

# 'Making a Mark'

## Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

### Westway Community Transport

Westway Community Transport (Westway CT) creates opportunities by providing essential transport and training services for individuals and groups.

Over the last 25 years, we have grown from being a small scheme with only six buses, to an organisation that now employs over 50 people, with a fleet of 50 vehicles delivering core strand services for the local community. We are proud to state that our values and objectives are still the same today as they were 25 years ago.



The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. Below are examples of how **Westway CT** is Making a Mark, striving to make a difference to local communities:

### Social inputs – adding value, bringing choice

In everything we do we commit to being reliable, respectful, fair, ethical and sustainable. We believe providing transport and training services are a means to a broader aim: harnessing community resources, meeting individual needs and creating social opportunities.

We aim to increase disadvantaged people's independence, thereby enriching their lives and improving their participation in society. We achieve this by providing access to essential services, while being sensitive and helpful in meeting their transport needs.

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We aim to keep services as affordable as possible for people with the least means. We offer quality and value for money; as services are delivered to a high standard in the most cost efficient way. We are user led and we have an innovative and approachable team that are always open to new ideas.

While delivering our core aims, we also stimulate the local economy and generate local employment opportunities. We offer people the chance, through volunteering and training, to improve their employment prospects, advance within their current employment and obtain useful life skills and vocational training.

## Social outputs – providing transport and training

- **Door to door transport** - **2,000** people registered to use our Community Car Scheme, using volunteers to transport individuals
- **Affordable access to minibus transport** to our membership of **680** Community Groups
- **Mobility scooters provided on a short term loan** to a membership of **400** people with mobility problems **free of charge**
- **Vocational training courses** for unemployed people & volunteers
- **Minicab service** - all profits reinvested, enabling us to deliver other services for free or at a subsidised cost

## Social outcomes of activities

We have provided over **7,500** individual trips for elderly or disabled people who would otherwise have been socially isolated. This leads to improved mental health and gives them access to friendships and healthy fresh food. There are also associated health benefits that reduce their dependence on the health service.

We are currently training and supporting **26** individuals to obtain a professional D1 Driving qualification that will enable them to enter the world of work. **87%** of people pass the test, and we also help them with CV creation and interview techniques to help them into employment.

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