

Public Health Wales Business Travel Policy



lechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

'Business travel' =

Travel that is undertaken as part of an employee's role.



This does not include commuting (getting to and from your base).

What are the key points of the policy?

- When planning business travel, choose the **most appropriate mode of travel available** with the lowest environmental impact using the **Travel Decision Tree**.
- When choosing the mode of travel, **keep costs to a minimum by booking travel early** to utilise discounts, and ensure that safety and wellbeing are not compromised.

Tip: Bookmark this page to use next time you plan a journey.



Tip: Use WWF's healthy travel planner to help plan your journey:
[TravelBetter | WWF](#)

See **International Travel and Flight Decision Tree** for international travel.

Travel Decision Tree

► Use the **Work How it Works Best Policy** – could the event be held online?



► If not, can the journey be carried out using active travel and/or public transport?



► If not, can the journey be carried out using a hybrid or electric hire vehicle?



► Is car sharing an option?



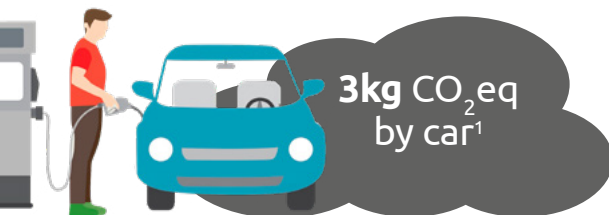
► Driving a car should be considered as the final option.



Why do we need this policy?

Public Health Wales has committed to tackling the public health effects of climate change as part of our Long-Term Strategy - we should lead by example in reducing our environmental impact whilst also improving public health.

Travelling from Pontypridd to Cardiff has a carbon footprint of



compared to



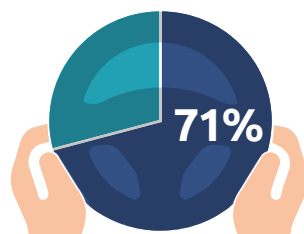
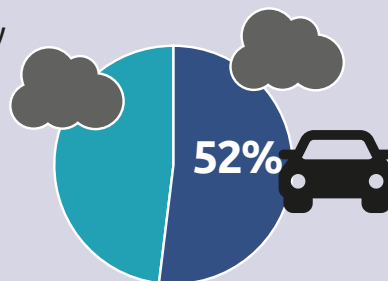
and



Over a car's lifetime on the road in cities, it costs **£7,714 in damage to our health**², working against PHW's vision of a healthier future for Wales.



Travel by car is currently the most popular mode of travel for Public Health Wales business travel, contributing to around **52% of our transport emissions**.



71% of staff drive for business travel, with **88%** of those vehicles being petrol or diesel.

By switching to more sustainable modes of travel, we can all individually make a difference to slow down climate change and global warming and work together for a healthier Wales.

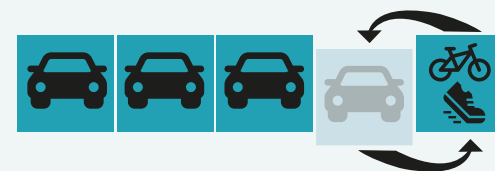
What are the benefits?



As well as reducing Public Health Wales' carbon footprint, the policy will help us to **reduce exhaust emissions, noise pollution and improve air quality**.



Swapping **1 in 4 car journeys** in urban areas for walking or cycling could save the NHS over **£1.1 billion** in health damage costs per year².



Sustainable travel also has health benefits for us – **commuters who travel by walking, cycling and train are at reduced risk**

of early death or illness compared to those who commute by car³.

1 World Wide Fund for Nature (2025). [TravelBetter](#) | WWF

2 Brand, C & Hunt, A (2018), The health costs of air pollution from cars and vans. Global Action Plan. [press release - health costs of cars.pdf](#)

3 Patterson et al. (2020). [Associations between commute mode and cardiovascular disease, cancer, and all-cause mortality, and cancer incidence, using linked Census data over 25 years in England and Wales: a cohort study - The Lancet Planetary Health](#)