

An Enterprising Way to Work



Mark Parker:
"Inspired by the Enterprise initiative"

Aztec is a Merton-based events services company. Here, Mark Parker, Commercial Director of Aztec, talks about his experience on the Enterprise scheme.

Enterprise's free workplace travel plan has helped achieve an improved work-life balance for his staff, increased productivity and helps to demonstrate Aztec's commitment to sustainable business practice. So why is the Enterprise 'A New Way to Work' scheme proving so important to small and medium sized businesses like Aztec?

"The nature of live events requires us to consider travel planning and transport on a daily basis," explains Mark, "so having a travel plan developed through the free Enterprise offering made commercial sense and is in line with our commitment to sustainability."

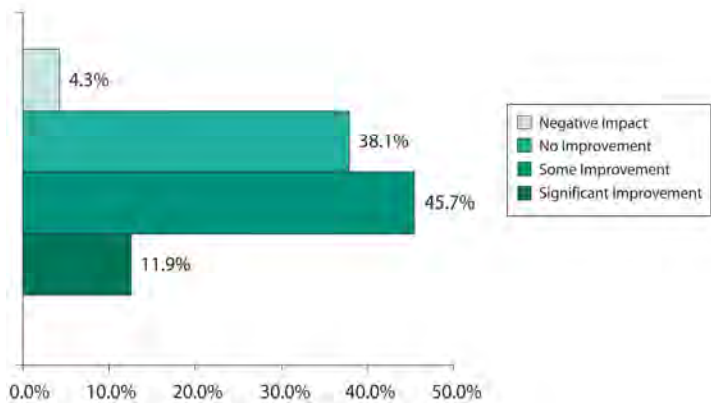
Aztec's travel advisor completed a survey of its employees' travel needs, researched its business travel requirements and carried out a thorough site audit, in order to provide a travel plan for the company. Aztec's tailor-made transport solution package included 'smarter working' initiatives – which endorse the use of flexi time, teleconferencing and home working as ways of saving on travel costs and increasing productivity.

To support the plan, Enterprise supplied match funding for pool laptops for Aztec's 30 employees. The results have been immediate, "Enterprise's support in allowing me to work from home has been invaluable... working from home with the laptop saves me a 4 hour commute. Plus, with mobile internet access, I can work when I am at events or conferences, removing the need for additional travel to the office," says Leo Speck, one of Aztec's Account Managers.



Aztec is not alone in noticing the positive changes that can come from adaptable working arrangements. This feedback is in line with a survey of British Chamber of Commerce members in 2007 which showed that approximately 60% of respondents said flexible working initiatives had helped improve both productivity within their organisations and staff retention.

If you offer any flexible work patterns or leave arrangements, what impact has there been on productivity?



British Chamber of Commerce (2007), Work and life; how business is striking the right balance

Mark Parker says the company has been inspired by the support and proactive nature of its Enterprise advisors, who tailored the plan to their needs: "As other SMEs will agree, business travel is a significant expense. By working with Enterprise to come up with a workable and achievable travel plan not only have we reduced our business travel costs, but our staff are happier and we are well on our way to meeting our sustainability targets."

Mark Parker acknowledges that alongside the potential reduction in carbon emissions, the environmental credentials of 'A New Way to Work' also make good business sense; "our commitment to sustainability puts us up as a leader within our industry and that's good for business."

"Being a part of the Enterprise Travel Planning Initiative is a very positive experience and I would encourage others to get involved."

Mark Parker,
Aztec Event Services

Where can I find out more?



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