

Eligibility Criteria

To meet the original purpose of SMBC buying these assets, which were part funded by a British Cycling Places to Ride grant, the terms of the arrangement and asset transfer must meet the following criteria.

- The assets should be located in, or provide clear benefits to, a geographical area of need, which we are defining as:
 - North Solihull wards;
 - Hobs Moat North LSOA (Lyndon ward);
 - Green Hill LSOA (Shirley East ward); and
 - Considerations will also be given for Solihull Lodge, Olton South and Ulverley East LSOAs (these South Solihull LSOAs are also within the most deprived 30% nationally).

Organisations can propose to relocate a hub, in which case preference will be given to locations within or close to the areas listed above. Alternatively, organisations may submit proposals to retain and operate a hub in its current location, which is possible at Elmdon Park, Tudor Grange Park and North Solihull Sports Centre Car Park.

- The 20ft shipping container must be used as a base to:
 - Store the existing bikes when they are not in use (mixed use will be considered); and/or
 - Be used as a space to deliver cycling-related activities, including cycle training, bike maintenance and repair workshops, and active travel initiatives, as well as any wider physical activity, health and wellbeing activities that promote active lifestyles, community engagement and participation.
- The bikes/helmets must be made available for community cycling activities, on either a group or individual basis (e.g. bike loans, group rides, learn to ride or fix it type sessions or similar).
- Activities must be provided at low-cost to the user, and the cycling hub should be a not-for-profit initiative, but we recognise that income from participation may be required to keep the assets in good condition and to develop opportunities.
- Expressions of Interest that demonstrate how the assets will benefit the following population groups, will be viewed more positively.
 - People with long-term conditions
 - Carers
 - Disabled people
- Must own the land or have a minimum of two years' permission from the landowner to site the container at the proposed location. Where an organisation is proposing to retain a hub in its current location, confirmation that continued use of the site is supported by the relevant landowner will be required.
- These assets cannot be sold for a minimum period of 5 years but may be transferred to another community organisation during this period. The transfer of assets will be subject to a legal agreement, including provisions for the transfer or return of assets within the 5-year period should the recipient organisation cease operating or be unable to continue delivering the agreed community benefit.

Additional Information:

- During the January to March 2027 asset transfer period, SMBC will work with successful organisations to transfer assets and provide transitional support, including first-year bike servicing, free access to cycle leader and bike maintenance training, and initial marketing and communications support to enable delivery no later than 1 April 2027.
- SMBC will not be involved in the way in which these assets are run/utilised, unless it contravenes the eligibility criteria noted above.