

Cycling to Campus

With a responsibility to reduce staff and student travel impacts, and increasing demand for low-carbon and low-cost transport options, universities and colleges have a responsibility to facilitate and encourage cycling to campus through both infrastructure and communications. Key tips for increasing cycling rates in FHE are outlined below.



Facilities

Facilities must be considered against the following criteria:

- **Accessibility** - Access for all kinds of bicycle users must be a key priority. Improving facilities for disabled users is becoming key for local authorities.
- **Proximity** - Location of lockers, showers, tools and shelters must be considered carefully to ensure proper use and promote the ease of cycling. Facilities should be easily reached from cycle paths.
- **Usability** - Installing new infrastructure such as double stacked bike parks is only useful if the service users are able to operate them easily!

Security

- Police partnerships can be useful for education around suitable locks and bike marking.
- Bike storage should be convenient for users but not entirely open to public spaces to prevent theft.
- Initiatives such as [‘staring eyes’](#) can be a preventative measure in areas more prone to thefts.

Funding

- There is considerable funding available for cycling projects, however the application windows and spending restrictions can be tight. It is worth preparing projects for when funding opportunities arise.
- Sources include: [Cycle UK](#), [Pass for all](#), [City Deal](#), [Cycle Friendly Campus grants and intern programme](#).
- Local councils often lack resources to run projects which have funding or can win it, therefore collaboration can be very fruitful for institutions.

Engagement and Promotions

- Offering a Dr Bike visit to campus can encourage confidence in those who would hesitate to cycle due to a lack of technical knowledge. This also provides a reward for those who choose to cycle.
- Cycle maps for specific institutions can visualise available infrastructure and encourage new cyclists.
- Offering on-road led bike rides can help with knowledge of local area and confidence building.
- Partnering with local cycling communities can engage the institution locally.
- Ensuring facilities are properly signposted and marketed to increase awareness of the support provided is key to increasing cycling rates.

