

Bike maintenance sessions and clubs

London Borough of Redbridge



Description

Worked in partnership with Redbridge Safer Transport Team, Metropolitan Police & Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycle Centre to obtain bikes that were lost/stolen & not recovered or dumped to use in a few secondary schools, to run bike maintenance sessions. 3 schools set up a bike maintenance club, run by school staff.

Who was involved

Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycle Centre were making a small amount of money from bikes being scrapped. East London Waste Authority liaise with Reuse and Recycle Centre to secure bikes by promoting community aspect of project. Bike mechanic delivered 6x2 hour sessions in schools, taught 6 pupils at a time, to recondition bikes. Staff at three schools keen to set up their own bike maintenance club. Pupils helped to recondition bikes that

were used by school as pool bikes or given to pupils who took part in project to encourage them to cycle to school. A member of staff took Level 2 VRQ in Cycle Maintenance & Repair course. Dr Bike checked others.

Costs

Bikes from Safer Transport Team = free. Bikes from Reuse & Recycling Centre = free. Bike mechanic deliver maintenance workshops = £420. Tools for schools to set up maintenance club - schools received grants through TfL Cycle Grant Scheme or LBR small grant scheme. Approx. £3,000 per school. Level Two VRQ in Cycle Maintenance and Repair course = £990 No funding was paid for school staff time.

Development

We liaised with the Redbridge Safer Transport Team Metropolitan Police and the Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycle Centre to explain the benefits of allowing the schools to use the bikes for bike maintenance sessions or a bike maintenance club. Schools applied for funding through our LBR small grants scheme or through the TfL Cycling Grant.

Outcome

Schools kept bikes they reconditioned & either award to pupils to encourage them to cycle to school or keep as pool bikes. 3 schools set up a bike maintenance club run by school staff. 2 of 3 schools continuing their bike maintenance club for pupils. 1 school has member of staff running the bike maintenance club since 2012 has unfortunately emigrated, working with school to try to identify a new member of staff to take this over.

Criteria

This innovative scheme helps to recycle bikes that would otherwise have been scrapped. The bikes are obtained for free making this scheme cost effective. This scheme allows pupils to learn about how a bike is built and maintained and how to care for their bike. The pride they take in their work will help to ensure that the bikes will continue to be well looked after. The pupils get a sense of satisfaction and achievement when they have restored a bike. The scheme helps to create more bikes for the school and helps to encourage cycling. The project involved partnership working with the Redbridge Safer Transport Team Metropolitan Police and the Chigwell Road Reuse and Recycle Centre. Without this partnership the sessions and clubs would not be able to run.

