

New e-bikes installed at two SWR stations

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South Western Railway (SWR) has installed 30 new e-bikes and docking stations at Cranbrook and Honiton stations.

The e-bikes, supplied by Co Bikes, will provide SWR customers with a green and efficient transport alternative, with the aim of tackling road congestion, improving air quality and giving locals and visitors an alternative way of travelling around Exeter and East Devon.

More than £200,000 has been invested in the schemes, made available through a network of partnerships between SWR, the Department for Transport, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council, Exeter and East Devon Enterprise Zone and Co Bikes.

There are 20 e-bike docks available at Cranbrook Station and another 10 at Honiton.

Andrew Ardley, Regional Development Manager at South Western Railway said: "Introducing the e-bikes onto our network is an exciting step for us, and we're proud to be able to provide our customers with a new, sustainable travel option for their onward journey.

"This installation is timely, as it makes access via rail to the growing employment area to the east of

Exeter and in Honiton even easier. There are also some great leisure cycling opportunities from both Cranbrook and Honiton through the stunning East Devon countryside”.

Mark Hodgson, Managing Director of Co Bikes said: “We’re excited to be working in partnership with South Western Railway. The installation of our Co Bikes at two busy commuter train stations in the east of the county provides more options for those that are looking to travel more sustainably or those that are looking for an alternative option for that first and last mile of a journey.”

Rail Minister, Wendy Morton MP said: “These new bikes are a great win for people in Devon, and will provide them with a fitness boosting, and eco-friendly way to get about.”