

WS7: Logistics Sector Support

Courier Fair



Event Overview

Cross River Partnership (CRP) is a partnership delivering environmental, economic and community-focused projects. We support public, private and voluntary organisations to address creatively challenges around Air Quality, Transport, Placemaking and Wellbeing.

CRP hosted a first-of-its-kind Courier Fair on Wednesday 7th February 2024, to encourage greater collaboration and partnership working between low emission couriers delivering across London, and London's local authorities, Business Improvement Districts (BID's) and strategic agencies.

The event, held at the University of Westminster, provided an informal forum to enable unstructured conversations between 10 couriers and public sector officers, to share opportunities, partner, discuss vacant or underutilised industrial land, and explore policy and planning support.

CRP hosted this event following feedback from low emission couriers and the public sector that suggests a closer, collaborative and partnership-focussed relationship would be beneficial for London and for Londoners' health. This critical bridge that CRP has provided can foster more opportunities to make the low emission sector thrive and benefit air quality at a time of huge growth.



The event was opened by Councillor Mary Durcan, who said:

"I'd like to thank Cross River Partnership for setting up this Courier Fair, bringing together logistics operators big and small in London with those in local authorities, business improvement districts and strategic agencies to support each other to help make logistics more sustainable, efficient and collaborative. These issues can't be solved by any one organisation alone. It needs all of us in this room to come together."

Councillor Mary Durcan, Chair of the City of London Corporation's Health and Wellbeing Board, Chair of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee, and Cross River Partnership Board Public Sector Co-Chair



Couriers' Key Concerns

Couriers identified various concerns where support from local authorities, BIDs and strategic agencies would be most helpful. Some of these include:

- The need for additional space for parcel consolidation, bike maintenance and storage, and courier welfare.
- More efficient biking routes to avoid cargo bikes contributing to existing traffic congestion.
- Improved road surface quality to reduce bike repair costs.
- Operational support eg. guidance on how to train bike riders, speed regulations.
- Schemes to support low emission couriers with high operating costs.



Did you know?

15%

of London's total vehicle miles is made up by freight vehicles

1/4

of London's overall transport carbon emissions come from freight vehicles

The number of parcels delivered in London is set to more than double to **over 1 billion parcels** per annum by 2030

Mitigating the impact of increased freight on air quality and traffic congestion requires a collaborative, joined-up approach across London with the public and private sector.

A huge thank you to all couriers involved for making the event a success!

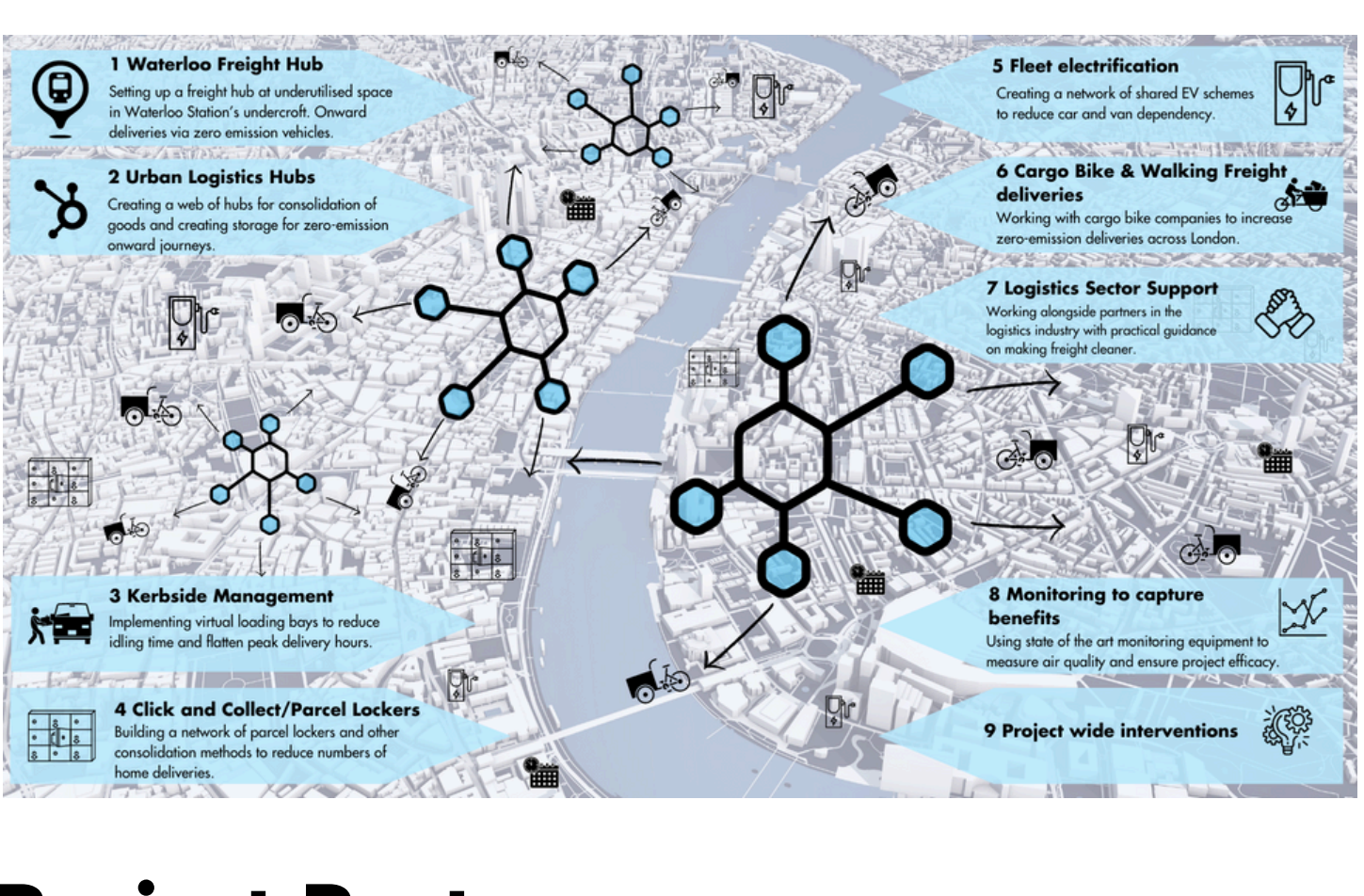


What is Smarter Greener Logistics?

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 four London Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). SGL will build on the success of CRP's Clean Air Logistics for London (CALL).

SGL forms part of CRP's wider activities to encourage sustainable logistics across London. This includes the development of rail freight and walking freight initiatives, helping to improve London's air quality and supporting CRP's vision to make London a better place to live, work and visit.

[Read more](#)



Project Partners

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



crossriverpartnership.org

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