

Category 2

Partnership Working and Local Government Schemes Sponsored by Virgin Trains

Winner:

Arriva Trains Wales – Improvements to Cycle Provision at Chester Railway Station



“Ambitious”

This is a great example of working in partnership to significantly improve cycle provision and security at a Grade 2 listed station. Arriva Trains Wales' overarching aim was to encourage the use of cycles to access Chester Railway Station by increasing cycle parking, and reducing cycle crime in the process. By encouraging cycle-rail usage, the secondary aim was to reduce congestion on local roads and minimise overcrowding in car parks.

Arriva Trains Wales worked closely with Network Rail after they were jointly awarded funding to carry out the improvement scheme. This involved creating new designated and covered cycle storage areas and replacing existing hoop storage with two tier racks. The result was that capacity was doubled. This was combined with better access, improved signage and additional CCTV.

Success

There were a number of successful outcomes:

- A reduction in cycle-related crimes at the station – from 13 thefts in 2011 and 9 in 2013 to only 2 so far this year.
- An increase in cycle-rail usage, 80+ cycles stored at the station per day
- An increase in cycle-rail user satisfaction

“Very good project delivering great benefits and future-proofing for cycle users”

“With these new double-decker racks not only are there plenty of spaces for the current numbers of cyclists catching trains, but they are far easier to access than before.”

Simon Brown
(cyclist and regular commuter to Wrexham)

Highly Commended: Southern – Hassocks Station

Hassock's new cycle hub building is an excellent example of partnership working. Not only have organisations come together for joint input and funding, the hub also provides dedicated space for a cycle hire and repair service.

The project was managed by Southern and funded by the DfT, with contributions from West Sussex County Council, South Downs National Park and the Hassocks Community. Stakeholders were consulted during design, construction and the marketing stages.

The hub provides additional cycle spaces with ability to provide further capacity in the future. A community group which had previously worked out of a shed in a car park, also hires out bikes which are ideal for those visiting in the South Downs National Park.

The project and community group have received a range of positive feedback since the work was completed:

“A wonderful way to spend a sunny day and explore the community of Hassocks!”
“Very friendly, good tips on where to go.”

