

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
11th July 2019**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Pete Roberts

Despite the success of the OVO women's tour the bike racks in county hall rarely have more than two or three bikes in them at any one time.

What facilities are available to staff in council offices to make active travel more attractive to council staff and how might this be expanded on in the future for officers and members of the public cycling to work in our designated active travel towns?

Response

Powys County Council supports and promotes active travel throughout the County. We are consistently successful in obtaining grant funding to develop physical infrastructure around our main towns each year, and have continued to increase the provision of facilities at many of our office sites; providing bike shelters and, where feasible the provision of showering and changing facilities.

All major operational depots now have showering and changing facilities. The office estate also provides such facilities; for example; County Hall will have a new shower facility constructed over the summer period and both the Gwalia and Neuadd Brycheiniog already have existing facilities.

We recognise that not all council buildings offer active travel facilities. However, the Property team continually review and will, where practicable design in such facilities when buildings are being refurbished. The Property team is also in the process of signing up to a national drinking water scheme to allow easy access to potable water for building users and the public.

Active travel in Powys has to date largely been viewed as more of a recreational benefit, but it is clear that there is now a pressing need from an environmental and health viewpoint, to develop real alternatives for commuting etc and to encourage a much broader take up by the public.