

9th February 2011

Roundtable Discussion: *Local solutions on sustainable transport*

Supported by the Cycle to Work Alliance

10.00 am - 1.30 pm 1st March 2011, St. Stephen's Club, Westminster

We are delighted to be joined by a panel of expert speakers:

- Cllr Geoffrey Theobald OBE, Cabinet Member for Environment, Brighton and Hove City Council (invited)
- Alison Franks, Sustainable Travel Team, Department for Transport
- Heather McInroy, Programme Director, National Business Travel Network
- Richard Grigsby, Cycle to Work Alliance

The recent Department for Transport white paper, '*Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon; Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen*', seeks to ensure that sustainable transport will help create growth in the economy and tackle climate change by cutting out carbon emissions. Local authorities have been tasked with addressing, at a local level, the challenge of climate change, delivering cleaner environments, improved safety and increased levels of physical activity.

Following the release of the White Paper, this policy roundtable, chaired by **Vivienne Russell**, *Public Finance Magazine*, will debate how local authorities can engage with their local communities to implement sustainable transport policies at a local level.

The discussion forum will consider how local authorities can harness businesses' ability to encourage people out of their cars, reducing CO₂ emissions and cutting congestion.

The cycle to work scheme plays an essential role in helping businesses and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint by incentivising employees to lead healthier and more active lifestyles. Delegates will receive a copy of the Cycle to Work Alliance's *Behavioural Impact Analysis* report which looked at the commuting habits of cycle to work scheme users. Over 44,500 people took part in the survey, the results of which show more CO₂ is saved every year by the cycle to work scheme than the total emission for 24,000 homes and that the scheme encourages over 158,000 new cyclists on the road. These results demonstrate how businesses can support positive behavioural change and contribute to a greener transport system.

The roundtable will be an opportunity for senior representatives from central government, businesses, think tanks and charities to discuss how government can drive forward their commitment to sustainable transport and CO₂ emissions targets. It will examine the vital role of cycling and will see whether the Minister for Transport Theresa Villiers' assertion that encouraging employees to cycle to work is an "essential part of the battle to combat climate change" still holds true for the government.

If you would like to attend this roundtable, please email Simon on simon@westminsteradvisers.co.uk. You will not be allowed entry into the St. Stephen's Club without registering for the event.