

Treasury Solicitor's Department GREEN TRANSPORT PLAN

Introduction

Travel, both to work and in the course of business, has an impact, more often than not adverse, on the environment. For a small Department in central London, a detailed green transport plan is not appropriate but we must ensure that whatever steps can be taken to minimise environmental impact are, in practice, taken by all staff. This document sets out the measures in place to achieve that objective.

Travel to work

The absence of car parking facilities for staff encourages staff to use public transport. The Department occupies One Kemble Street, which is close to Holborn Station (London Underground) and close to several bus routes. Underground and over-ground connections to most mainline stations are good.

Interest-free season ticket loans, paid with salary and recovered from salary over the life of the ticket, are available to staff on application to Personnel Branch. In addition, interest-free loans are also available for the purchase of bicycles for travel to work and the amount, which can be borrowed for this purpose, has recently been doubled. Cycle storage and showering facilities are provided in One Kemble Street.

Business travel

The Treasury Solicitor has the use of a car from the Government Car Service, which is also made available to senior members of staff needing to make essential business visit during the day.

Staff in operational divisions are frequently required to travel in order to represent clients' interests, both within London and in the UK generally. There is a regular need to visit the European institutions and very occasionally to travel further a field. Journeys in the UK are undertaken by public transport unless the transport infrastructure in the area to be visited, several destinations to be visited in a round trip, or the need to carry bulky case papers render this option impractical, in which fairly rare instances the use of private cars is permitted.

In central London most business travel is by public transport, but black taxis are used when essential to convey heavy court bundles etc.

Deliveries

Wherever possible purchases of furniture, office equipment and stationery are made in bulk in order to reduce the number of journeys to One Kemble Street by suppliers' delivery vehicles.

Papers for and from Counsel and the courts, as well as local mail, are delivered or collected by outdoor messengers on foot or on public transport. Taxis and courier vans are used only when essential.