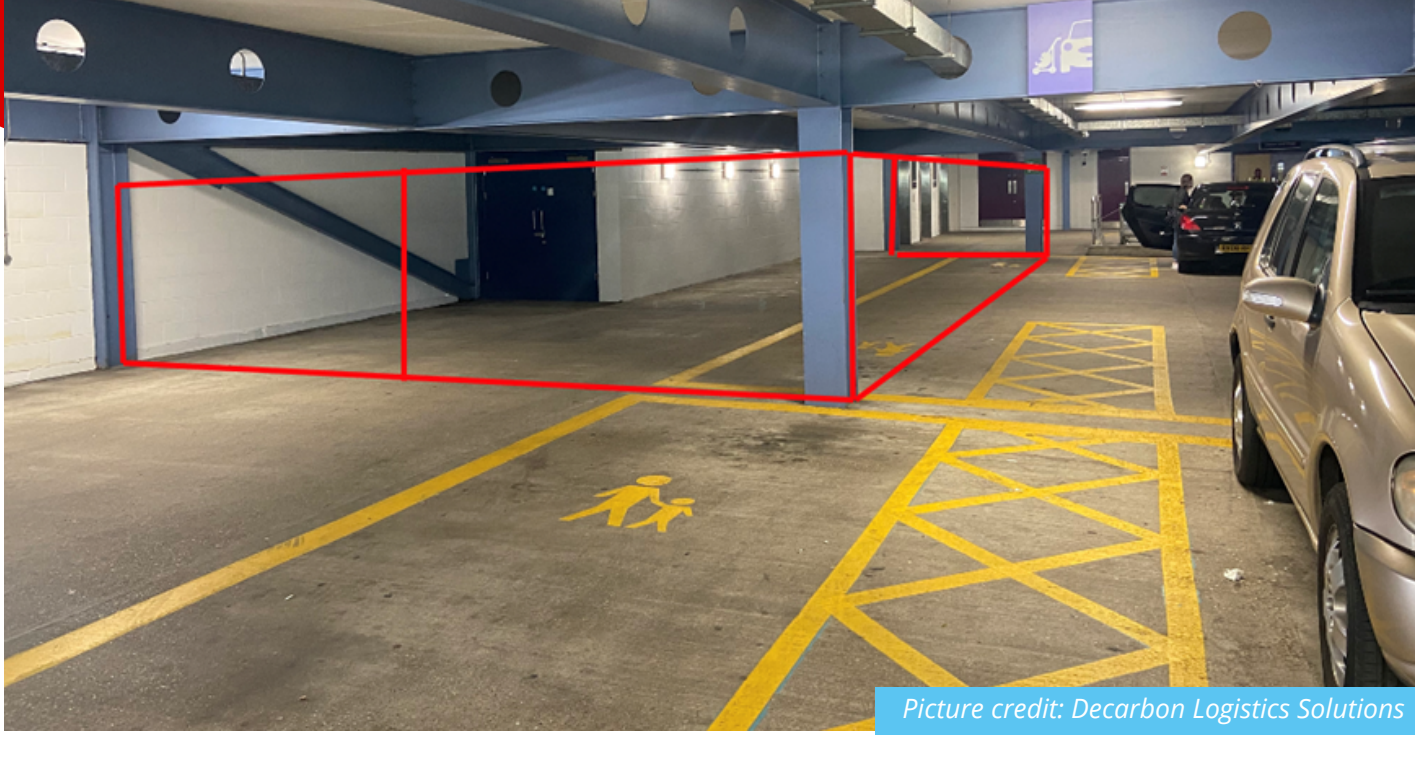




Installing Infrastructure to Support Micro Logistics:

Developing a hub in the Southside Shopping Centre



Picture credit: Decarbon Logistics Solutions

Cross River Partnership has been working with the [London Borough of Wandsworth](#) and Decarbon Logistics Solutions to support the development of a micro logistics hub in the [Southside Shopping Centre](#) in Wandsworth.

[Micro logistics hubs](#) are small, secure spaces that couriers and operators can use to receive, sort, and send deliveries in central locations, ideally by [cargo bike](#) or [walking](#) [orders](#), to support low-emission last-mile deliveries.

However, [finding suitable and well-located spaces](#) for these hubs can be difficult, particularly given the lack of industrial space in central locations and the high value of available land. This coupled with costs of installing any necessary infrastructure means that the start-up costs for micro logistics hubs can be high. Consequently, it can be difficult for many operators to expand into new areas and as a result benefits for air quality and congestion aren't realised.

To combat this, CRP has helped to fund the installation of a micro logistics hub in the [Southside Shopping Centre Car Park](#) (SW18 4AU) to support low-emission couriers to expand their operations to, for example, the Battersea and Nine Elms area.

Hub Specification

The micro logistics hub is located on Level 1 of the [Southside Shopping Centre Car Park](#), Garrett Lane, Wandsworth, SW18 4AU. The hub has the following specification to help encourage low-emission last-mile deliveries:

- The hub has repurposed a 900 sq ft area within the car park which has been converted into a secure compound using a temporary Plasloc freestanding hoarding system
- The hub has access to the power supply with 6 double sockets to charge e-cargo bikes and undertake logistics activities
- Additional lighting has been provided
- Planning for B8 Use Class Storage and Distribution has been acquired

The hub is in the well-managed [APCOA](#) car park with 24/7 access, security patrols, CCTV, 4G WiFi signal, and welfare facilities which are located in the shopping centre.

Finding A Courier

To help identify couriers that could occupy the space, CRP and Decarbon Logistics Solutions hosted an open day for the hub on Wednesday, 24th May 2023. This provided a useful opportunity to show couriers the potential of the space and to help them understand potential costs once occupied. 6 couriers attended the open day and on the 6th July 2023, [Delivery Mates](#) confirmed that they were interested in operating from the hub.



Picture credit: CRP

Next Steps

This will be a six-month micro logistics hub trial, running from August 2023 until February 2024.

It is expected that this micro logistics hub trial in Wandsworth will achieve similar emissions savings as CRP's [previous micro logistics hub trial](#) in Pimlico.

After only four months of operations, the e-cargo bikes operating from that [Pimlico micro logistics hub](#) travelled 9,377 km, which led to a total emissions reduction of 1,613 kg of CO2, 6,388 g of NOx, and 105 g of PM2.5 when compared to polluting van deliveries.

CRP will transparently share key insights from this new micro logistics hub trial in Wandsworth every month and summarise all learnings in a comprehensive report after the trial finishes.



Picture credit: CRP

What is Clean Air Logistics for London?

Cross River Partnership's Clean Air Logistics for London Programme (CALL) is a Defra-funded project led by Westminster City Council in collaboration with 12 project partners. The project aims to move more freight into London via river rather than road, supported by zero emission delivery methods in Central London. CALL will build on the success of CRP's [Clean Air Villages 4](#) programme.

The CALL project will expand river freight in London, reducing both congestion and pollution at the same time. A lack of light freight being moved by river has been highlighted and investment in infrastructure is required to increase the viability of this. CALL locations have been chosen to reflect GLA Air Quality Focus Areas and the importance of the River Thames for freight. The CALL project will support the delivery of Defra's Clean Air Strategy, Westminster City Council's Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) and other's partners air quality objectives.



Project Partners

Cross River Partnership is proud to be working with the following Local Authorities and other partners.

