

Young Participants' Information Letter (workshop activity and discussion)

A Study of Cycling with Public Transport

This is part of a PhD student research study titled "*Fitting the bike to the chain: An activity analysis of transitions towards households integration of multi-modal cycling*" by PhD student Peter Atkinson, supervised by Frances Hodgson and Caroline Mullen, University of Leeds.

About this project

Please read through this information sheet and contact the researcher to ask any questions you may have. The researcher will be at the workshop where he will explain anything you still don't understand. Take time to decide with your parents or another adult who is looking after you, whether you wish to take part.

Project aims

We want to find out who combines cycling with public transport, how this helps your family and how this changes as you grow up and start to go to places independently. We would also like to find out what makes cycling in combination with public transport difficult.

Although many people already cycle to get to railway stations for getting to work, or a place where they study, we are also interested in journeys for meeting friends or relatives, to go the shops, going out for (or coming back from) a longer bike ride for fun, or any other reason. If you or your family have also tried to take your bike with you on a bus, tram or Metro train, we are particularly interested in hearing your experiences.

If I take part, why will this be useful for the study?

Finding out about the experiences of children and young people in families where someone (probably an adult) integrates cycling with other modes of transport is important to this study. It does not matter whether you cycle or not. Understanding how you and your family make travel arrangements together and independently will help us understand what the difficulties are, as well as the benefits.

What will I need to do?

You will be involved in a workshop activity and discussion. You and your parents or adults looking after you, would create drawings, maps and describe travel stories and places in words and pictures, as well as materials like Lego, Plasticine and scale models. In this workshop, we hope to understand:

- the different activities undertaken by bike, places travelled to and reasons why people go on bike trips
- the changes in your activities as you have grown up, as well as other changes at home over the same period.
- how you are learning to travel on your own with your bike and who helps you to learn this
- people who cycle with you, or people who you visit, or meet by bike
- the difficulties you face when you try to take your bike on a long journey
- the costs of cycling, space for storing bicycles and other equipment

What are the disadvantages and risks of taking part?

Taking part in the workshop will require you to give up about an hour of your time. It may take place in a busy public place, so we will try to invite you to join in at a time when we think the workshop session will not be full.

What are the possible advantages and benefits of participating in this study?

- Your thoughts and experiences could help other families and young people who would like to travel independently. It may also help transport operators, or the local council to make plans for combining cycling with public transport
- You may find out about other facilities, resources and information to help you and your family make journeys
- You may also learn something about doing research, which could be useful to you in your own studies and projects at school or college

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not you will take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep. We will ask you to sign a consent form which confirms you have read the information sheet and are happy to take part. As your age is less than 16 years, your parent or a legal guardian is also required to sign to say they will let you take part.

You can choose not to take part in any particular workshop activity, and you do not have to answer any questions asked within the workshop sessions. You can also decide to withdraw from the study completely, but your family will still be allowed to get any benefits they were offered, such as entry to the prize draw. If you let us know within fourteen days after taking part, that you want to withdraw from the study, we will also be able to delete all our records of what you said and any drawings or other visual work you contributed, if you so wish.

What is the purpose of the research and how will the results be shared?

It is important for people who work in the transport industry, and those in local government, to know what difficulties people have when trying to combine cycling with public transport. They will also need to know how, where and when their designs, information and other actions have been helpful.

Your drawings and models and what you say may be included in the researcher's PhD thesis, and in articles that he will write for journals, web pages and conferences – without you being personally identified. A project website will let you see how the project is getting on.

Why are the interviews and workshops going to be recorded, and how will these be used?

Recording what you say using video and sound recorders, particularly about what is shown in the drawings, maps or diagrams and models you create, will help us to identify themes which may be important for the effective integration of cycling. Photographs, videos and other digitised materials will be stored on a secure computer and linked to your name by a code word that only the researchers have.

Will my contribution be anonymous?

Yes, in all of our articles, reports and other communications, we will make it impossible for you to be identified. We will not show images of your face, nor will we allow which school you go to be identified. We may sometimes use a pseudonym (a kind of nickname that no-one else knows is

yours) to quote what you have said. Maintaining the confidentiality of all participants in the study is important to us, so we will not reveal your name, or other personal details, although we cannot promise this on behalf of other participants in the workshop activities.

Anonymous archival and Sharing of Research Data

Transcripts from the video and audio recordings of interviews, observations, or workshops, as well as photographs of models, scanned drawings and activity maps will be stored in the University of Leeds 'Research Data Leeds Repository' after the end of the project. These archives would be available, following a formal application process, to other researchers.

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