

The University of Aberdeen Bike to Work Scheme

For many years now, The University of Aberdeen have run a very successful Bike to Work Scheme in partnership with Edinburgh Bicycle Co-operative. This initiative has been so well received by colleagues who took advantage of it, The University of Aberdeen is reintroducing the Bike to Work Scheme from Saturday 16th April 2011.

How It Works

You choose a bicycle from Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op. The University of Aberdeen buys the bike on your behalf, then leases it back to you via a salary sacrifice scheme over an 18 month period.

Example: Say you choose a £600 bike to be leased over 18 months, you will agree to a salary sacrifice of £33 a month. **Now here's the clever part.** You will not be eligible to pay income tax or National Insurance on this £33. This means that your net monthly salary will only be reduced by around (depending on your tax bracket) £22 or £19 over the lease period. So over 18 months, you will only have to spend around £408 or £348 for the use of a £600 bike.

Bike to Work 4-Step Process

1. Visit Edinburgh Bicycle Co-operative's shop at 456-464 George Street, Aberdeen. which is open 7 days a week from 10:00 till 18:00. Remember to bring along two recent payslips and your staff photographic ID card as proof of employment.
2. Select any bicycle up to the value of £1,000. 'Bicycle safety equipment' can also be leased under the Bike to Work scheme. This makes sense because lights, locks, helmet and appropriate clothing help ensure a safer and more comfortable 2-wheeled commute. The Edinburgh Bicycle staff can offer all the assistance you require.
3. Once you have chosen your bike (and safety equipment) Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op will take your order, assist you in completing the Hire Agreement Form and agree a collection/delivery date. Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op will then forward the Hire Agreement Form to The University of Aberdeen who will send you a Voucher and a

signed copy of the Hire Agreement in approx. two weeks.

4. Take this Voucher along with your staff ID card or photographic ID to Edinburgh Bicycle Co-op and pick up your new bicycle. It's as simple as that.

Why Cycle To Work?

Improved fitness. Environmental concern. More cash in your pocket. Virtual immunity to traffic congestion and parking hassles. There are so many compelling arguments for commuting by bike. However the most common reason cyclists give is 'Because it's fun'.

For more information please take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/estates/environment/transport/documents/BTWFAQs.pdf>) or contact the Travel Plan Co-ordinator (c.osbeck@abdn.ac.uk).