



Wheelrights

the Swansea Bay
cycle campaign group



The Clerk,
Equality of Opportunity Committee,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff CF99 1NA

15 March 2010

Accessibility of railway stations in Wales

This is in response to Ann Jones's invitation to contribute to the enquiry contained in her letter (to one presumes stakeholders) dated 11 February 2010.

Our comments refer to points 4 and 5 of her letter and relate specifically to provision for cyclists.

4. Changes that would improve accessibility at railway stations.

Adequate safe cycle parking should be provided at all stations. A report of last November to Lord Adonis titled *Better Rail Stations* recommends that stands to accommodate at least 5% of the daily number of passengers should be provided. Thus if on average 1000 people travel to or from a particular station per day there should be stands for 50 bikes. In Swansea there are currently 14 Sheffield stands: enough for 28 bikes. I do not have the figure for the daily number of passengers but have noted that the stands there are well used. The link to the *Better Rail Stations* report is:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/passenger/stations/beterrailstations/>.

Recommendation 17 in the Executive Summary (See the 146kB pdf file Introduction.) covers the point made above.

The simple metal hoops known as Sheffield stands are suitable. They should be located where they are widely visible, and in major stations CCTV coverage should be provided. Also in major stations consideration should be given to providing bike lockers.

The above is particularly relevant to Swansea where the railway station is due for major renovation this summer. At this station (and no doubt at others also) a particular consideration is the lack of information for cyclists leaving the station. This should include signing to direct them on to cycle routes and to destinations. Also cycle stands are needed outside the station as well as inside.

5. Stations with good accessibility

Apparently the stations in Oxford and Cambridge meet the 5% criterion.

Prepared on behalf of *Wheelrights* by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Naylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

David Naylor (*Wheelrights* Secretary)

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