



Greater Manchester
Fire and Rescue Service

Building community relationships through sustainable travel

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) is one of the most efficient fire and rescue services in the country. With bold ambitions to lower its environmental impact and improve community relationships, GMFRS approached Transport for Greater Manchester's Travel Choices for support, and has since received a Sustainable Travel Grant for bike maintenance stands at 15 of its fire stations.

The free-to-use bicycle repair stands installed at fire stations across Greater Manchester will allow the public, local cycle-commuters and fire fighters to fix punctures and carry out minor repairs.

Commenting on GMFRS' motivations, Sam Pickles, environment manager, said: "We have one of the best take-up rates for the Cycle-to-Work Scheme in the public sector and we go out of our way to ensure our staff can travel to work by bike – it is wonderful to be able to help our local communities enjoy this sustainable form of transport too."

"By working with TfGM's Travel Choices experts we hope to be able to have long term benefits, from reducing our carbon footprint, to improving the health and well-being of GMFRS staff and the people who live in the communities in which we serve."

Initiatives in their Sustainable Travel Action plan also being delivered include:

- Hosting adult cycle training and maintenance classes for staff and the public
- Bike maintenance sessions which provide a free health check and on-the-spot repairs
- Staff events and promotions to raise awareness of travel options to the sites

Since working with TfGM, GMFRS has made its fire stations more accessible by sustainable modes of transport and seen an increased number of employees cycling to work.