



# LEICESTERSHIRE

Accessibility  
Partnership

## The LAP Newsletter - Summer 2009, Issue 2

### Strolls on your doorstep launch!

Walking is the new trend and the Stepping Stones partnership is responding to this demand in Oadby & Wigston.

With its latest publication, the project has launched its first 'Strolls on your Doorstep' release in the form of a 12 page guide with information on short walks in the Oadby and Wigston borough. The guide provides no less than 10 routes, all varying in distance, location and challenge.

The production has been supported by the 'Active Together' project and the Leicestershire County Council in partnership with Stepping Stones, to help promote the physical activity as a means to gain exercise and keep fit.

The partnership launched its guide on Wednesday 25th

March at 11am, walking from Wigston & Wigston Library to the Peace Memorial Park.

Further 'Strolls on your Doorsteps' guides are being developed, including the Hinckley area.



Get your guide now and be a few steps closer to a healthier you! For details please contact the Stepping Stones Project on 0116 305 7221 or go to [www.leics.gov.uk/stepping\\_stones](http://www.leics.gov.uk/stepping_stones)



### The Cyclists Best Friend

A cycle map covering the whole borough of Hinckley and Bosworth has been produced in partnership the Cyclist Touring Club and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. The map shows information such as the existing commuter and leisure routes, as well as schools and colleges, cycle shops and tourist attractions. The map will be available free from cycle shops, libraries

council offices from the start of National Bike Week in June. In addition the map will shortly be online.



## Thousands hit the web

The Community Transport website has continued to prove its success. The website that was launched in September 2008 has received over 11,000 hits since it became operational.

The site; funded by the Leicestershire Rural Partnership and Leicestershire County Council provides information about community transport services in Leicestershire, no matter where they live.



The various community transport operators provide access to doctors, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and social activities.

They are a vital asset to a growing group of people in Leicestershire society.

Why don't you take a look? The website can be found at [www.leicestershirevillages.com/communitytransport](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/communitytransport). Any feedback or queries please contact us at [accessibilityplanning@leics.gov.uk](mailto:accessibilityplanning@leics.gov.uk).



## Accessibility Partnership Forum a success!

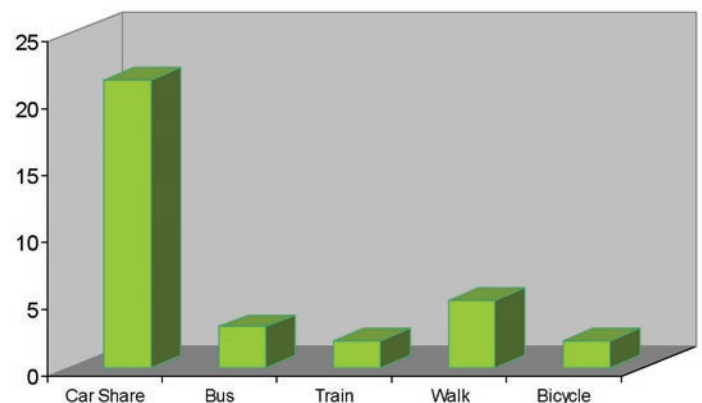
The Accessibility Forum 2009 was held at the Highpoint in Leicester on the 20th January 2009. The event included a presentation by students from Castle Donington Community College about school travel planning. Peterborough City Council also completed a presentation regarding their travel planning project across Peterborough city and held a Q & A session at the end.



The Partnership was represented broadly by many of the organisations actively involved in the Partnership. An experimental survey was completed at the forum asking for people to provide

information on how they travelled to the venue. The results displayed an encouraging use of car sharing along with a mixed use of other forms of sustainable transport. Thank you to everyone who completed the forms. The results will be used to assist in the choice of future venues.

Delegates Sustainable Transport



## The cyclists “Airport Hanger”

A makeover of the cycle facilities at the Castle Donington Community College has provided a “fantastic facility” according to Ken Bayliss the college Principal.

The college has had a new all weather cycle shelter installed, dubbed “the airport hanger” by students and

teachers, replacing the old outdated and inadequate facilities.

Sam Taylor, a year nine student, says “It’s great to have a secure all weather shelter which doesn’t damage the bikes! It gives me confidence to use and enjoy my bike and I’m glad it came before I left!”



The shelter was only recently completed and cycle usage at the college has already increased by 30%. The College has also completed their Travel Plan and have already put this to work.

Mr Bayliss also said “We are so very grateful to Leicestershire County Council for such a fantastic facility!”

*Shown in the picture (left), from left to right are: John Bennett (Head of Humanities) Sam Taylor, Jess Hovell and Harriett Shaw (Year 9) Ken Bayliss (Principal)*

## Train to work

Working in partnership with many volunteers, organisations and authorities, the target for 2009/2010 will be to get people in to work!

Accessibility to work, training and education for the purposes of gaining employment is going to be the key focus for the Accessibility Partnership.

The Wycliffe House ‘One Stop Shop’ is one of the first initiatives of this type, providing a complete service

that includes skills training, job searching, CV assistance and transport to training or employment, involving the Community Computer Centre and Lutterworth Community Transport.

A similar project in North West Leicestershire district in partnership with NWLCVS – REACT Project, Community Transport Coalville & District, Leicestershire Rural Partnership and Leicestershire County Council also offers free training, work experience and assistance with application forms, CV’s, job search to name a few. Financial assistance is available for public transport and where there are no services then transport can be arranged.

All volunteer and business organisations alike will all potentially have their part to play to get people to work, more so during this time of economic instability. The initiatives are designed to help achieve the LAA targets for access to work.

The Accessibility Partnership is encouraging all external organisations and internal departments to contact them for further information with respect to this project!



## Need to get to Hospital?

Leicestershire County Council is working in partnership with Leicestershire County and Rutland NHS and Loughborough University to investigate the impact on patients if services are transferred to some community hospitals in the county.



A pilot project in Hinckley and Loughborough will include a summer survey to identify the main access issues that patients have concerns about.



**Leicestershire County and Rutland**

The independent report by Loughborough University will make recommendations for future improvements.

It is hoped that the results of the pilot project will assist with other potential service relocations to community hospitals throughout the county.

For further information please contact Caroline Mackay and Johan Bulger at County Hall, HTWM, Room 700.



## Travel planning focus

There is an emerging Travel Planning focus for the Accessibility Partnership. It will involve promoting the use of alternative transport modes, particularly in rural areas. It will involve developing a tailored service to individuals, offering journey planning advice by

email, internet or telephone, particularly in regard to alternatives to the use of cars, such as public transport and car sharing. A new team is currently being formed at County Hall to deliver the programme and a further update will be available later in the year.

## Contact Information:

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