

FUTURE SUSTAINABLE DELIVERIES: SUMMARISING YOUR CARGO BIKE OPTIONS

Clean Air Villages 3 (CAV3) was a 1-year Defra funded project (2020/21), Westminster City Council were the governing body, with Cross River Partnership (CRP) delivering the work. It was a collaboration with 12 London boroughs and 4 Business Improvement Districts, to improve the air quality in 16 different London 'villages', where both air pollution and population density levels were high.

Cargo bikes are part of a solution to better air quality in local communities. Below we have information on different cargo bike scheme options to see what would suit your business needs and start your sustainable delivery journey:

1. Use a courier service
2. Use the CRP directory
3. DIY cargo bike
4. Own a cargo bike
5. Shared cargo bike scheme



OPTION 1: USE A COURIER SERVICE

Hand over your deliveries to a low emission courier service to save yourself time whilst also reducing your carbon footprint!

PROS

- ✓ Saves time and money
- ✓ Access to an experienced rider
- ✓ All storage and maintenance taken care of
- ✓ Goods insurance can be included

CONS

- ✗ Higher up-front cost compared to polluting alternatives
- ✗ Delivery outsourced



- 1 RESEARCH AVAILABLE COURIERS**
**there are plenty in London (Look at Option 5)*
- 2 LOOK AT CASE STUDIES ON THEIR WEBSITES**
- 3 CONTACT AND CHAT WITH PROVIDERS**

OPTION 2: DIY CARGO BIKE

Load up your backpack and hop on a bike to start your zero-emission delivery journey!

PROS

- ✓ Cheap & quick for staff
- ✓ Easy for small deliveries
- ✓ Flexible - easy to do immediately and pick your own times!

CONS

- ✗ More complicated for larger deliveries or quantities
- ✗ High mileage may be more difficult
- ✗ In charge of training, maintenance & insurance

- 1 CHECK IF THERE IS A COMPETENT AND WILLING STAFF MEMBER**
- 2 TRY IT OUT WITH LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND ENSURE THERE IS A TRIAL PERIOD**
- 3 TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CYCLE TRAINING FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL**



OPTION 3: SHARED CARGO BIKE SCHEME

Did you know that many local authority and Business Improvement Districts have previously or are currently offering shared cargo bike schemes?

PROS

- ✓ No ownership
- ✓ No storage and few maintenance issues
- ✓ Usually a professional, well-trained rider
- ✓ Subsidised/pre-paid options common
- ✓ Consolidation with other local businesses
- ✓ Wide reach to target audience with promotion opportunities through shared marketing

CONS

- × Might not always be available when needed, less flexible
- × Restrictions on mileage and use
- × Less common
- × Not direct with a courier - third party involvement



1

EXPLORE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND BID WEBSITES FOR SHARED CARGO BIKE SCHEMES

2

UNDERSTAND AND DISCUSS HOW THE SCHEME WORKS, AND WHETHER IT WILL WORK FOR YOUR BUSINESS

3

SIGN-UP AND ENJOY EMISSION FREE DELIVERIES

OPTION 4: BUY YOUR OWN CARGO BIKE

Commit to an emission-free delivery future by buying a cargo bike for your business!

PROS

- ✓ Full control over your deliveries & timings
- ✓ Despite the initial up-front cost, becomes cost saving in the first couple of years
- ✓ Health benefits for staff
- ✓ Promotes a sustainable image for business
- ✓ Make use of available grants to help fund your cargo bike

CONS

- × In charge of training and insurance
- × Requires suitable storage space and ongoing maintenance
- × Susceptible to theft

1

LOOK AT CASE STUDIES OF BUSINESSES WHO HAVE SWITCHED

2

ENSURE YOU TRY BEFORE YOU BUY

3

CHECK IF CARGO BIKES ARE BEING PROMOTED IN YOUR BOROUGH OR COUNCIL

4

CONTACT LOCAL COUNCILS AND ORGANISATIONS FOR FUNDING



OPTION 5: USE THE CLEAN AIR VILLAGES DIRECTORY

Use the suppliers, manufacturers and leasing companies from the directory to actively reduce your local air pollution through your procurement and logistics!

PROS

- ✓ FREE & LOCAL
- ✓ The suppliers are already registered and guaranteed to offer eco-friendly delivery methods
- ✓ Quick & easy to use with all contact details provided

CONS

- × Growing online presence which may not include all ultra-low emission available suppliers

1

BROWSE THE CLEAN AIR VILLAGES DIRECTORY

2

CONTACT LOCAL SUPPLIERS

3

ENJOY ULTRA- LOW EMISSION DELIVERIES!

4

REGISTER YOUR OWN BUSINESS ON THE DIRECTORY AS AN ECO-FRIENDLY BUSINESS

