



SCooTS is a project designed to help people aged 16 to 25 living within the rural parishes of North Hertfordshire to access a work or education placement.

SCooTS is a wheels to work/ education scheme, which is already a well established project. ScooTS addresses the transport difficulties faced by a number of the young people living within rural areas in North Hertfordshire.

The project is delivered via a dedicated Project Co-ordinator's post and Partnership Group with a robust documentation, budget and monitoring procedures.



AIMS

- To provide transport assistance to break down access barriers to employment, training and education opportunities.
- To break the cycle of no transport, no employment / training.

Project Activities

- Provides a loan 50cc scooter or bicycle, safety equipment and training, Scooters are supported via our supplier and approved training centre in Letchworth.

Locations

- The scheme will operate in all of the 33 rural parishes of the district of North Hertfordshire. Hertfordshire Accessibility Strategy 2007/07 on page 13 states that "The local audits for health, education, work and food have shown that are several super output areas in Hertfordshire which have poor public transport access and have a relatively high level of deprivation."

Eligibility Criteria:

- 16 – 25 year olds living in village/rural parishes of North Hertfordshire. (The employment / training placement can be outside of this area)
- Have a firm offer of an education or work placement

- The project will also support applicants needing assistance to sustain an existing placement, or to search for employment. This type of support however will be subject to availability.

Clients training



- Running costs of the scooters or cycles including the break down service and storage of the scooters whilst they are not in use with the scheme, provided by our motorcycle dealership

Cost:

Scooters – Client pays £45 per month, of which up to half could be returned at the end of the loan. In addition to this, the client will pay for their petrol and any damage up to the insurance excess (currently £250)

Results

SCooTS is currently helping an 18 year old from St Ippolyts. The client has had her share of problems and has been given a life line from SCooTS. She had been a SCooTS Client for a while when her father was sent to prison which meant that the client had to take care of her younger brother whilst a care home was fixed for him. This resulted in the client losing her job and she subsequently spent all of her savings.

The project Co-ordinator of SCooTS decided that this was an exceptional circumstance and to re-start her loan in order to help the client save towards her transport all over again.

The Client loves being a part of SCooTS because she says ***“I can go where I want to go and can have two jobs in different towns. I use the scheme mostly to get to work and I like the project because it gives you freedom so you are less reliant on other people for lifts but yourself, the scheme really makes me feel independent and when my loan end SCooTS will have enabled me to save up towards my own car, providing I pass my test of course.*”**

I think the safety element of the project is great and if the scheme was no longer available I wouldn't be able to do my jobs as I would have no travel, I don't think it would ever be a good idea to remove a scheme like this that helps so many people”. I also like that fact that the project Co-ordinator comes around every month to check on my progress.”

SCooTS is a very Successful and well established project. All our partners help to ensure all of the project's achievements to date and are dedicated to ensure the future development of the project.

Although SCooTS is a very well established Project we are always investigating other areas to continue our success. The project will need to evolve where a need is identified, for example we are currently investigating into electric scooters and charging stations to help with lower Carbon emissions and to help with commuting.

SCooTS is currently seeking further funding to continue our good work. If your organisation or a contact of yours may be interested in supporting SCooTS please get in touch.

Thank you.