

I could not make your email response form respond to my mouse. The most important single thing the Scottish Government could do to promote mental well being and prevent mental ill health developing would be to make the free bus travel pass available for use on Community Transport vehicles. Community Transport projects operate not for profit, to meet a social need. Thousands of elderly and /or disabled people who are eligible for the bus pass cannot use it; they are too far from a public bus route or are physically unable to reach a bus stop. Social isolation and social exclusion are well known factors in mental ill health, but the need for access to affordable transport does not seem to come in to official thinking on this subject. Transport enables people to take part in the ordinary activities of life, including social contact. It is time to make the link, produce a policy of actively encouraging the development of Community Transport, and provide appropriate financial encouragement.

Signed Jan Goodall,  
Chair of Dundee Community Transport and Dundee Accessible Transport Group (DATAG).