

Green Travel

The Trust instigated a 'Green Travel Plan' in 2000 and since then has progressed implementation.



Key elements include:

- Negotiation with Nexus to secure discounted annual season tickets for public transport. More than 850 staff subscribe to the scheme with savings of up to 50% on outlay. In addition, the Trust provides interest free finance to bridge payments over the year. This is believed to be the largest and most successful scheme of all employers in Tyne & Wear.
- Expansion of the intra site 'hopper bus' service now saves in excess of an estimated 200,000 car journeys between sites and a saving of no less than 50% in taxi use.
- A 5% modal shift by staff to public transport rather than depending on the private motor vehicle.
- Ease of access to public transport information via the Intranet with links to travel operators for route planning.
- Regular travel surgeries to advise on alternative modes of transport.
- The promotion of 'Traveline' information to all patients when receiving appointments.
- Installation of 'Transpod', an interactive public transport timetable which allows personal journey planning to be achieved by utilising bus and metro operators transport scheduling system.
- In conjunction with Newcastle City Council 'cycle to work' maps were developed. In addition, a 'Cyclist' brochure was produced and issued to every member of staff. Arising out of this initiative, Bicycle User Groups (BUGs) were established.
- The opening of a pedestrian and cycle route from Longbenton Metro Station through the site (Ministry) of the Inland Revenue to the Freeman Hospital thereby reducing walking time by approximately 10 minutes in contrast to the alternative routes.



Nexus has worked closely with the Newcastle Hospitals over the last year in bringing the Green Travel Plan to fruition and in particular, ways and means of improving public transport information and provision for patients, visitors and staff.

Mike Parker
Director General, Nexus

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