

this is cycling UK



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Maintaining momentum

Against a backdrop of tumultuous politics and economic shocks, Cycling UK still made progress in improving cycling's prospects.

Sarah Mitchell elaborates

As we approach the end of 2022 it's a good time to reflect on the year just gone and look ahead to what's to come. It's certainly been another rollercoaster of a year. The political landscape has been at perhaps its most topsy-turvy in recent memory. That led to some uncertainty around whether a new administration in Westminster would continue to commit to funding improved infrastructure for cycling and walking.

Thousands of Cycling UK members in England took up our call to ask their MP not to support any cuts to the active travel budget. At the time of writing we're waiting to hear more about the budget, but it's inspiring to know that when we combine our voices we present a powerful chorus in support of cycling.

Over the autumn we continued to see media interest in cycling and some encouraging signs that more and more people are turning to active transport in response to the cost of living crisis. It was good to see Prime Minister Rishi Sunak decide to attend

this month and great to see so many of you join with us in the 'march for cycling' events around the UK, which highlighted cycling's role in fighting climate change.

Many of you will have seen that we recently announced the winners of our 100 Women in Cycling awards. These include some truly incredible women making a real difference to cycling in 2022. Read on to be inspired.

In other awards news, huge congratulations to our campaigns and policy team, who have just won BikeBiz's Cycle Advocacy Award for their work on changes to the Highway Code and the Shoreham legal challenge – neither of which would have been possible without the support of our members.

Looking ahead to next year, we're busy planning delivery of the range of our programmes that help new groups of people to access cycling around the UK. In 2023 we'll deliver a wide range of activities, including the national e-cycles hire scheme, learn-to-ride activities, bike repair schemes and much more. You can find out more about what we'll be up to next year in this issue.

This year has certainly been a journey, and along the way there have been some great successes and plenty of forward progress. We're looking forward to next year and getting even more people in the saddle in 2023. ●

£8million
Investment by the
Department for
Transport in Cycling
UK's e-cycles
project.

See p8

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