



The Royal Oldham
Hospital

A multi-pronged approach to sustainable travel

With over 3,000 members of staff and tens of thousands of patients and visitors annually, the Royal Oldham Hospital needed a solution to relieve the pressure on car parking and congestion.

Working with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), the hospital has taken-up many of the options recommended by them to increase the numbers of people walking or cycling to the site.

The Royal Oldham Hospital, part of the Pennine Acute Trust, is a hospital that lies within the Coldhurst area of Oldham, on the boundary with Royton.

The hospital has been becoming more sustainable to reduce its environmental impact, but with numbers driving to the site at 60%, in line with the national average, parking overcrowding and congestion forced the hospital to investigate purchasing extra land for new parking spaces.

With this in mind, TfGM began working with the travel and access manager for the Pennine Acute Trust to devise ways of encouraging staff and visitors to access the hospital using more sustainable means of travel and to look at a new registration system for the cycle pods, to ensure maximum usage and availability.

Initiatives have included:

- New secure cycle parking area installed underneath main hospital building with shower and changing facilities

- A Sustainable Transport Grant application has been submitted which would pay for further improved changing and shower facilities
- A total of 92 people are now registered to use bike storage pods
- Pool bikes have been offered to staff to borrow on a short term basis - they come complete with safety equipment, including helmet, lights and a lock
- TfGM is also offering free cycle training to staff, along with free cycle maintenance sessions
- Employees have access to the free TfGM CarshareGM car share matching tool. This will help staff by matching them with people offering or wanting lifts in their area. The Trust also offers a discount in parking costs for staff who share car journeys through the website.
- Staff engagement events are taking place to promote sustainable travel
- Employees have enjoyed Personal Travel Planning, where staff complete questionnaires about how they commute and may be offered free tickets to try out a mode of transport
- The Trust is also working with TfGM to highlight and promote sustainable travel as part of new staff induction.

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