

Launch of council Smart Mobility Hub as part of Innovation Challenge

Dublin City Council launches a Smart Mobility Hub (SMH) at its city centre offices at Wood Quay, Dublin 8. This pilot project is part of a small business innovation research challenge in partnership with Enterprise Ireland and Smart Dublin and is integrating a fleet of e-cars, bikes and e-bikes through mobile apps aiming to improve the options for staff who need to go off-site for work purposes during the day. Two innovative solutions are being piloted with Enterprise Holdings, University College Dublin, BleeperBike and Good Travel Software.

Speaking at the launch of the **Smart Mobility Hub on Wednesday, 8th May, 2019** at the Civic Offices, Owen Keegan, Chief Executive, Dublin City Council said, *“We are delighted to launch the Smart Mobility Hub in partnership with Enterprise Ireland – these pilot projects with Enterprise Holdings, Good Travel Software, University College Dublin and Bleeperbike are part of a Small Business Innovation Research programme. The Mobility Hub will allow our City Council employees to access a shared pool of e-bikes, e-cars and push-bikes from across DCC offices using apps to carry out off-site visits/surveys”*

“We want to lead by example to deploy smart and innovative new solutions that will reduce emissions and deliver a cleaner city environment for all”

This pilot scheme if successful will scale up and be deployed across the city council offices meaning fewer cars on the road at rush-hour means less congestion and an improvement in air quality. From an environmental point of view, all vehicles in the hub will have zero-exhaust-pipe-emissions, which is great in terms of both air quality and general climate change. Finally, the Hub is encouraging staff to try e-cars and e-bikes and accelerate adoption of these cleaner transport options.

Tom Kelly, Head of Innovation, Enterprise Ireland said “Enterprise Ireland is delighted to partner with Dublin City Council and Smart Dublin to harness the best innovative solutions and lead the way in developing Ireland’s first Smart Mobility Hub. The SBIR programme is unique in enabling public sector bodies and innovative SMEs the opportunity to work together and develop creative and innovative solutions for real societal problems”.

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Notes to the Editor:

This project has been match-funded by Dublin City Council Smart Cities programme and is supported by Smart Dublin and also Enterprise Ireland (EI), as part of EI’s SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) Programme.

Profiles of the companies involved:

[Good Travel Software \(GTS\)](#)

Good Travel Software (GTS), are world leaders in car sharing and dynamic shuttle technologies. GTS systems have been used to book over 300 million miles of journeys across the globe, by both large and small car sharing services.

Bleperbike

BleperBike is Ireland's first stationless bike sharing scheme. Stationless bikes are equipped with a smart lock fixed above the back wheel of the bike, this smart lock controls usage of the bike by communicating with their custom-built app. As the smart lock is permanently on the bike, the bikes can be picked up and left anywhere that traditional bike parking is permitted. BleperBikes do not require custom-built docking bays.

Enterprise Holdings

Enterprise Car Club is a subsidiary of Enterprise Rent a Car Ireland Limited, offering a dynamic approach to rental that is affordable, flexible and environmentally responsible. It provides both cars and vans that available for hire by the hour or day.

University College Dublin

UCD is one of Europe's leading research-intensive universities; an environment where undergraduate education, masters and PhD training, research, innovation and community engagement form a dynamic spectrum of activity.

Smart Dublin

Smart Dublin is an initiative of the four Dublin Local Authorities that uses new technologies to improve services and enhance quality of life in the Dublin Region. Smart Dublin works through collaboration; reaching out and engaging with technology providers, researchers and citizens to co-create solutions to regional challenges.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) is a pre commercial procurement initiative supported by Enterprise Ireland. The aim of SBIR is to drive innovation across all sections of the Irish Public Sector via robust engagement with technology rich companies and organisations, through competitive challenges. <https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/about-us/services/procurement/sbir-ireland/>

Enterprise Ireland has established a dedicated fund to co-support innovative and competitive Challenges in partnership with Irish Contracting Authorities.