

Statement on the use of Provisional Bike Share Accreditation

Updated 30.11.18

There are two standards of CoMoUK Accreditation available; full and provisional.

Full Accreditation

Full Accreditation applies to operators who are already established and have at least one scheme in operation. Full Accreditation requires operators to meet all the requirements set out in the full Accreditation application form.

Some bike share operators who are new to the market may wish to work towards full Accreditation as their operations move past the launch phase. In these circumstances, provisional accreditation may be appropriate.

Provisional Accreditation

Local authorities entering contractual agreements with operators need to have assurances that they can deliver what they claim, but at the same time, new entrants to the industry may wish to apply for opportunities prior to having all operational elements in place.

It is difficult for CoMoUK to give the necessary assurances without the applicant actually being operational and proving what they can deliver. Provisional Accreditation will only be awarded on the basis that the operator provides CoMoUK with written details of a set of milestones leading up to a launch date and evidence at each stage achieve. CoMoUK expects all outstanding documentation to be provided to convert to Full Accreditation within 60 days of receipt of a MOU /contract or launch whichever is sooner. If repeated delays to launch or receipt of documentation occur, provisional status will be revoked until rectified.

A typical scheme specification document would also ask a series of questions to assess the suitability of the proposed bike share scheme, allowing both provisional and full accredited operators to be judged on their respective merits, such as bike share model and operational experience. In order to provide full transparency and assurances to those local authorities assessing operators, CoMoUK will provide an annex to the Accreditation certificate outlining areas which require further evidence post launch.

We request that Provisional Accreditation is not used to limit new entrants to the UK bike share market as this can inhibit innovation and limit competition.