

Additional information for the Friends of Levensgrove Park's application for funding from Dr Glen Trust

We have not provided a business plan as requested as our partner Cycling without Age Scotland have recommended against it as this type of project is reliant on volunteers and a business approach with statistical targets to reach is likely to destroy the essence and the sense of giving to others whilst receiving the wellbeing benefits of providing unforgettable experiences for many by many. We appreciate the reassurance you need to consider our application and hope that we can still provide you that without a Business plan format.

The results of this project will be driven by volunteers with support from Cycling Without Age Scotland who are a national charity directly supported by the Scottish Government and have successfully set up 53 chapters (global name given to branch of volunteers) operating in 23 local authority areas in Scotland. With their support and financial support from Dr AK Glen Trust, we hope to set up the first chapter in West Dunbartonshire.

A full breakdown of the cost of procuring, storing and running the trishaws including any staffing expenses

Preference is for purchasing 2 trishaws and total cost would be £19,800

Breakdown,

- 1. Procuring £16,800 – £8,400 for each Trishaw** (includes a waterproof blanket, pre delivery inspection, full training and disclosure service for all volunteers, annual insurance and full support from the Cycling Without Age Scotland HQ.)
- 2. Storage £3,000** – storage container with power installed to charge batteries
- 3. Running costs** -£600/year running costs for annual insurance and battery charging costs. Running costs will be raised through donations and specific fund raising in the park.
- 4. Staffing costs -NIL** - Staffing expenses are not necessary as will be run by volunteers.

Potential uptake of the service.

If two trishaws were to be funded, 6 people will benefit from every ride – 2 pilots and 4 passengers. Based on 6 rides out with each trishaw per day we could reach 252 people per week. Obviously this would vary with the inclement weather and availability of pilots and passengers. Cycling Without Age attended a meeting of WD Sheltered Housing Forum in March 2018 and demonstrated a trishaw and all the members were totally enthused by the idea and fully supportive of the project so we know there will be an appetite. The people we will be wanting to reach are the people who can't easily access the park just now and we will link in with the local sheltered housing complexes and care homes to advertise. As you will see from the Annual reports provided by Cycling without Age there will be demand for this new and innovative approach to engaging with older and disabled residents.

Information on any similar projects the group is aware of that might support your application

There are 53 other chapters throughout Scotland and we have attached annual reports provided by Cycling Without Age which demonstrate the success of all these projects.

Trishaws will be available immediately once the storage facility is in place as Cycling Without Age had to order advance stock when Covid hit in the event that delivery from Denmark may have been interrupted.

Single or 2 Trishaws? From the reaction from the WD Sheltered Housing Forum and the experience of Cycling Without Age we do not think demand will be an issue. 2 trishaws have the advantage of being able to provide more rides but also to be able to have one trishaw being charged or maintained when the other is being used.

Cycling Without Age could provide a trishaw on a temporary basis to gauge interest but initial training would still be needed and safe secure storage facility (£3000) in place to enable this to happen. We already have interested volunteers for being pilots just through word of mouth in our group but to recruit volunteers it would be more effective to recruit for a project that is going to happen rather than one that is hoped to happen.

Cycling Without Age do not provide leased trishaws only ones for sale. One assurance they can provide is that they are confident in their model of operating these projects that should a funded project not be successful, they would work with the chapter to resolve any barriers to success and if that is not possible would work with the funder and Local Authority and relocate the trishaw to another area in the region. Levensgrove Park is however an ideal location for this project to succeed.

Should the grant be awarded, Cycling Without Age Scotland are confident we could have everything in place to be able to deliver regular rides by the Spring of 2022 with training rides taking place prior to that.

Additional information can be seen on Cycling Without Age's website which includes a number of videos which show you the trishaws in action. This is also not just a fair weather activity – one of the key benefits for those who experience a trishaw ride is feeling the wind, sun and having a sensory experience so can be done all year round – the waterproof blankets and canopy keep them warm while still allowing them to really feel the weather. A trishaw ride is also a great opportunity to chat and trigger memories of previous experiences in the park and for local residents that's what makes Levensgrove Park such an ideal location for a trishaw and all the benefits they can bring.

The activities will be within the boundary of Levensgrove Park which will happen all year-round.

This project is aiming to reach the people who are unable to access the Park due to age, illness, disability or social isolation. 21% of Dumbarton's residents are aged 65 and above c. 3660 people. * In Dumbarton and Alexandria we have in excess of 480 households whose residents are being cared for in nursing homes, sheltered housing or supported elderly accommodation. In these households, the elderly residents have fewer opportunities than others to visit and enjoy the outdoor space of the Park. This is possibly due to the fact, that in this age group, it is only the physically well and active or those with access to a car who currently visit and enjoy the Park and all it has to offer. In addition, we have many residents in our Town who are in privately owned accommodation and they too, may not be able to access the Park for the same reasons.

Our aim with this project is to change this and enable the members of the above specific groups our community to visit the Park and enjoy the facilities it offers. To this end, we will work with the managers of local Care Homes, sheltered accommodation, supported accommodation, HSCP and WDC Tenants Associations, to identify those most in need.

*stats from the Social & Economic profile of WD <https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/media/4317428/wdbn-2018.pdf>