

NEWS

# Where you'll be able to hop on a bikeshare cycle in Swansea and how much it will cost

The bikes will start appearing around the city this summer

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By [Richard Youle](#) Local Democracy Reporter

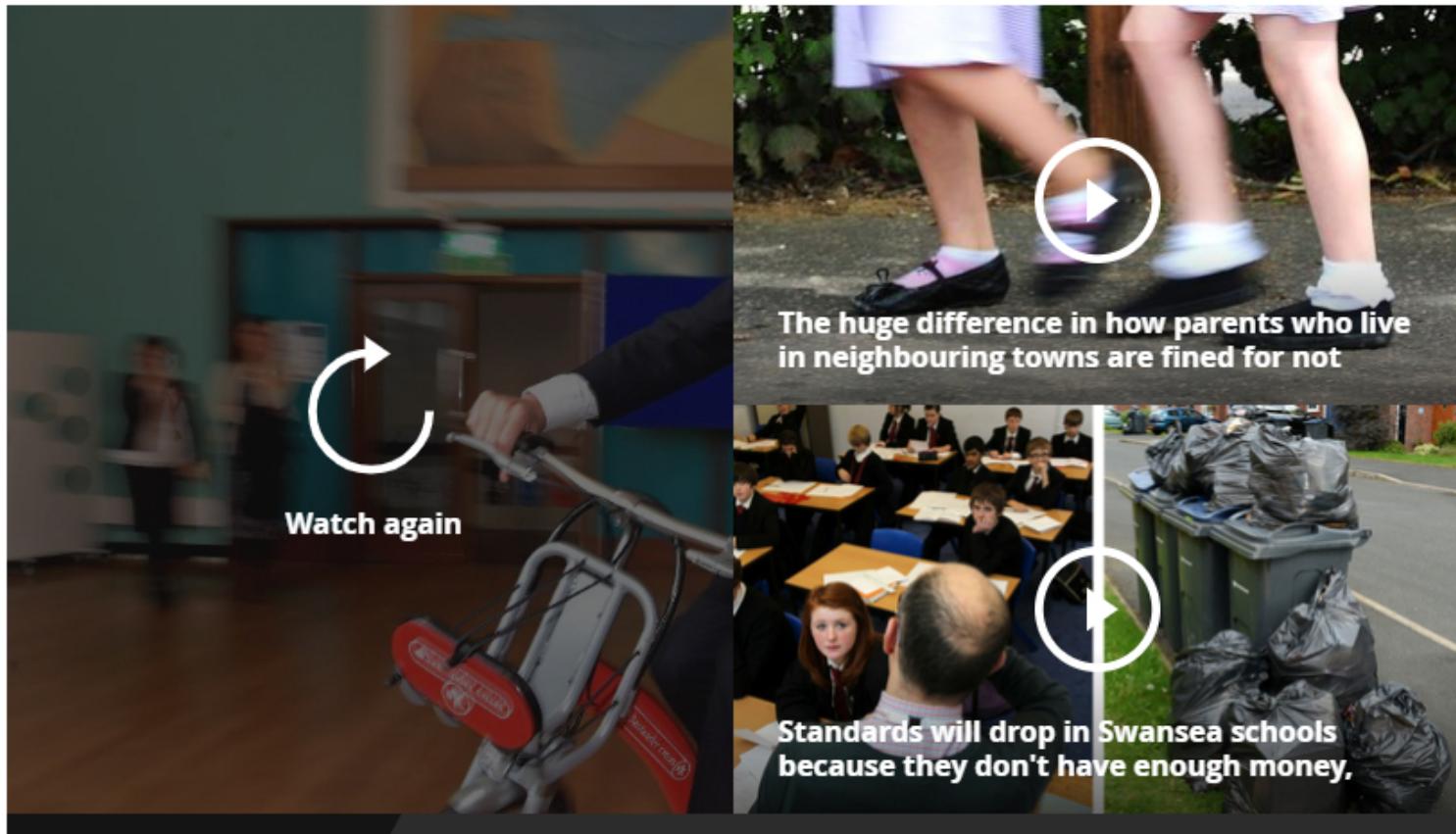
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Fifty bikes will be available for hire by residents, students and tourists when a shared bike scheme goes live in [Swansea](#) in July.

The bicycles will be kept at hubs at [Swansea University's](#) Singleton and Fabian Way campuses, Fabian Way park and ride, and outside the Civic Centre and [National Waterfront Museum](#).

A sixth hub with a further 10 bikes will be installed in [Mumbles](#) shortly afterwards, and there are hopes the scheme could be extended across the city.

Swansea University is the driving force behind the Santander-sponsored bike share scheme after winning a competition, which initially involved 22 other universities.

The entry field was whittled down to a shortlist of five, with Swansea and Brunel universities scooping £100,000 of equipment after raising the most money via crowdfunding campaigns.

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The Swansea scheme will be up and running on July 5.

Andrew Rhodes, the university's registrar and chief operating officer, said: "We have been overwhelmed with the support we have had from individuals, the community, businesses and councils for this ground-breaking scheme.

"Since our success in the competition, we have been working hard with our partners to deliver the scheme to provide bike stations and cycles.

"As the scheme is rolled out we will also be considering ways that the scheme could possibly be expanded with support from the community."



One of the Santander bikes at a launch event

The [Welsh Government](#), [Swansea Council](#) and Mumbles Community Council are among those who have backed the scheme. Swansea Council's cabinet member for housing, energy and building services, Councillor Andrea Lewis, said: "This is a fantastic initiative which the council fully supports."

"This scheme fits perfectly with the council's longer-term aims of developing new modes of transport that have an environmental benefit and help to reduce congestion."

The continental-style bikes are being provided by a company called nextbike, whose managing director Julian Scriven praised the efforts of all involved in Swansea.

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"It was great to see how the university and local community really got behind the campaign and we hope they will continue to show their support once the scheme is up and running," he said.

The bikes will be serviced regularly and spread around the hubs equally when they are not in use.

## How much will the bikes cost?

Provider nextbike offers different tariff and membership options.

Its "casual" tariff is £1 for 30 minutes and a maximum of £10 per day.



Cycles like this will be in use in Swansea

Monthly and annual membership – costing £5 and £60 respectively - brings the price down to zero for the first 30 minutes and 50p for an additional 30 minutes, and a £5 per day maximum.

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But nextbike's website said that fares might vary in different cities. You can unlock the bikes at the hubs electronically using an app or customer card, among other methods, although nextbike say cash will not be an option .

Matt Hutnell, director of Santander Universities UK, added: "We are really looking forward to the launch of

Santander Cycles in Swansea which will ultimately benefit the local community who demonstrated such strong support for the scheme throughout the competition."

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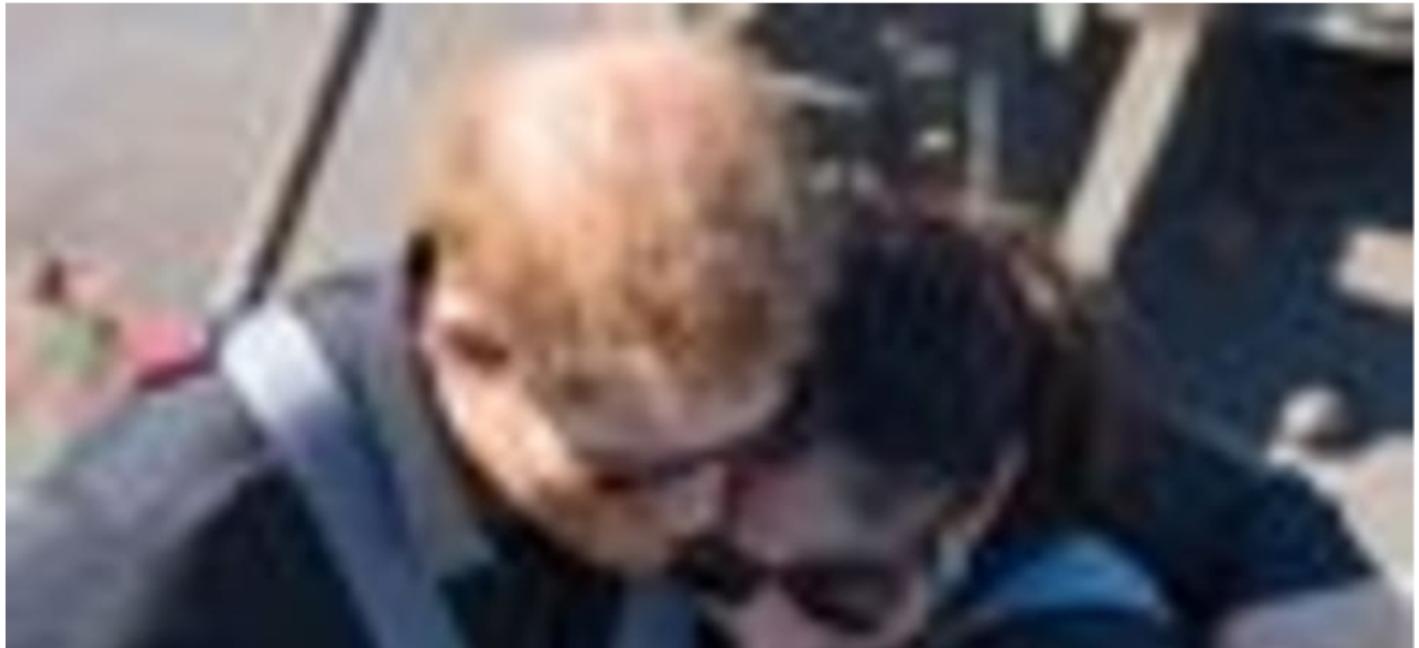


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