

Department for Transport Rural Mobility Fund

Nottinghamshire County Council – Phase 2 Business Case submission to Department for Transport – February 2021

Executive Summary

Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) services, will be provided under Nottinghamshire County Council's NottsConnect banner to meet the travel needs of all residents.

A range of booking and payment services will be adopted, and effective information, marketing, and product offers will be used to attract passengers and encourage modal shift.

Eight new vehicles will operate DRT services in several areas:

- NC1 – linking the sparsely populated area of north east of Nottinghamshire with local towns for employment education, shopping, leisure, healthcare, and essential services, and onward links to Mansfield and Nottingham.
- NC2 – linking the rural western areas of Rushcliffe District, to access employment, education, and healthcare/visitors, and onward travel via Clifton Park & Ride.
- NC3 – providing a link from Mansfield suburban fringe to the centre in the evening after the local bus network ceases.

They will complement, and integrate with, the conventional network, through timetable coordination; through-ticketing; and a new interchange hub in Ollerton. New back-office software will allow dynamic booking and scheduling of services, and the most efficient use of resources; this will be available to external partners. It will enable a lower-cost, demand led solution to be implemented in areas of lower density or demand where the alternative is non-existent or too infrequent to meet everyone's needs. Crucially, it will help sustain bus services during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The total cost of the project is £5,486,000 of which £1,497,000 is requested from the Rural Mobility Fund. The project produces a BCR of 1.93.

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