



# NAILSEA AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

Units 11 & 12, Coates Industrial Estate, Southfield Road,  
Nailsea, Bristol, BS48 1JN

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Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## **Charitable Incorporated Organisation Proposal**

We are proposing a change in our legal structure from **Community Benefit Society (CBS)** into a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)** giving us registered Charity status. We are asking members to vote on this.

### **What this means for you**

If members approve the proposal:

- Our current structure as a **Community Benefit Society** would be formally dissolved.
- A new **Charitable Incorporated Organisation** would be created to continue all our work, services and mission.
- Our purpose, activities and community focus would remain exactly the same. You should not notice any change to the service you receive.
- Members will be kept fully informed throughout the transition.

### **Why are we proposing this change?**

We are recommending that NDCT moves from a Community Benefit Society to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation giving a more suitable, recognised and sustainable legal structure for the future.

### **What is a CIO?**

A CIO is a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation** - a legal form created specifically for charities in the UK. It provides the benefits of being incorporated (like a company) while being simpler to run and regulated only by the Charity Commission.

### **Why is a CIO a better fit for NDCT?**

A CIO would strengthen our organisation in several important ways:

- **Greater credibility with funders:** Many funders prefer or require a more familiar charitable structure. Becoming a CIO would help us access more funding, supporting long-term sustainability and helping us keep fares low.
- **Simpler regulation:** A CIO reports only to the Charity Commission, rather than both the Financial Conduct Authority and Companies House. This reduces administrative burden and the risk of non-compliance.

- **Stronger foundation for growth:** The CIO structure supports clearer governance, accountability and long-term planning.

### **Why should we move away from a CBS?**

While the CBS model has served us well for the last 30 years, it now limits our ability to grow and access support:

- CIO status would also allow us to claim Gift Aid.
- A CBS status is less familiar to funders, partners and corporate supporters.
- We have missed out on funding opportunities that require a registered charity number.
- Most Community Transport organisations (around 82%) operate as a Registered Charity or Community Interest Company, making our current structure unusual in the sector.
- Becoming a CIO would make us more attractive to grant makers, donors and corporate partners.

### **What happens next?**

We hope you will understand the importance of this proposal and be excited about this very positive move forward.

If you have any questions, please contact Kate Bracken on 01275 855552 or email [kate@ndct.co.uk](mailto:kate@ndct.co.uk).

At the AGM, we will be asking you to vote for or against adopting CIO status and the dissolution of the Community Benefit Society. You can do this by completing Postal Voting Form (part of the AGM documents) or in person at the AGM.



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