



WHITBREAD PLC



Premier Inn Portsmouth (Havant)

TRAVEL PLAN

for Proposed Hotel Extension
on behalf of Whitbread Group PLC

2024/8275/TP01

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	Report Context.....	1
1.2	What is a Travel Plan?	2
1.3	Whitbread and Travel Planning	2
1.4	Key Aims of This Travel Plan.....	3
2	BASELINE CONDITIONS	5
2.1	Site Location	5
2.2	Accessibility Credentials	5
2.3	Local Road Network.....	6
3	AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS.....	8
3.1	Overview	8
3.2	Aims and Objectives.....	8
3.3	Targets	9
3.4	Summary	10
4	TRAVEL PLAN MEASURES	11
4.1	Travel Plan Initiatives	11
	Whitbread Corporate Initiatives	11
	Site Infrastructure	11
	General Information & Raising Awareness.....	12
4.2	Action Plan.....	12
4.3	Travel Plan Coordinator	13
5	IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING	14
5.1	Implementation and Funding.....	14
5.2	Monitoring	14

Appendices

Appendix A Travel Plan Action Plan

Figures

Figure 1	Premier Inn Portsmouth (Havant) (Source. Premier Inn)	1
Figure 2	Force for Good Infographic.....	3
Figure 3	Site Location Plan	5
Figure 4	Monitoring and Management.....	14

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Report Context

- 1.1.1 RGP is commissioned by Whitbread Group Plc. to provide highways and transport planning input in support of a proposed hotel extension at the Portsmouth (Havant) Premier Inn, 65 Bedhampton Hill Road, Bedhampton, Havant, PO9 3JN ("the site").



Figure 1 Premier Inn Portsmouth (Havant) (Source. Premier Inn)

- 1.1.2 The existing site comprises a 58-bedroom Premier Inn hotel and associated Beefeater branded restaurant (circa. 200 covers) which are both operated by Whitbread. Car parking is provided on-site with capacity to accommodate a total of 107 vehicles for the shared use of the hotel and restaurant.
- 1.1.3 The proposals involve a net 30-bedroom extension to the existing hotel, resulting in a total of 88 bedrooms post-development. The associated branded restaurant would be removed and replaced with a 'Guest Restaurant' to cater to Guest meals only. Access would continue to be afforded from Bedhampton Hill as per the existing arrangements, with 137 car parking spaces post-development.
- 1.1.4 Whilst the proposals would increase the number of guest bedrooms, any additional trips to the site would be offset by the fact that the associated branded restaurant would be removed. This would also compensate for the additional demands for car parking from external visitors that the branded restaurant currently generates above those from hotel guests.

1.2 What is a Travel Plan?

- 1.2.1 A Travel Plan is a long-term management strategy for integrating sustainable travel into the planning process. Travel Plans are based on evidence of the anticipated transport impacts of both proposed and existing developments and aim to promote and deliver sustainable transport initiatives e.g., walking; cycling; public transport and tele-commuting, to reduce demand for travel by less sustainable modes.
- 1.2.2 Travel Plans can positively contribute to:
- encouraging sustainable travel;
 - lessening traffic generation and its detrimental impacts;
 - reducing carbon emissions and climate impacts;
 - creating accessible, connected, inclusive communities;
 - improving health outcomes and quality of life;
 - improving road safety; and
 - reducing the need for new development to increase existing road capacity or provide new roads.
- 1.2.3 Travel Plans support national planning policy which sets out that planning should *"actively manage patterns of growth in order to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable."*
- 1.2.4 The National Planning Policy Framework states *"all developments that will generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan, and the application should be supported by a transport statement or transport assessment so that the likely impacts of the proposal can be assessed."*
- 1.2.5 A Workplace Travel Plan is a package of measures put in place by an employer to encourage more sustainable travel. The Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT) 'Making Smarter Choices' guidance highlights that workplace Travel Plans can reduce commuter car driving by between 10% and 30%, with an average reduction in single occupancy car usage of 18%.
- 1.2.6 Workplace Travel Plans have wider benefits through better staff retention and lower absenteeism, reduced parking costs and improved environmental credentials and image for the organisation.
- 1.2.7 A Travel Plan is never complete, it is an evolving document and process which requires continuous input and monitoring, as well as ongoing commitment from all site users.

1.3 Whitbread and Travel Planning

- 1.3.1 Whitbread is committed to minimising its impact on the environment and promoting good environmental practice in order to become a more sustainable business.

- 1.3.2 Whitbread is currently in the process of heightening the importance of Travel Plans for all new hotel developments / extensions as well as at existing premises to reduce the negative effects of travel associated with its establishments.
- 1.3.3 Whitbread is the UK's largest operator of hotels, with over 800 Premier Inn branded hotels throughout the UK, and hence to implement Travel Plans across all sites will require extensive management and coordination.
- 1.3.4 The key aim of Whitbread in developing Travel Planning across the business is to encourage staff and guests to think about travel choice, which should result in more travel by sustainable modes and an increased awareness of environmental issues generally. This feeds into Whitbread's 'Force for Good' initiative, as illustrated in the figure below.



Figure 2 Force for Good Infographic

- 1.3.5 The Force for Good initiative lays down Whitbread's commitments to operating in a way that respects people and planet, making a meaningful contribution to the communities it serves and creating employment opportunities for all.
- 1.3.6 The preparation of Travel Plans for its establishments will put Whitbread on course to achieve its science-based carbon target "to reduce carbon emissions intensity by 50% by 2025 and as much as 88% by 2050."

1.4 Key Aims of This Travel Plan

- 1.4.1 This Travel Plan represents a long-term strategy to promote more sustainable travel and to offer realistic transport choices for all journeys associated with the Premier Inn hotel. These include:
- Commuting journeys by staff;

- Journeys made by visitors to the ancillary restaurant;
- Main journeys by guests to and from the hotel; and
- Journeys made by guests during their stay.

1.4.2 The overall aim of the Travel Plan therefore is to reduce reliance upon the car and promote active modes of travel (walking and cycling) by increasing awareness of the alternative modes and promoting the associated benefits.

1.4.3 The objectives of this Travel Plan can be summarised as follows:

- Establish travel behaviour patterns and recognise any barriers to change;
- Identify measures to reduce reliance on the car and enable the hotel to minimise traffic generation arising from the site;
- Introduce measures to limit delivery trips;
- Foster awareness of and 'buy in' to the Travel Plan amongst staff and guests; and
- Implement a package of physical and management measures that will facilitate and actively encourage the use of sustainable modes.

2 BASELINE CONDITIONS

2.1 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The site is located on Bedhampton Hill, in the town of Havant, in the county of Hampshire. The site location is illustrated in the figure below.

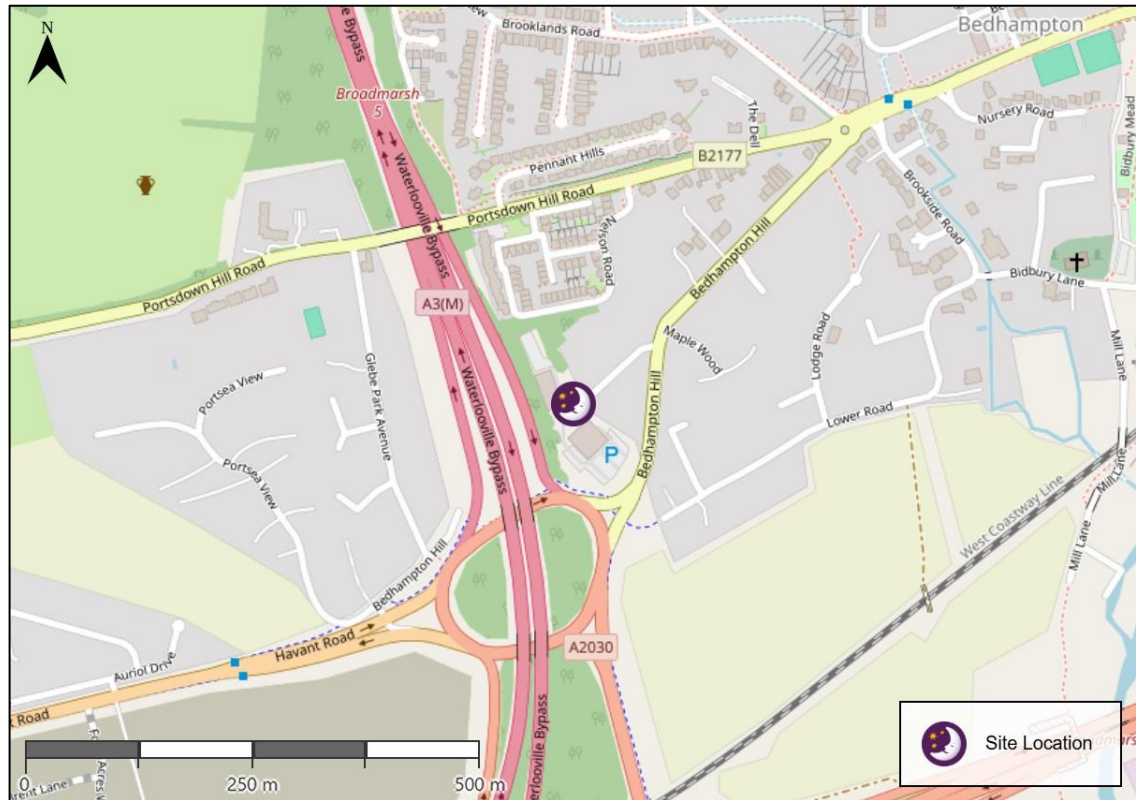


Figure 3 Site Location Plan

- 2.1.2 As illustrated in the figure above, the extents of the site are predominantly reflective of a 'neighbourhood centre', with some local amenities and limited public transport provision close to the site.
- 2.1.3 In light of the location of the site, it is considered the primary mode of travel to and from the site would comprise the private vehicle, either as a driver or passenger in, however, the accessibility credentials of the site by sustainable travel modes is considered below.

2.2 Accessibility Credentials

Active Travel

Walking and Cycling

- 2.2.1 A footway on Bedhampton Hill provides opportunities for onward travel by foot, with local footways benefitting from incidences of dropped kerbs, lighting and tactile paving.

2.2.2 It is observed the site is close to a signed off-road cycle track which provides connectivity to the centre of Havant. It is observed Havant is located on National Cycle Network Routes 2 and 22.

2.2.3 Havant Borough Council provide information on walking and cycling which can be found at:

- <https://www.havant.gov.uk/transport-projects/getting-and-around-havant/walking>.
- <https://www.havant.gov.uk/transport-projects/getting-and-around-havant/cycling>.

Public Transport

Bus

2.2.4 The closest bus stops are located on Bedhampton Road, approximately 500m (equivalent to a 7-minute walk) from the site. The stops are served by routes:

- 19 – Portsmouth City Centre to Leigh Park.
- 23 – Havant to Southsea.
- 632 – School Service.
- 737 – School Service.

Rail

2.2.5 The closest rail station is Bedhampton, located approximately 1.5km from the site, primarily served by South Western Railway services, to:

- London Waterloo via Guildford (on train per hour).
- Portsmouth Harbour (one train per hour).

2.2.6 Additional limited services are operated by Southern.

Summary

2.2.7 In light of the accessibility credentials as summarised above, it is considered the primary mode of travel to and from the site would comprise the private vehicle, but that opportunities are present for alternate travel modes.

2.3 Local Road Network

2.3.1 The site is located off Junction 5 of the A3(M). To A3(M) is a short section of motorway running between Horndean and Bedhampton. To its north, the A3(M) continues as the A3 to London. To its south, the A3(M) links to the A27 and the M27.

- 2.3.2 It is considered the site would benefit from a degree of pass-by trade associated with guests on an existing pre-determined journey on this route.

Taxi

- 2.3.3 A 'Taxi Freephone' would be available within reception to connect to a local operator.

3 AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This Travel Plan represents a long-term strategy to promote sustainable travel and to offer realistic transport choices for the main and in-stay part of guest travel to / from the site and for commuting journeys by staff.

3.2 Aims and Objectives

- 3.2.1 The objectives of this document are two-fold. Firstly, to increase awareness of sustainable travel modes available to guests and staff and secondly to reduce the dependence of guests and staff on travelling by car to and from the site. The subsequent overarching objectives are:

- To increase guest and staff awareness of the advantages and availability of sustainable modes of transport over the car;
- To introduce a package of physical and management measures that will facilitate guests and staff travel; and
- To limit unnecessary or unsustainable use of the car for journeys to and from the site by guests and staff.

- 3.2.2 For Travel Plans to work effectively there are five key issues to drive the required changes, these are:

- Achieving a **culture change** in the organisation and amongst people;
- **Providing real incentives** to encourage changes in travel behaviour and to ensure that these are continued;
- An **integrated holistic approach** to ensure that all measures work in the same direction and are fully cohesive;
- **Total management support** for both the measures and to provide leadership example to others and
- **A clear and continued objective** to achieve for a clear purpose to maintain focus for the future.

- 3.2.3 In achieving a change of behaviour, the stages can be described in seven steps:

- Awareness of a problem e.g. traffic congestion, pollution, environmental damage, example to the community etc.;
- Accepting responsibility at an individual and corporate level that everybody and every organisation has its part to play;
- A perception that alternatives are possible;

- Evaluation, personally and for an organisation, to find which are the viable alternatives;
- Making a choice, with the intention to modify behaviour;
- Experimental behaviour, trying out new travel choices; and
- Habitual behaviour, long term adoption of sustainable modes.

3.3 Targets

3.3.1 The targets of this Travel Plan are to increase guest arrivals and staff commuting by sustainable transport. The targets will be in line with 'SMART' criteria:

Specific

Target increase/decrease in mode share shown over a set timescale.

Measurable

The mode share of guests and staff will be measured and monitored using travel surveys.

Achievable and Realistic

The targets, taking into account preferred travel modes, and general Travel Plan promotion, need to be achievable and realistic.

Time-bound

The targets are to be monitored on a regular basis and met within five years of the Travel Plans implementation.

3.3.2 In lieu of site-specific travel survey information, the following Travel Plan targets have been set:

To increase the proportion of staff who travel to work by active modes (walking and cycling) by 5 / 10% by the end of Year 3 / 5 of the Travel Plan

&

To increase guest arrivals by sustainable transport by 5 / 10% by the end of Year 3 / 5 of the Travel Plan

3.4 Summary

- 3.4.1 Following baseline surveys, the targets will be reviewed and amended based on site-specific data obtained.
- 3.4.2 The targets stated above will be reviewed regularly and should be achieved by the target dates specified. If they have been attained before the target date, they will be modified to provide further, more challenging targets, while if the surveys show that progress is not being made towards achieving the targets, the reasons why would be investigated, including a review of the current measures which would be added to or modified to ensure that the overall targets will be met.
- 3.4.3 Travel related concerns raised by staff and guests and any identified barriers to sustainable travel will be ascertained by way of regular travel surveys and routine monitoring. Further bespoke measures and changes could then be introduced to address these barriers, if necessary, to ensure that the Travel Plan continues toward achieving its targets and overall aim.

4 TRAVEL PLAN MEASURES

4.1 Travel Plan Initiatives

- 4.1.1 The Travel Plan initiatives as below will be provided and be subject to ongoing monitoring and review in terms of uptake and success:

Whitbread Corporate Initiatives

- 4.1.2 The following measures would be delivered at the site to support realisation of the Travel Plan targets:

- Whitbread recruit staff through local job centres and therefore staff reside within a five-mile radius of their place of work, meaning that sustainable modes of travel offer realistic travel choices to the private car for staff;
- The Premier Inn website and phone application provide sustainable transport information to enable guests to plan their journey in advance and / or consider available travel choices prior to booking, with 97% of guests booking their stays direct; and
- Employees benefit from access to a staff voucher scheme against which a 7% discount can be obtained at Halfords to purchase bicycles / cycle equipment, thereby encouraging their use.

Site Infrastructure

- 4.1.3 The following measures could be delivered at the site to support realisation of the Travel Plan targets:

- Premier Inn hotels typically benefit from being co-located with an on-site breakfast room or restaurant, catering for guest breakfasts or evening meals respectively, reducing the need to travel off site;
- Most Premier Inn hotels benefit from level access to the reception area and specially adapted rooms allowing easier access for customers with disabilities. However, where required, access ramps, dropped kerbs and tactile paving will be provided;
- All Premier Inn hotels are bike friendly. Clean bikes with dirt-free tyres are allowed to be kept in guest bedrooms or stored away safely. The reception team will point guests to local bike washing facilities should this be required. Cycle maintenance tools including bicycle pumps and puncture repair kits are available from reception;
- Premier Inn provide adequate changing facilities for those staff commuting by active travel. Lockers are provided in the team / staff room for the storage of clothing and cycling equipment.
- All Premier Inn hotels provide free Wi-Fi, which may be connected to for access to travel related websites, for example; and
- Amazon have the option to provide Amazon Lockers within Premier Inn hotels. These are accessible to all, including the local community, 24 hours a day.

General Information & Raising Awareness

- 4.1.4 Some guests and staff may choose to travel by car, therefore it may be appropriate to promote car sharing. Potential cost savings can be calculated here: <https://liftshare.com/uk/savings-calculator>, while national websites such as 'liftshare' and 'blablacar' allow users to find a car share BUDi for free.
- 4.1.5 Staff travel can be influenced through the following:
- All staff will be informed of the Travel Plan during their interview / the induction process through a 'Staff Welcome Pack';
 - Reception staff will be trained to ensure they understand the site location and locale, enabling them to respond to all guest travel queries; and
 - A Travel Plan notice board displaying up to date information on sustainable travel will be erected within a communal area i.e. the team / staff room.
- 4.1.6 The following events and dates will be promoted by the Travel Plan Coordinator, where appropriate, and communicated via the Travel Plan noticeboard and staff meetings:
- May – Walk to Work Week and Work Wise Week;
 - June – Bike to Work Week;
 - September – Travelwise / European Mobility Week;
 - October – National Liftshare Week; and
 - November – Commute Smart Week.
- 4.1.7 Guest travel can be influenced through the following:
- A digital display screen will be provided in the reception, mapping the surrounding area, and detailing local transport links. The screen includes a QR code which guests can scan using their smartphone for additional travel information; and
 - The Premier Inn website contains up-to-date travel information and other relevant details for each hotel across its estate.

4.2 Action Plan

- 4.2.1 A full Action Plan of the Initiatives is attached hereto at **Appendix A**.

4.3 Travel Plan Coordinator

4.3.1 A Travel Plan Coordinator (TPC) will be appointed who will be responsible for all aspects of travel planning at the site. The Travel Plan Coordinator role could fall within the remit of an existing staff member, who will be responsible for taking the lead of the Travel Plan and responsible to raising awareness of the Travel Plans aims, objectives and target, and the monitoring and evaluation of any surveys undertaken throughout the life of the Travel Plan.

4.3.2 It will be ensured the Travel Plan Coordinator has adequate resources available to them to fully implement the Travel Plan.

4.3.3 The main responsibilities of the TPC will be, although not exclusively, as follows:

- Acting as a point of contact for all staff, guests and visitors requiring travel information;
- Overseeing the site and implementation of the document and the measures it includes;
- Developing promotional marketing and awareness raising materials in order to facilitate organised promotions;
- Undertaking monitoring of the Travel Plan, including designing and undertaking travel surveys and preparing a monitoring report;
- Liaising with all interested parties, stakeholders, management, local public transport operators etc. in the delivery of the Travel Plan; and
- Working closely with the local authority Sustainable Travel Team to ensure the Travel Plan remains consistent with wider sustainable travel initiatives.

4.3.4 The relevant contact details for the management of this Travel Plan are as follows:

Caroline Burt – Business Development Project Manager – New Site Openings

Email: caroline.burt@whibread.com

TBC – Hotel Manager, Premier Inn

Email – TBC

4.3.5 The Travel Plan Coordinator role is defined within the job description of the Hotel Manager and training for the role is provided by Whitbread as part of new hotel openings and staff inductions. In addition, RGP can hold Travel Plan 'Introduction' and 'Training Seminars' with Travel Plan Coordinators prior to the opening of a new site / implementation of a Travel Plan. Training ensures the Travel Plan Coordinator knows what is expected of them from the outset, when a Travel Plan is to be implemented. The role of the Travel Plan Coordinator is imperative to the success of the Travel Plan.

4.3.6 Whitbread will ensure that there are adequate resources available to fully implement the Travel Plan.

5 IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

5.1 Implementation and Funding

- 5.1.1 An initial budget will be allocated for the implementation of the Travel Plan and reviewed by the Travel Plan Coordinator annually to identify whether any adjustments are required in order to achieve the Travel Plan aims, objectives and target.
- 5.1.2 The implementation of some measures (e.g. cycle parking) will be met as part of the construction phase, whilst the ongoing monitoring and management will be part of the Travel Plan Coordinator role.
- 5.1.3 Any other associated costs to fund on-going Travel Plan measures will be met by Management. This for example could include maintenance costs and other resources as necessary to implement the Initiatives outlined.

5.2 Monitoring

- 5.2.1 An important part of any Travel Plan is the collection of data relating to the modes of travel used by staff, in order to identify and understand travel habits and how the site operates. The collection of such data could be undertaken through iTRACE compliant questionnaires.
- 5.2.2 Following the initial surveys, monitoring will be undertaken by the Travel Plan Coordinator. The Travel Plan Coordinator will be responsible for comparing the results and adjusting the target and Initiatives accordingly, they will also take into account travel related feedback received from staff and guests through the year. In addition, the Travel Plan Coordinator will prepare an updated Travel Plan following monitoring surveys.
- 5.2.3 An overview of the monitoring and management process is set out in the figure below.

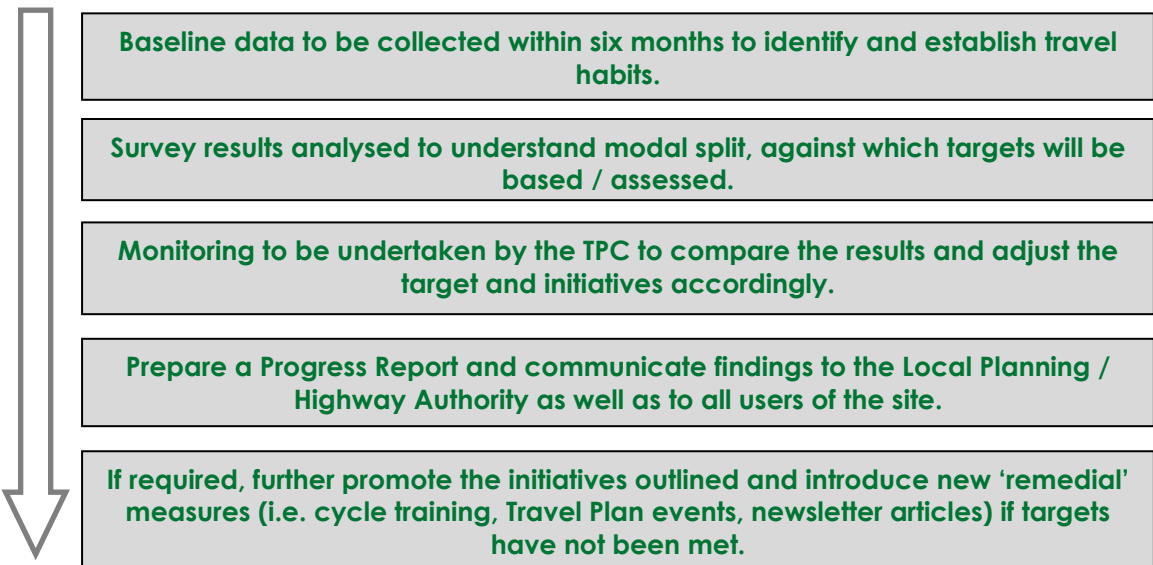


Figure 4 Monitoring and Management

APPENDIX A

TRAVEL PLAN ACTION PLAN

The table below highlights the initiatives that will be committed to as part of this Travel Plan.

Measure	Details	Responsibility	Implementation Timescales
WHITBREAD CORPORATE INITIATIVES			
Travel Plan Coordinator	To appoint a Travel Plan Coordinator (TPC) who will be responsible for all aspects of travel planning at the site.	Whitbread Management / Hotel Management	TPC appointed prior to the hotel extension becoming operational.
Recruitment	Whitbread recruit staff through local job centres and therefore staff reside within a five-mile radius of their place of work.	Whitbread Management / TPC	N/A
Website and Phone Application	The Premier Inn website and phone application provide sustainable transport information to enable guests to plan their journey in advance and / or consider available travel choices prior to booking.	Whitbread Management / TPC	TPC to review to ensure information is accurate.
Employee Benefits	Employees benefit from access to a staff voucher scheme against which a 7% discount can be obtained at Halfords to purchase bicycles / cycle equipment.	Whitbread Management / TPC	N/A
SITE INFRASTRUCTURE			
Breakfast Room / Restaurant	Premier Inn hotels typically benefit from being co-located with an on-site breakfast room or restaurant, catering for guest breakfasts or evening meals respectively, reducing the need to travel off site.	TPC	TPC to promote.
Changing Facilities	Premier Inn provide adequate changing facilities for those staff commuting by active travel.	Whitbread Management / TPC	TPC to promote and monitor use.
Bike Friendly	All Premier Inn hotels are bike friendly, with guests allowed to keep bikes in their room or for them to be stored away safely, which will be promoted by the TPC.	TPC	TPC to promote.
Wi-Fi	All Premier Inn hotels provide free Wi-Fi, which may be connected to by guests for access to travel related websites, which will be promoted by the TPC.	TPC	TPC to promote.
Amazon Lockers	Amazon can provide Amazon Lockers within Premier Inn hotels.	Whitbread Management / TPC	TPC to monitor use.

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GENERAL INFORMATION			
Welcome Pack	All staff will be informed of the Travel Plan through a 'Staff Welcome Pack'.	TPC	TPC to ensure all staff are aware of the Travel Plan prior to the hotel extensions becoming operational, and review the Welcome Pack to ensure information is accurate.
Training	All reception staff will be trained to ensure they understand the site location, to be able to answer all guest travel queries.	Whitbread Management / TPC	TPC to train existing staff prior to the hotel extension becoming operational, and to train all new staff as recruited.
Notice Board	A Travel Plan notice board will display up to date active and sustainable travel information and initiatives.	Whitbread Management / TPC	To be erected prior to the hotel extension becoming operational.
Travel Plan Events	The TPC will promote Travel Plan Events (i.e. Walk to Work Week, Travelwise and Commute Smart Week) to employees.	TPC	TPC to promote annually.
MONITORING, REVIEW AND REPORTING			
Target Review	TPC to set targets and review on an annual basis.	Whitbread Management / TPC	Targets to be set in year one, after which, reviewed in the first, third and fifth years.
Progress Report	TPC to prepare an annual progress report to summarise the findings of the Travel Surveys.	Whitbread Management / TPC	Progress report completed for the first anniversary of the Travel Plan and all subsequent year anniversaries up to five years.
Additional / Remedial Measures	TPC to introduce new measures if targets are not being met.	Whitbread Management / TPC	Where required, to discuss with Whitbread Management / Local Planning Authority.



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