

Hebden Bridge Town Hall: a sustainable transport building



Hebden Bridge Community Association trustees have declared their intention of making Hebden Bridge Town Hall as far as possible a **sustainable transport building**, as part of a more general policy on sustainability for the building.

We are currently working with other colleagues in the Development Trusts Association to develop further the idea of a national peer-supervised Sustainable Transport Building accreditation scheme.

This draft document gives our thinking for what we will be able to do in Hebden Bridge.

What do we mean by a Sustainable Transport building? We propose the following definition:

A building which by its location, design and operation actively encourages the use of public transport, cycling and walking, as an alternative to the unnecessary or excessive use of private cars.

So how can we justify the designation of Hebden Bridge Town Hall as a **sustainable transport building**?



Location

The Town Hall and the proposed new Hebden Bridge Creative Quarter is in the heart of the town, no more than five minutes' walk from bus routes and ten minutes' walk from the station. This is not an out-of-town business park location, where car use is often essential.



Design

We intend to try to maximise the opportunity to ensure that the new-build elements are built with sustainable transport needs in mind.



Operation

In the way we operate the present building, and particularly in the way we plan to operate the proposed new Creative Quarter, we can reinforce our claim to be a sustainable transport building.

Location

We will

- work to create new office and workspace units for about thirty microenterprises, where about 40- 55 people will be making their place of work, in a location which is easily reached by public transport

Design

We will

- design a building with adequate safe space under cover for users of the building to store their bikes
- design a building with showers and with locker space for those wishing to change into work clothes

Operation

We will:

- take steps to build a culture for users of the building which stresses sustainable transport solutions
- investigate the provision of a shared-use car for users of the building, working if possible with Hebden Bridge's existing Hour Car share scheme.
- investigate the provision of one or more shared-use bicycles for users of the building
- use our website to give directions to the building for those coming by public transport, on bike or on foot, as well as for car drivers
- work to ensure that the Town Hall is marked on the town map currently located at the railway station
- arrange at regular intervals for a cycle engineer to come to the building, so that building users can have their bikes serviced whilst they work
- in conjunction with Metro, display screens in reception with real-time information on train services (including delays) for Hebden Bridge station and real-time bus service information
- maintain stocks of Metro leaflets with information on bus and train times
- encourage lunchtime walks and cycle rides for business users, similar to the very successful Walk@Work initiative being undertaken in Mytholmroyd

- pro-actively try to organise car sharing arrangements for regular users of the building
- market the building as a sustainable transport centre, for example by promoting our wedding facilities in cyclists' magazine
- include sustainable transport details (train, bus routes etc) on our marketing leaflets for room hire, business conferences