

CYCLING UPDATE



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With the Green Party in Government:

- Thousands of people are now cycling to work every day
- Over four fifths of bike shops report a **positive effect** on their business or cycling in the area
- **€26m** has been committed to cycle lanes and cycling projects and the first national cycling policy is being implemented

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The Governments' Cycle to Work scheme was introduced by the Green Party on the 1 January 2009. The scheme provides for benefit-in-kind tax relief for employees who purchase a bike up to a value of €1,000 through their employer to cycle to work. A recent survey of bike shops shows that thousands of people are making use of the scheme and choosing to cycle to work.

The Dublin Bikes scheme has also reported a significant increase in use. Almost 35,000 people have registered for the scheme and there have been over one million bike journeys since it was launched last September. Our transport system is still however too reliant on imported oil. The Green Party is tackling this and providing sustainable transport solutions, reducing carbon emissions and oil dependency as well as lessening traffic congestion.

"It would not be overstating matters to say that the scheme has been the most positive thing to ever happen to our business. We have increased employment directly because of the scheme."
Altitude Bikes, Waterford

"We've added at least ten people to our workforce because of the cycle to work scheme."
Cyclesuperstore, Tallaght, Dublin

To find out more about the Cycle to Work Scheme visit www.bikescheme.ie

*Survey conducted among bike shops registered with the Office of Public Works. Based on 46 responses received out of a total of 230 surveyed



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