



Merseytravel Community Support Initiatives 2018-19

Introduction

Merseytravel wish to work in partnership with community groups/ non-profit organisations/ social enterprises to assist local communities to encourage access to opportunity through sustainable transport solutions.

Our Communities and Employment Engagement Team can offer support to your organisation to help break down access barriers to enable support to:

- *increase pre-employment activities*
- *increase training/ employment opportunities*
- *reduce social isolation*
- *promote health and wellbeing*

To help meet these aims we can offer a package of initiatives available to apply for. Our package of support includes bespoke transport advice from our dedicated officers, advice on journey planning/public transport tickets and availability of travel tickets (subject to availability).

Public Transport Initiatives

Travel Tickets

To qualifying groups, off peak saveaway travel tickets are available to help public transport to become an 'enabler' for individuals, with the aims of:-

- increasing pre-employment activities
- increasing training/ employment opportunities
- reducing social isolation

Tickets can be distributed by groups/ organisations to support client groups/ centre users for journeys related to the above areas.

Public Transport/Journey Planning Information

The public transport network in Liverpool City Region can provide access to a variety of opportunities, but it can sometimes be daunting when searching for routes and looking for the best choice of tickets for particular journeys. Where required we can provide your staff and volunteers with the digital tools to make the task of planning and making a journey second nature.



We can also offer your organisation a free online, personalised journey planning app for your organisation's website. This allows users to plan their journey from their home postcode to their destination.

Employers Network Membership

Your organisation will be automatically registered to become a member of Merseytravel's Employer's Network. The Network is free to join, has a membership of over 500 employers/ groups and provides a useful range of tools and offers for your group. You will be invited to two Forums per year, and will be able to share best practice with other Liverpool City Region Community Groups.

Engagement Officer Advice

Bespoke support from our team to give your centre the most appropriate and relevant advice on sustainable travel for staff, volunteers and centre users.

Application Criteria

The support package is open to relevant organisations to apply for from 1st April 2018. If you consider it relevant for your organisation to apply, please bear in mind the above information when completing your application form, as well as the application criteria detailed below.

In particular we would like to hear from organisations/ groups looking to provide assistance for their centre users/ clients to access pre-employment and training activities with a view to increasing employment, training and life chances by reducing social isolation.

1. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a legal agreement with Merseytravel. The agreement will outline specific criteria in relation to any tickets issued to the organisation. That organisation will be required to:

Comply with all monitoring and data in relation to:-

- (a) ticket usage

as requested by Merseytravel. Failure to comply will result in support being withdrawn.

2. You will be required to submit monitoring data/ forms at the end of the quarterly period you have received support in. If receiving support throughout the full year you will be required to submit this data at quarterly intervals throughout the 2018/19 financial year. The reporting dates are:-

- Month end June 2018
- Month end September 2018
- Month end December 2018
- Month end February 2019



3. Have no other financial assistance for transport, including discretionary fund.
4. Deliver a transport solution to a minimum of 10 individuals.
5. Be able to provide at least two case studies to demonstrate the impact of the scheme.
6. Have a track record of delivering successful community projects.
7. Agree to become a member of Merseytravel's FREE Employers Network if you are not already a member. As a condition of this application you will be automatically signed up to the email group. Further information on this is available at

<http://www.merseytravel.gov.uk/about-us/ourworkinMerseyside/Pages/Employer-Network.aspx>

Please submit your completed form to - **Community@Merseytravel.gov.uk**

Your application will be acknowledged within 2 weeks of receipt. Successful applicants will be notified within 4 weeks of submission, subject to funding and resource availability.