

Case Study

Electrification of Health Courier Services' Fleet

The investment in electric vehicles for our Health Courier Service continues with a 400% increase in numbers over the last twelve months, such that we now have 30 electric vehicles as part of our HCS fleet. For the time being these vehicles are being used for shorter journeys (< 100 miles) but are still predicted to cover between 250,000 and 500,000 miles in total per year as the additional vehicles are phased in.

This represents a minimum of a 275% increase on miles covered by electric vehicles and will lead to a reduction in our carbon footprint of at least 68,000 kgs based on a switch from the current diesel vehicles. The charging infrastructure is being continually enhanced to support both the HCS fleet and to offer charging facilities to NHS Wales staff for their private vehicles. Improved route planning software should also lead to efficiencies which will again help to reduce the overall carbon footprint.



All vehicles are fitted with temperature control, and all are able to be tracked live on the system. Drivers are also provided with hand-held devices that enable alerts to be sent for any traffic or other issues. At the moment electric vehicles are in use in all parts of Wales where HCS delivers the service with the exception of West Wales which will see its first electric vehicles in April of this year.



The HCS service is also currently taking part in a UK Government sponsored trial of electric HGVs. The trial is only just getting underway, but we understand that HCS are the first pilot site, to be closely followed by at least some of the UK's major supermarket chains.