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New cycle hub facility opens at Wolverhampton Interchange

A secure bicycle storage facility with space for 110 cycles has opened at the Wolverhampton Interchange, making public transport more accessible for passengers in the city.

The free-to-use 'cycle hub' features controlled access, LED lighting and CCTV. Users can register their details <u>online</u> to access the facility.

The hub, which has been funded by charity Walk Wheel Cycle Trust working on behalf of the Department for Transport, is located on Railway Drive, close to the main entrance of the railway station.

David Hibbs from Walk Wheel Cycle Trust said: "Cycles are great for many journeys – cheap, quick and help keep you healthy. This new facility will help people get the benefits of riding when making longer journeys which are too far to ride but easy when you join cycle and train"

City of Wolverhampton Council Leader, Councillor Stephen Simkins, said: "The Interchange is a jewel in the crown of our city centre and is key to the major regeneration that is taking place across Wolverhampton. The new cycle hub gives people another option and encourages a healthy, clean and green form of transport.

"As a city we are committed to improving our infrastructure for more sustainable transport and this scheme complements our ongoing work to improve and grow our cycling network and support our climate change agenda. The Interchange connects train, tram, bus and cycles in one place and provides a gateway to our city that we can all enjoy using - and be proud of."

Beccy Marston, West Midlands Active Travel Commissioner, said: "We have seen huge investment in new rail, bus, Metro services and cycle access in Wolverhampton and this cycle hub now completes the package. Evidence shows that if given modern and secure facilities like this, people will cycle more as part of a much longer train or tram journey.

"The Mayor and I want to get more people on their bikes and cycling to the station instead of driving – even one day a week would save you up to £600 in car parking fees alone, as well as providing multiple health benefits."

Jonny Wiseman, customer experience director for West Midlands Railway, operator of Wolverhampton Station, said: "Keeping the railway accessible is a priority for us and this fantastic new facility will make it easier for our customers in Wolverhampton to use public transport.

"With around five million passengers using the station every year, I am certain this facility will prove popular with customers who are looking to

make green journeys."

The opening of the cycle hub is the latest in a series of major upgrades at the award-winning Wolverhampton Interchange as part of an £150million investment in bus, tram, train and cycle connectivity over recent years. The new-look railway station concourse opened its doors in 2021 and the West Midlands Metro was extended to serve the station in 2023.

To register for access to the facility, visit: <u>Apply for cycle storage | Transport</u> for West Midlands

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