



CASE STUDY:

Improving Parking and Promoting Active Travel

Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (OHFT) needed to introduce a sustainable car parking permit solution for staff, patients, visitors and service users following increased pressure on their existing car parks. Business growth, changes to services and staff travelling to their sites from further afield, have resulted in the existing car parks becoming unable to manage the increased level of parking load. OHFT recognised that a car parking management system would be needed and wanted to find a fair system for all. OHFT felt using a straight line or circle approach would have excluded many of their staff who needed to travel and park at their sites therefore Basemap's TRACC was the perfect system for defining the distance from home to work using travel time analysis.

About Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

Oxford Health NHS provide physical, mental health and social care for people of all ages across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Swindon, Wiltshire, Bath and North East Somerset. Their services are delivered from over 100 sites at community bases, hospitals, clinics and in people's homes with the aim to deliver care as close to home as possible.

TRACC – accurate, multimodal travel time analysis

TRACC quickly and easily produces accurate, multimodal travel time contours and reports between any number of origins and destinations. Due to the software's detailed analysis, OHFT have been using TRACC for their travel time analysis.

The challenge – improve car parking access and active travel

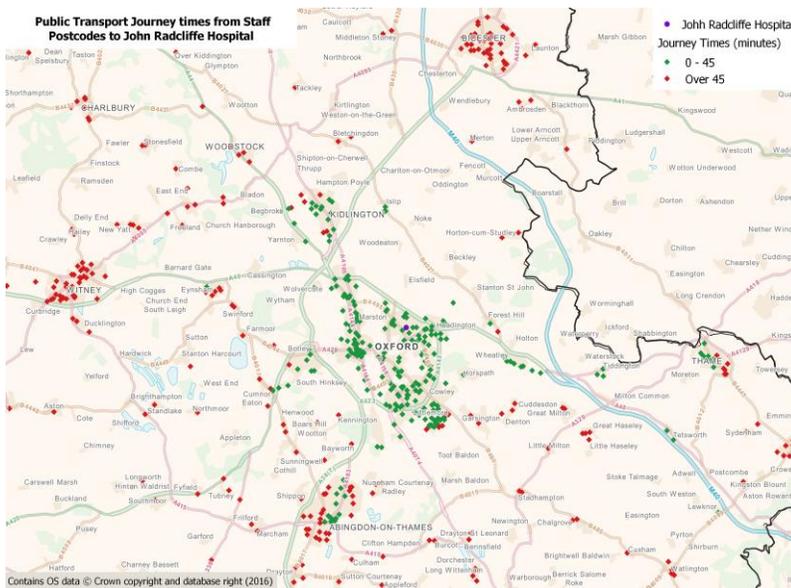
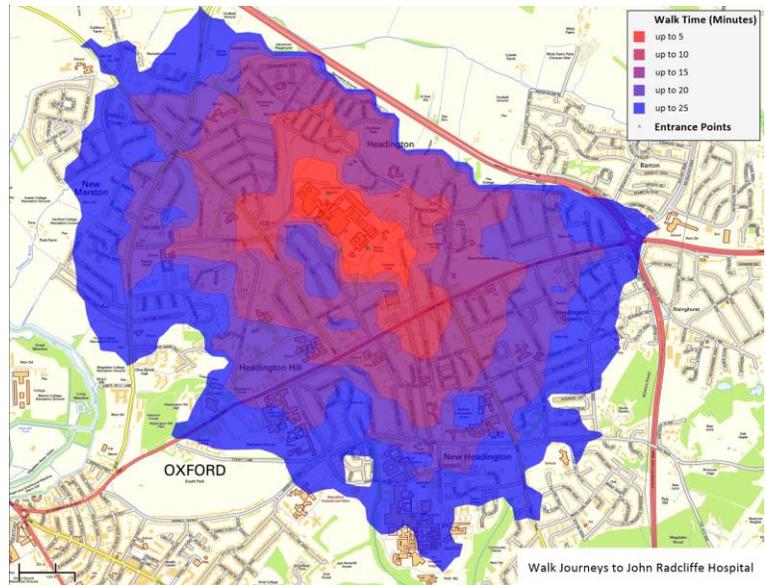
OHFT needed to reduce the number vehicles parking at their sites and introduce a sustainable parking permit system with allocated bays for both staff and patients/service users. There was a worrying concern for health and safety as cars were parking dangerously, often blocking red and emergency access routes. It was important that those who lived locally who could walk, cycle or get public transport to their sites did so to relieve the pressure on parking. In addition, OHFT needed to consider the greener aspects of travel and health benefits for staff and encourage the alternative ways of travel.

The solution – TRACC

OHFT used TRACC to identify staff who lived within a 45 minute journey on public transport to the site or a 25 minute walking or cycling journey and proposed alternative travel routes to reduce car travel and parking.

Tanya Street, Estates & Facilities Business Change Manager at OHFT, noted that it was important to look at travel times and consider all variables to make it fairer for staff, "just drawing a circle wasn't what we wanted, we need something that would offer a fairer solution, that's why we used the TRACC system. If we hadn't had TRACC, our only alternative would have been a system that wouldn't have considered public transport options and we wouldn't have been able to achieve these very detailed results". Despite the sensitive nature of parking issues, OHFT staff have felt the outputs, delivered by TRACC, are a true reflection of journey times to site, with accurate results of walking/cycling times and public transports' timetables.

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Improved car parking and accessibility

Using TRACC, OHFT were able to prove that there were a certain number of people locally who didn't need to drive to work and could travel a different way or park in a different place. Since these alternate routes, which might be quicker, have been highlighted to staff, OHFT have seen the start of a modal shift with staff travelling by foot, cycle or public transport to work. Tanya notes 'we have seen an increase in people travelling a different way and finding different solutions as a result'. They have also allocated patient and staff bays which have improved patient accessibility to services and parking behaviour has improved generally across all the sites.

Improved Active Travel and sustainability

To make it easier for people to travel differently, OHFT have supported the project by building cycle racks and showers. Tanya highlighted, "if the project leads to one person getting on a bike as opposed to driving to work then we've already benefited" and that "any residue income is going back into supporting those greener issues".

"TRACC is certainly a good system and we are very happy with it"

Tanya Street, Estates & Facilities Business Change Manager, OHFT