

Access WEST summary

The Access WEST project offers a range of support activities for businesses, the details of the various activities are outlined below. For more details about any of the support offerings, please contact Richard Drew, Access WEST Business Engagement Project Manager, unless otherwise indicated below.

The focus of the project is to promote walking and cycle commuting to work to reduce the congestion and environmental impact of single occupancy vehicle trips whilst also promoting the health benefits. There is also scope to promote greater access to work and skills training, particularly for those currently not in education, training or employment, this will be delivered as part of our Wheels to Work project, further information regarding this will be available soon.

There are a number of low or zero cost services on offer, please note that these are intended to be provided in conjunction at the very least with strong engagement from businesses and staff and preferably as part of match funded grant packages.

Match Funded Employer Grants

Grant programmes delivered over the course of the recent Travelwest Transitions project and previously under the Local Sustainable Transport Fund have enabled organisations to assist employees in travelling to work in a more sustainable manner, reduce individual's and organisation's overall environmental impact and make a positive impact on traffic congestion in region. Projects supported have included improving cycle parking; installing new changing and shower facilities; providing electric loan bikes for staff; installing electric vehicle charge points and implementing new car parking management to promote car sharing.

We are able to offer grants for up to 50% of the total cost (up to a maximum of £10000) of any projects that promote a reduction in single-occupancy vehicle trips and an increase in more sustainable travel to and for work, full details can be found on the Travelwest website: <https://travelwest.info/businesses/south-gloucestershire>.

Cycle Champions Network

The network is intended to be a platform for developing a culture of active travel to work as well as to help inform and support the work of the South Gloucestershire cycle forum. The

aim is to build a network of champions who are based at businesses across South Gloucestershire.

Champions will be supported in their work to promote cycling amongst colleagues and friends through a range of activities. We can offer guided rides, bike maintenance training, emergency cycle repair kits and support for promoting cycling through dedicated events and the cycle forum. In return we ask that champions help feed into the South Gloucestershire Cycle Forum by attending at least 2 meetings, these are held quarterly and usually run from 6-8pm. The Cycle Forum is also looking for meeting hosts so let us know if you can help.

Cycle champions can take advantage of one of each of the following additional support services at no additional cost: Dr Bike sessions, cycle maintenance training and led rides for staff.

Please contact Richard Drew directly for more information and cycle champions registration forms.

Loan Bikes

We are able to offer a loan bike to anyone that lives or works in South Gloucestershire. Bikes will be offered for a period of between 2 and 4 weeks, we have a range of hybrid style bikes, folding bikes and electric bikes available to loan out. We ask for a £100 deposit (£250 for electric bikes) and will deliver the bike to a convenient location.

At the end of the loan period, the bike will be collected and deposits returned (subject to the bike and ancillaries being in good working order). More details are available here: <http://betterbybike.info/start-cycling/get-a-bike/loanbikes> or by emailing travel.roadshow@westofengland.org, or calling 0117 3521105.

Travel Roadshows

As in previous projects, our Travel Roadshow team are available to visit your site to engage with staff and provide support and advice on different forms of sustainable and active travel to/from and for work. There is further potential to widen the scope of any events to include providers of specific services such as bus operators, car clubs, bike shops and journey sharing services. Please contact Richard Drew to discuss your requirements in full.

Journey Sharing

Journey sharing, including car, cycle and walking trips, is an effective way to help staff reduce their commuting costs, have a positive impact on traffic congestion and reduce an individual's (and your organisation's) impact upon the environment.

There are a number of services commercially available that can help support this, full details can be found here: <https://travelwest.info/drive/car-sharing>. The Access WEST project follows on from both the TW Transitions and the LSTF project so we can continue to offer free access to Join My Journey for businesses based in South Gloucestershire.

Contact details

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