



Ecozone Mechelen in facts and figures

Groene vloot

- 61 electric cars (various marques)
 - 9 bikes with e-trailer
 - 22 (electric) bikes
 - 2 electric vans for parcels
 - 1 light electric cart for parcels
- And 57 charging points in the Mail Center car park

Average number of parcels delivered every day in Mechelen in addition to regular mail

3,000 per week day on average

57 pick-up points

- Mechelen post office
- 7 post points and parcel points
- 49 parcel locker sites, with 936 lockers in total, including
- 4 sites with the largest parcel locker stations with built-in display
- 45 sites with parcel locker stations without display (884 lockers) in 2800 Mechelen, Hombeek and Muizen (one station in each of these municipalities)

EXTRA: 3 parcel locker stations will open this year in Heffen, Leest and Walem

Reduction in the number of journeys/km

- Replacing vans with bikes and e-trailers in the city centre has reduced the distance covered per day by 164km.
- The Microhub and the parcel locker stations account for 64% of the total sustainability gain (compared with parcel rounds that do not include Microhub and parcel locker stations).
- A total sustainability gain of 32% compared with the previous situation, due to: •97% CO2 reduction and 77% fine particles reduction
- More bikes, meaning the total distance covered by bpost vehicles in the city centre is 164km lower than previously
- Less noise, with a 49% decibel reduction
- Combi pick-up points and Microhub => a total sustainability gain of 64% on parcel rounds using cargo bikes
- A lower number of customer journeys => 0.6-tonne reduction in CO2 emissions on the previous 0.7 tonnes (86% lower)



Partnership with the VUB research unit

The MOBI research group, connected to Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), monitors the sustainability impact of the Mechelen Ecozone. To do so, MOBI uses an external cost calculator developed in several PhD projects within the group. MOBI is an interdisciplinary research group with huge experience in sustainable logistics and e-commerce. The group works with enterprises, authorities and other scientific institutions to gain and share new knowledge.

bpost conducts a survey on the use of parcel lockers

bpost conducts a survey on the use of parcel lockers. Anyone who picks up a parcel is sent a survey. The 300 bpost survey on the use of parcel lockers completed surveys show that the use of parcel lockers is increasing week by week.

- The number of new users peaked in December 2020.
- 83% of Mechelen residents regularly go to one of the 49 parcel locker sites on foot or by bike to pick up their parcels. That means that there is limited use of cars to this end.
- Only a small number of respondents take the car and two in three car users combine the pick-up with other business, such as a trip to the supermarket, school or work.
- 81% of users covered less than 500m to get to a parcel locker station.
- Users are spread over all age categories. The main user group is 24-34-year-olds, but the over 65s also use the parcel lockers.
- Almost nine in ten users (87%) say they are “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the service. The main reasons cited are 24/7 availability and the user-friendly nature of the system.
- Around 75% of parcels placed in the lockers were destined for pick-up, with around 25% dropped off by consumers.

Mechelen Mail Center staff

- Some 118 people work at the delivery centre serving residents, businesses and enterprises in the 2800 postcode area. They make 150 journeys per day to deliver newspapers, letters and parcels and pick up letters and parcels.
- Interestingly: the majority (76) of the 118 colleagues live in Mechelen.