

**West of England shortlisted for £25 million towards sustainable travel.**

The £25 million TravelWEST proposal to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund is one of just eight submissions that has been shortlisted straight through to the next stage by the Department for Transport.

Councillor Brian Allinson, as Chairman of the Joint Transport Executive Committee, speaking on behalf of the Transport Executives members for the four councils, said "This is very good news and we'll keep our fingers crossed. We now have to develop a full business case that shows out how we will spend the money and the benefits that will happen as a result. For example encouraging more people to use the bus, walk or cycle to work not only takes traffic off the road others to get around and people to run their businesses, but also helps people stay healthy and reduce health care costs.

"This is another example of how joint working between the local councils is making us more successful."

The West of England Councils – Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire - successfully bid for £5million for the 'Key Component Bid' and work has already started, focussing on six Key Commuter Routes encouraging people to use sustainable forms of transport such as the bus, walking, cycling, or car share.

The TravelWEST proposal has three themes -

**Low carbon commuting** - targeting business travel on key commuter corridors and at major employment locations

**Active and sustainable communities** – working with local communities to develop 'bottom up' sustainable travel solutions

**Transitions to a low-carbon lifestyle** – focussing on the choices people make as they move school, university, home or job.

Full details of the proposal can be found at [www.travelplus.org.uk/lstf](http://www.travelplus.org.uk/lstf)

A summary of the proposal is attached.

TravelWEST = West of England Sustainable Travel

Department for Transport rejected three submissions; three were invited to submit a bid under the next round of funding; five asked to revise their business case and eight submissions (of which the West of England TravelWEST is one) have gone straight through to the next stage.

The full business case has to be submitted in early December with a decision expected in June 2012.

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