

# ‘Making a Mark’

## Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

### Ealing Community Transport

Ealing Community Transport (ECT) is part of ECT Charity, a leading community transport organisation providing transport in Ealing, Cornwall, Cheshire and Dorset.

We operate ECT from a depot in Greenford and have been providing community transport services in and around the London Borough of Ealing for three decade.



We are committed to providing high quality, safe, friendly, accessible and affordable transport in local communities to voluntary, community and statutory groups. Our model sees us reinvest some of our surpluses each year to provide subsidised transport to these groups, which enables them to carry out their activities.

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 **ECT** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

### **Social inputs – supporting vulnerable individuals**

We provide accessible and affordable transport solutions to vulnerable individuals who otherwise would not be able to leave their homes, notably the elderly and people with disabilities. We seek to enable independent living and encourage social interaction for these vulnerable people who have serious difficulty in accessing other forms of transport.

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We also build partnerships with local befriending organisations in Ealing that helps us identify and encourage lonely and socially isolated elderly people to get out of their homes.

## Social outputs – enabling group transport

In 2015, we enabled **75,340** passenger trips for **508** different groups across our operations, which ensured that community groups were able to continue their activities by having affordable and accessible transport at subsidised rates.



Through the EASIE project, we set aside a fund of **£20,000** to go towards subsidising the cost of door-to-door transport for those who need it most. In 2015 we enabled over **5,000** people make over **87,000** trips.

We have worked with our local clinical commissioning group to provide an accessible door-to-door transport service for vulnerable patients to enable them to access GP surgeries, reducing the need for home visits.

## Social outcomes of activities

The social outcomes of our activities include independent living, facilitating social interaction, enabling affordable trips for voluntary/ community groups and supporting volunteering and the volunteer sector.

Our [Why Community Transport Matters](#) report demonstrates how Community Transport tackles the issues of isolation and loneliness, and the significant side effects these have from both an economic and social perspective.

The report demonstrates that these issues costs the borough of Ealing about £10m each year. Working with Deloitte, we calculate that Community Transport operators can contribute up to **£4m in savings** by reducing isolation and loneliness, and by keeping people independent longer.

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