



we are  
**cycling**  
UK

in Scotland

# Adaptive bike share



# Survey results



# What was the adaptive bike share survey about?



Transport Scotland and Cycling UK are working together to get information about the need for adaptive bike shares in Scotland.

An adaptive bike is a bike that is not a two wheeled, upright bike.

This includes:



- trikes – bikes with three wheels
- tandems - two people cycling together with one person in front to steer



- clip-on hand cycle - attachments to adapt a wheelchair
- recumbents - lying back.
- handcycles – handles instead of pedals to steer and move the bike



- side-by-side tandem – 2 seats side by side and 2 sets of pedals.
- e-bike - a two-wheeled bike with electric motor.

A bike share could be:



- a place that has staff where people can borrow a bike for a few hours or take it home.
- a place without staff where people check out a bike using a membership or credit or debit card.

They can then ride and park the bike in a docking station.

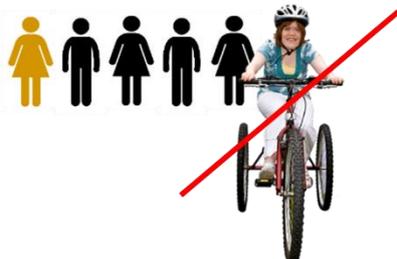


Transport Scotland asked disabled people what they thought about the need for adaptive bike share using an online survey in May 2021.

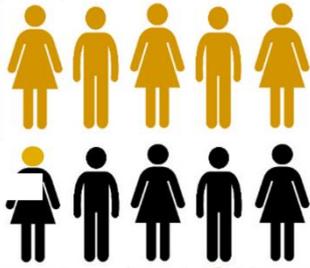
207 disabled people and people needing adaptive bikes answered the survey.



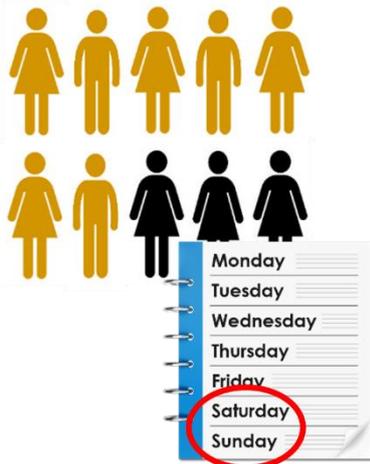
There were answers from people in 30 of the 32 council areas in Scotland from a mix of ages and genders.



6 out of 10 people did not have a bike they could use.



More than 5 out of 10 people did not use a bike but would like to go cycling.



7 out of 10 people thought they would go cycling once a week or more if they had access to a bike.



Nearly 3 out of 10 people had a bike they could use.

Half of these people had their own adaptive bike.

## What makes cycling difficult for people?



- Cost of suitable bikes



Not enough things like:

- good road surfaces
- cycle lanes
- bike racks



- Not owning a bike



- Not having somewhere to keep a bike



- Needing support to get a bike to the place they want to ride it.

## What did people think would be good about having adaptive bikes in bike share or rental schemes?



- Being able to cycle more often.



- Being able to get advice the first time they use the service:
  - to choose the right adaptive bike
  - and learn how to use it



- Being able to try out a bike.  
This is useful if people are thinking about buying an adaptive bike.

## What did most people agree on?



- There must be more safe cycle paths and off-road paths where there are no cars.



- Cycling is fun!

Nearly everyone thought cycling is something they would do for fitness or fun.

Most people said they would go cycling at the weekend.



- There should be support to use adaptive bikes.



- There should be staff that could use the adaptive bike with them as a companion rider



- There should be staff who can get the bike delivered to where someone wants it.



- Having adaptive bikes in mainstream bike share or loan services.

This would make sure everyone was treated equally and fairly.



Most mainstream services work using an app and there is no staff.

This does not work well for people who use adaptive bikes.



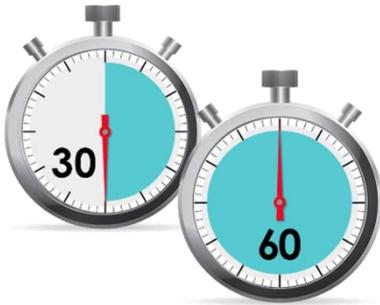
This could be talked about with groups of disabled people to understand what kind of service would work best.

## What did people have different opinions about?



- There is no one adaptive bike that will suit the needs of all cyclists.

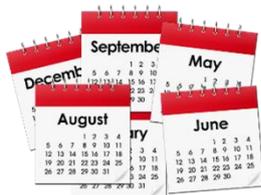
People would like different types of adaptive bikes in a bike share service.



- There was not one type of service that suited most people.

People liked both:

- short loan schemes for 2-5 hours, or 30-90 minutes.
- long loan schemes for more than 3 months.



- Some people wanted to cycle at a bike centre or bike park or on quieter roads.

## What happens next?



The survey showed there is a lot of support for including adaptive bikes in bike share or loan schemes.

A lot of disabled people would like to cycle and use adaptive bikes.



Transport Scotland will keep talking to disabled people to find out what will work best.

They will think about trying out different services in the future.

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Prepared by Disability Equality Scotland

