

## A Win for Wandsworth: Cross River Partnership launch first Micro Logistics Hub Trial in London Borough of Wandsworth

[Cross River Partnership](#) (CRP), a non-profit and impartial partnership organisation, is excited to launch its latest six-month micro logistics hub trial in the [Southside Shopping Centre](#) Car Park in [London Borough of Wandsworth](#), on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023. This will run for six months, until February 2024.

Funded by [Defra](#) in partnership with the [London Borough of Wandsworth](#), this CRP trial is supporting low-emission last-mile deliveries in the [London Borough of Wandsworth](#) and surrounding areas. This initiative is funded by CRP's [Clean Air Logistics for London](#) and [Smarter Greener Logistics](#) programmes. Deliveries are also operating to the London Boroughs of [Richmond upon Thames](#) and [Merton](#) across the tri-borough area. This includes some of Wandsworth's latest developments, such as new residential and business locations in Battersea Power Station and Nine Elms.

The hub has been created by sustainable logistics experts Decarbon Logistics Solutions in partnership with [APCOA Parking \(UK\) Limited](#) at Southside Car Park 1 (Garrett Lane, [Southside Shopping Centre](#), Mapleton Crescent, SW18 4AU). Following a competitive tender process sustainable final-mile courier Delivery Mates have been selected to operate daily from the 900 sq ft hub, extending their same day, next day and on demand parcel delivery service to residents and businesses. Parcels will be received into the hub from an electric delivery vehicle before being sorted into delivery routes, loaded and distributed by electric cargo bikes in the surrounding area over the next six months.

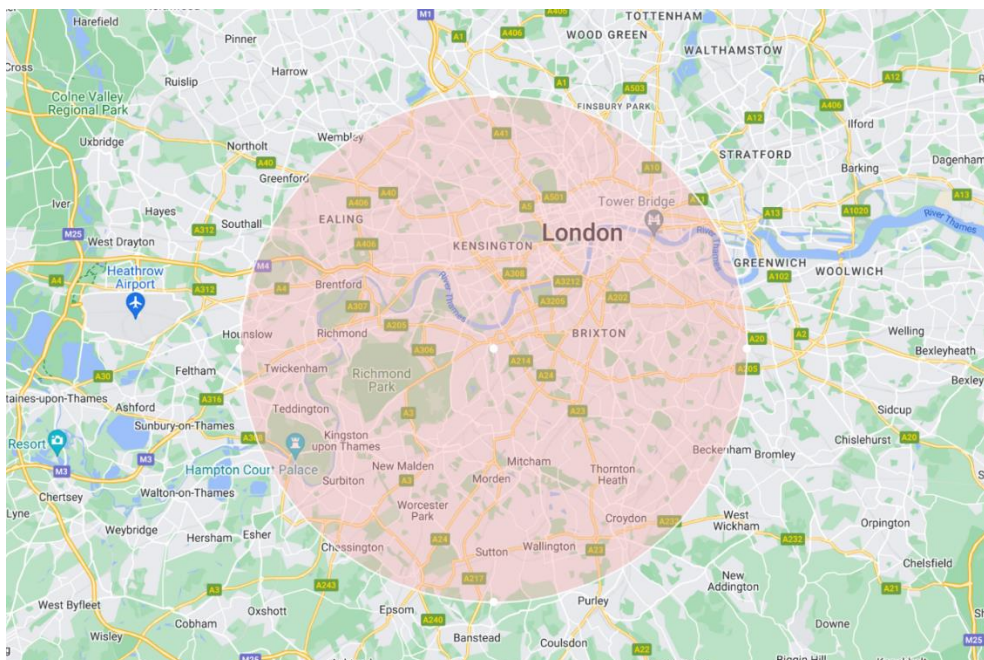


Figure 1. Expected Delivery Mates Operational Radius from this Micro Logistics Hub

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 the Pimlico hub travelled **9,377 km, which led to a total emissions reduction of 1,613 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>, 6,388 g of NO<sub>x</sub>, and 105 g of PM<sub>2.5</sub> when compared to polluting van deliveries.**

The APCOA car park has 24/7 access, security patrols, CCTV, 4G WiFi signal, power supply and welfare facilities which are located in the shopping centre. Loading and unloading takes place within the micro logistics hub space to keep noise levels at minimum and to not disturb other APCOA car park customers.

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 porters, to support zero-emission last-mile deliveries in the borough. The hub acts as a crucial step for consolidating deliveries, bulk-buying, and a place to sort deliveries, which can reduce the number of polluting vehicle trips and therefore congestion and vehicle emissions.

[Researchers at the University of Westminster](#) used GPS data to compare routes taken by cargo bikes in London with routes that vans would have to take to deliver the same parcels. Results show that services provided by cargo bikes in London are 1.61 times faster than that performed by van, and over a year avoids the emission of over 14,500kg of CO<sub>2</sub> and over 20kg of NO<sub>x</sub> (nitrogen oxides). 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.

CRP is unlocking potential and transforming space to support the logistics sector in London with alternative freight modes, and deliver solutions that make London fairer, greener and safer. This report supports CRP's vision to make London a better place to live, work and visit.

**Rebecca Pow, Environment Minister, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, said:** *"We have made great strides in tackling air pollution at a national level since 2010, but we must do more to improve air quality and protect public health. From Tyneside to Cornwall, this funding will support a range of inspiring and innovative projects across the country – stepping up our monitoring of harmful pollutants, educating the public and boosting the use of green transport. This builds on our world-leading Environment Act commitments that will enhance our natural environment and safeguard public health for future generations."*

**Councillor Judi Gasser, Cabinet Member for Environment, Wandsworth Council, said:** *"We are determined to clean up Wandsworth's air and reduce carbon emissions, so we are delighted to be part of this trial. We know that deliveries contribute to air pollution and we already work with local businesses to help them find cleaner solutions. Our new Air Quality Action Plan sets ambitious targets to clean up the air, improve people's health and tackle*

*climate change. The Micro Logistics Hub will enable more businesses to switch to low emission last-mile deliveries and help us meet these targets.”*

**Paul McCormack, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Decarbon Logistics Solutions, said:** *“I believe the decarbonisation of logistics takes many forms, including the development of urban logistics networks and ultimately reducing emissions in our towns and cities. This site at Wandsworth is another great example of how we can repurpose existing real estate for final mile logistics and benefit the local community. Customers are provided the same quality delivery services but using only walkers, cargo bikes or electric vehicles. It’s also a great opportunity for a landlord to earn additional revenue, especially if they have underutilised properties suitable for these types of operations. We are starting to see real estate developers globally consider logistics when designing their new developments, but for now it’s about using existing assets. What is most impressive in this project is the collaboration of several business entities under a common goal.”*

**Kevin Savage, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Delivery Mates, said:** *“Delivery Mates are delighted and hugely proud to be working with all the partners on this exciting project. Opening Micro Logistics Hubs and using Cargo Bikes to deliver is now proven to reduce congestion, remove emissions and create a better environment for all residents and visitors. Delivery Mates remain committed to deliver sustainable logistics to customers and local retailers. We look forward to bringing this Micro Hub to life within Wandsworth and surrounding areas.”*

**Kim Challis, Regional Managing Director (UK and Ireland), APCOA, said:** *“We are delighted to be working with Cross River Partnership and Decarbon Logistics to support this important micro logistics trial. The approach totally aligns with APCOA’s own Urban Hubs strategy which is providing convenient central car parks with additional services that both contribute to sustainability goals and directly benefit local communities.”*

**Susannah Wilks, Director, Cross River Partnership, said:** *“CRP is pleased to deliver this micro logistics hub trial in London Borough of Wandsworth, Decarbon Logistics Solutions, Delivery Mates and APCOA Parking. This forms part of the Defra-funded Smarter Greener Logistics programme and aims to better air quality across the tri-borough.”*

For more information, please contact CRP Project Manager Isidora Rivera Vollmer – [isidorariveravollmer@crossriverpartnership.org](mailto:isidorariveravollmer@crossriverpartnership.org)

**ENDS**

**September 2023**

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### Resources

- [Cross River Partnership](#)
- [Clean Air Logistics for London](#)
- [Smarter Greener Logistics](#)
- [How to Support a Micro Logistics Hub in your Borough: A Guide for Local Authorities](#)
- [Micro Logistics Hub Trial in Pimlico: Setting up a local micro logistics hub to support low-emission deliveries](#)
- [London Borough of Wandsworth](#)
- [Decarbon Logistics Solutions](#)
- [Delivery Mates](#)

### Smarter Greener Logistics

[Smarter Greener Logistics](#) (SGL) is a Defra-funded project led by Westminster City Council in collaboration with 26 project partners. The project aims to minimise the impact of freight on noise, air quality, traffic and pavement space in London by making improvements across 15 London boroughs and 4 London Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). SGL is building on the success of CRP's Clean Air Logistics for London (CALL).

### Cross River Partnership

[Cross River Partnership](#) (CRP)'s mission is to deliver collaboratively solutions that make London fairer, greener and safer.

### London Borough of Wandsworth

The council is committed to making Wandsworth 'a community of global citizens living within environmental limits in an attractive high quality local environment'. [London Borough of Wandsworth](#) have long-term ambitions for a more sustainable futures, including tackling consumption of resources, energy and pollution.

### Decarbon Logistics Solutions

[Decarbon Logistics Solutions](#) support global logistics organisations with their decarbonisation plans with fleet parking, charging and urban hub infrastructure.

### Delivery Mates

[Delivery Mates](#) was launched to change the way businesses transport their goods in the final-mile. Courier services include same-hour delivery, same-day delivery, next-day delivery and on-demand delivery.

### APCOA Parking

APCOA Parking is Europe's leading parking operator with 50 years of industry expertise. APCOA is transforming its car parks into Urban Hubs, providing the physical and digital infrastructure for mobility, logistics, EV charging, and technology-based services.



**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

Funding for the Smarter Green Logistics project comes from the Government's [Air Quality Grant programme](#). Awarded annually, the grants help local authorities across England develop and implement measures to benefit schools, businesses and communities and reduce the impact of air pollution on people's health. This year's grants total £10.7 million, with around £53 million awarded across almost 500 projects through the scheme since 2010.

**Image to accompany Press Release (if desired by publications)**

