

Travel Plan Success Stories

Organisation: Stirling Council

Sector: Public Sector

Mode: Cycling – Pool Bike Scheme

Measures

In 2009, as part of the council's Travel Plan, Stirling Council purchased eight pool bikes. The aim of the pool bikes is to try and encourage staff to cycle to/from business meetings, which are in and around Stirling/ surrounding area. It was hoped the pool bikes would cut down on the number of unnecessary trips made by car for short business trips, whilst at the same time promoting more active travel amongst staff.

In early 2009 eight pool bikes were purchased along with helmets, panniers, lights, bicycle locks, bicycle pumps and tabards. Three pool bikes are located at Viewforth, 2 at Municipal Buildings, 2 at Springkerse and 1 at Raploch. The bikes cater for all different sizes – there are 2 small, 4 medium and 2 large bikes.

Prior to using the pool bikes employees are assessed for competency and are required to sign the terms and conditions of use. They are then able to book out the bike as and when required. Booking the bikes is straightforward and is carried out via the Groupwise Appointment System. All employees using the pool bikes were also given copies of the Highway Code.

The bikes are serviced twice a year to ensure that they are in good working order.

Stirling Council promoted their pool bikes through the staff intranet, posters and the weekly e-newsletter.

Outcome

The pool bikes have enabled employees to be able to use an alternative mode of travel to get to/from meetings other than a pool vehicle or private car.

This has meant that employees do not necessarily need to take in a car to work and as a result are able to use more sustainable modes.

It has also meant employees are more active as they are incorporating active travel into their day.