

Applications open for mode shift schemes under the Sustainable Distribution Fund

The Department for Transport has today announced that it is accepting applications for the mode shift schemes which operate under the Sustainable Distribution Fund (SDF).

These schemes are as follows:

- **Freight Facilities Grant (FFG):** helps offset the capital cost of providing rail and water facilities.
- **Rail Environmental Benefit Procurement Scheme (REPS):** assists companies with the operating costs associated with running rail freight transport instead of road.
- **Waterborne Freight Grant (WFG):** assists companies with the operating costs associated with running water freight transport instead of road.

All three schemes are designed to facilitate the purchase of the environmental and social benefits that result from using rail or water transport instead of road.

The first bid round for REPS and WFG resource funding will close on the 12th December. This will be followed by a second bid round that will close on the 9th January 2007.

Full applications for FFG, for facilities which will be completed by 31st March 2008, are invited by 31st January 2007.

Further information on the SDF and each of the schemes that operate within it, along with how to apply, can be found on the Freight Logistics section of the Department for Transport's website:

Rail freight:

http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_freight/documents/divisionhomepage/039481.hcsp

Water freight:

http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_freight/documents/divisionhomepage/039961.hcsp