Programs*

Some things to consider when choosing fuel cards:

- Promo periods
- Discounts
- Transaction fees
- Fleet size

** Please be mindful when considering what rewards programmes to use and how they are set up / whether they are appropriate. Feedback we received from some providers pointed out that in some circumstances volunteers have inadvertently received “personal gain” by using their own personal rewards programmes (such as Flybuys) while refueling for the transport service.*

If any providers are doing their own research regarding insurances, fuel cards, models of vehicle and other useful information, please don't hesitate to share with us. That information and research would be very welcomed by your fellow community transport groups.

6. Te Whatu Ora Commissioning Operating Model

Rachel Haswell provided a fairly high-level presentation to understand what the new operating model, outlining the structure. [See presentation.](#)

Norma Taute, our liaison with Te Whatu Ora, has taken on a new locality role. That is still evolving but she will come back to us at the March 2024 meeting hopefully with an update on the next Community Health Forums and whether it will be her, or someone else, who is our future health contact.

7. New Venue and timing

Rototuna Library will be the new venue for the next forum meetings. We received feedback to trial having the time range from 12:30 to 2:30pm.

8. Anything else:

- A request to have a support person or nurse aid trainer on the Taumaranui bus/shuttle.
- A request to have ethnicity in the labels of NTA form as its needed for their reporting to Te Whatu Ora and some patients are reluctant to give this information on request.
- Suggested to have someone representing ACC and also WIC attend the forum.
- Will invite Volunteering Waikato back to present again to the forum on tips for attracting new volunteers.
- A 3-month trial bus connector service between Coromandel Town and Thames with a possible extension to 6 months has been approved. The service will go from Coromandel town to Thames and back 4 times a week starting on Monday 18th December and connect with the Intercity bus timetable. Info flyer found [here](#).

Next forum dates:

18 March 2024

17 June 2024

16 September 2024

9 December 2024