

Travel Plan Success Stories

Organisation: Tayside Fire and Rescue

Location: Tayside

Sector: Public sector

Mode: Cycling

Tayside Fire and Rescue covers an area of approximately 7,500 square kilometres, with a population of 392,000 people. The majority of the population is centred in Dundee and Perth with the remainder spread throughout a number of towns and villages in Angus, Perth and Kinross.

Tayside Fire and Rescue has an operational firefighter crew of 668 with 50 fire appliances based at 24 strategically located fire stations across Tayside.

With the large number of operational firefighters, there was a need to think about more sustainable forms of transport for them to carry out their work.

Measures

Tayside Fire and Rescue have therefore introduced bikes for use by specific departments providing an alternative mode of travel to cars.

Bikes as well as the associated personal protective equipment including helmets and hi-visibility jackets have been purchased for use by Tayside Fire and Rescue's Events and Emergency Planning personnel when attending major events such as the annual 'T' in the Park music festival and the Senior Open Championships in Carnoustie.

This project was part funded by Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership (Tactran) who run a Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme that provides financial assistance to organisations investing in measures aimed at encouraging sustainable travel.

Outcomes

They have experienced a number of benefits from introducing the bikes to their fleet including:

- A reduction in vehicle fuel and maintenance costs
- Lower carbon emissions by encouraging a greener mode of transport
- A healthier workforce.

Due to the interest expressed by other departments more bikes are now being provided, including bikes for the Community Safety and Legislative Fire Safety department allowing them to deliver their essential prevention activities across Tayside.