

Campaigns

ELECTING TO SUPPORT CYCLING

Want to make the case for cycling to your local politicians? The Move Free report by Create Streets. which was commissioned by Cycling UK, shows how giving people more transport choices boosts high streets, housing, health and happiness. It's packed with evidence and case studies of places which have flourished by making it easier to walk and cycle. We've condensed all the evidence into handy summary documents so that whichever issues your elected representatives care about, you can prove that cycling is the answer. cyclinguk.org/move-freesummary

Prizes

SUMMER RAFFLE

The Cycling UK office is buzzing. We're busy securing prizes, ready for you to buy your tickets for our summer raffle for just £1 each from 3 July. Every ticket purchased helps improve lives, places and the planet through cycling's remarkable benefits. Bookmark the raffle page now (use the QR code or visit cyclinguk.org/

raffle). Thanks to all who entered our New Year raffle, raising over £17.000.





in Scotland cycled to work in 2021



Transport

BACKING FOR ACTIVE TRAVEL

New report makes an economic case for cycling investment. **Duncan Dollimore** elaborates

ow do we avoid cycling being seen as an antagonistic issue and make sure it appeals to parties across the political spectrum? In the run up to a general election, we need the evidence, case studies and compelling stories that illustrate the wide-ranging benefits of giving people transport choices, and to explain why it matters to voters.

Thanks to your support, we've been able to commission high-quality independent research from think-tank Create Streets. Entitled Move Free, the report shows that governments and councils that are willing to put active travel at the heart of communities will be rewarded with happier, healthier and richer places.

For example, retail sales increase by an average of 30% following projects that improve pedestrian, cycling or public transport access to shops. For politicians who aren't that interested in carbon emissions but care about their struggling high street, that's a persuasive argument. We'll be able to use this research ahead of the election to demonstrate that cycling is the solution to

problems a future government will be trying to tackle.

When we launched the research at an event in the House of Commons in March, the room was buzzing with people discussing how making it easier to move around places in different ways is great for health, happiness and prosperity. We spoke to housing developers, people in the construction industry, and business leaders - as well as government ministers, MPs and Lords.

We were fortunate to have both Transport Minister Guy Opperman MP and Shadow Transport Minister Stephen Morgan MP speaking at our event and responding to the research, with both of them agreeing on the positive impacts that active travel can have.

It was excellent to hear Stephen Morgan say that "Labour will support local authorities to make cycling and walking an option for all" and that "it is so important that an incoming Labour government gets this right".

If he gets his wish and Labour does win the election, we'll be sure to remind them of that! cyclinguk.org/blog/move-free-reportlaunch-parliament