



## **Bristol Council Gets an award for Going Green with SMARTA ebikes.**

A community healthcare team in Bristol has taken the ultimate green step becoming a 'no petrol' team, believed to be the first of its kind in Bristol.

Bristol Vocational Services, run by Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust (AWP) today celebrated going petrol free with the addition of an electric car to its fleet of four electric bikes.

The event held at Brookland Hall, Bristol, promoted the team's petrol free achievement to other colleagues in the NHS across the South West, as part of a wider initiative to reduce the Trust's carbon footprint. Besides the serious message there was also the opportunity to test the team's electric car and electric bikes.

Sarah Fairham, Bristol Vocational Services manager said, 'The addition of the electric car means that on those occasions we do need a car we can still maintain our petrol free status.'



'I am delighted that we can now say we are a no petrol team. Leaving our cars behind has many benefits - avoiding Bristol's traffic jams, getting to our clients much faster and feeling much healthier, physically and mentally from walking and cycling.'

Bristol Vocational Services provide specialist services to people with mental health problems throughout Bristol. The team travels between eight and 25 miles a day, making around four to five visits a day to clients.

At one pence a mile the electric bikes and car are self financing, resulting in on going savings from the team's travel budgets.

