



BIZ BUZZ CRISIS UPDATE

9-05-2020

£2 billion PACKAGE OF SUPPORT FOR CYCLING AND ELECTRIC CARS. It's not new money. It's part of the £5 bn package announced in Feb. But it's being accelerated.

£250 MILLION WILL BE AVAILABLE "WITHIN WEEKS" for new measures to help balance the lack of availability of public transport because of social distancing. There'll be pop up bike lanes with protected space for cycling, wider pavements, safer junctions, cycle and bus only corridors will be created in England. Fast tracking of trials for rental e-scooters will be brought forward.

GET MONEY TO HELP YOU MEND YOUR BIKE. Vouchers will be issued for cycle repairs, to encourage people to get their old bikes out of the shed, and plans are being developed for greater provision of bike fixing facilities.

THE CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME which was announced a while ago will be heavily promoted now. It gives employees a discount on a new bike. Employers should check this website to see if they are eligible for help.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycle-to-work-scheme-implementation-guidance> There's also guidance on setting up a cycle to work scheme covering: benefits eligibility equipment taxation

COUNCILS MUST REALLOCATE ROADSPACE A S A P. Fast-tracked statutory guidance, published today and effective immediately, will tell councils to reallocate roadspace for significantly-increased numbers of cyclists and pedestrians. In towns and cities, some streets could become bike and bus-only while others remain available for motorists. More side streets could be closed to through traffic, to create low-traffic neighbourhoods and reduce rat-running while maintaining access for vehicles.

BOOST FOR ELECTRIC CAR CHARGERS. Further efforts to encourage drivers to make the switch include the upcoming launch of a consultation which hopes to make charging electric vehicles just as easy as filling up a traditional petrol or diesel car. It will explore measures such as requiring rapid charging points – which are fundamental for longer journeys - to offer contactless payment, improving transparency on pricing and giving drivers better access to information about the chargepoints available on their journey.

ALL THE INFO IS HERE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-billion-package-to-create-new-era-for-cycling-and-walking>

If you need to get information, advice or need to apply for loans from Breckland District Council here is the link: www.breckland.gov.uk/coronavirus

All Biz Buzz crisis updates are to be found on www.np4nb.online