


£150 million
Scottish Government's
budget for active
travel in 2022/23, up
from £115.5m
in 2020/21.

Right: Julie Skelton. Far right: Shoreham-By-Cycle



The new rules highlight the danger of car-dooring

Transport

A NEW CODE

The Highway Code is changing. The challenge now is to make sure all road users are aware of the new rules.

Duncan Dollimore reports

After more than ten years of campaigning by Cycling UK, backed by your incredible support, the Highway Code rules are changing. All road users will benefit, particularly the most vulnerable. The changes are due to come into effect on (or possibly shortly after) 29 January and will apply throughout Britain – but not Northern Ireland, where there's a separate code.

The revisions include:

- the introduction of a 'hierarchy of road users', recognising that those who pose the greatest risks to others (i.e. drivers of the largest vehicles) have a higher level of responsibility;
- simplification of the rules about priority (who gives way to whom) at junctions without traffic signals, so that anyone turning left has to give way to anyone going straight ahead across their path, which should reduce 'left hook' collisions;
- new rules to tackle dangerous overtaking and 'close passes', with a guideline minimum safe passing distance of 1.5 metres;
- rules highlighting the dangers of car-dooring, and the requirement to look before opening your car door, including a specific recommendation to use the Dutch Reach.

The new rules will be of limited benefit if people aren't aware of them. That's why we've been urging the government to fund and deliver a long term and widespread public awareness campaign. Many people won't have read the Highway Code since they passed their driving test. It's vital that the key changes are clearly explained with simple, accurate, and memorable messages.

It's alarming that, as I write this, the public is finding out about amendments to the Highway Code through opinion pieces in the media that focus on the merits of the changes. The time for that discussion has passed. The changes have legal implications the day they come in; the public deserves to be told what they are, irrespective of whether they agree with them.

To maximise its impact, the revised Code needs to be communicated and promoted through a government funded and led campaign. However, as we've not yet seen any materials or plans, we're putting together some content of our own to explain what's changing. We'll be asking members and supporters to share this widely on social media and among friends and colleagues. Look out for this material on our Highway Code campaign page. cyclinguk.org/safer-highway-code-cyclists

Legal

CYCLE LANE COURT CASE

At the time of writing, our judicial review of West Sussex County Council's decision to remove a popular cycle lane in Shoreham had not been heard in the Crown Court. (It's due 25-26 Jan.) Thanks to everyone who has helped fund our case. If successful, it will make other councils think twice before ripping up cycling facilities. To find out more and donate, visit cyclinguk.org/cdf



The lane served several schools

Road safety

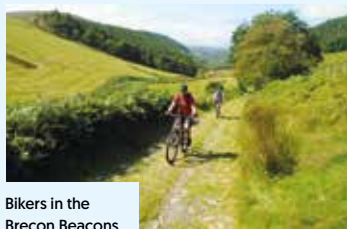
DRIVING BAN DODGERS

One in five drivers with 12 or more points on their licence avoids a supposedly automatic driving ban when the court accepts that disqualification would cause 'exceptional hardship'. One in five! It's just one of the fatal flaws in our road traffic laws that we're pressing the government to fix, seven years after they promised to review road traffic offences and penalties. To add your support, visit cyclinguk.org/failing-laws ▶

Wales

RIGHTS OF WAY DELAY

Natural Resources Wales has published its report on improving access in Wales, which the Welsh Government committed to do in 2019. Sadly, the report only outlines the options rather than making clear recommendations on how to progress access reform. So we'll be returning to our Trails for Wales campaign in 2022. cyclinguk.org/trails-wales-disappointing



Bikers in the Brecon Beacons

Governance

TRUSTEES ON BOARD

We would like to welcome the 2022 Cycling UK board. Following the 2021 trustee elections, Christine Gibbons, Andy Macnae, Paul Baker, and Melanie Carroll were successfully re-elected to the 2022-2025 board. They were joined by co-opted trustee Ben Packer. We also welcome Richard May as a new independent member of the Audit & Governance Committee. cyclinguk.org/about/cycling-uk-board/how-to-become-a-trustee



12 cycle routes to tackle in 2022. Read our suggestions: cyclinguk.org/article/12-cycle-routes-do-2022



Left: Robert Spinning

The Kent coast should soon see more cycling visitors

Touring

EXPERIENCE THIS

Visit Cornwall, Kent or Norfolk this year for your cycling holidays and you could be in for a real experience, thanks to some ground-breaking work Cycling UK is doing in these counties. As part of the European Regional Development Fund's EXPERIENCE project, we're creating an environment that welcomes current cyclists and attracts the bike-curious.

For the past two years we've been putting together a series of routes suitable for all abilities, as well as identifying bases for these cycling trips, such as Penzance in Cornwall, Cromer in Norfolk, and Wye in Kent. From these Cycle Hubs, you'll ride through some of the iconic locations nearby. We're also working with these regions' hospitality sectors to help them understand and accommodate the needs

of pedalling visitors through our Cycle Friendly Accreditation Scheme.

Currently we've identified two hubs per county. We plan to launch more hubs and more routes over 2022. A large focus of our work will be local businesses through our accreditation scheme. We'll be providing a starter pack with all the tools and security measures a cycle friendly business could need. If you live in the area and you have a favourite pub or café that could benefit from this, do let them know!

We're also planning to launch two new long-distance touring routes this year. Expect the first in Kent this May and the second in Norfolk by the end of the summer.

Find out more at: cyclinguk.org/experience

Events

BIRTHDAY RIDES

With the ongoing pandemic disruption to travel plans and the winding up of the event organiser, CTC Holidays and Tours, there will be no Birthday Rides this summer. We're looking at ways that member groups might mark the occasion locally on 5 August. In the meantime, those wanting a holiday involving convivial bike rides based in a



No Birthday Rides this August

fixed location could consider registering for the New Forest Cycling Week. Run by Cycling UK volunteers, it takes place from Friday 22 July to Saturday 30 July 2022. newforestrallycc.org.uk/wp/booking/

Member benefits

**NEW YEAR,
NEW GEAR**

New bike this Christmas? Protect it with £50 off Yellow Jersey bike insurance and get 15% off security marking kits with Bike Register to help combat bike theft. For a wardrobe update, check out the Stolen Goat X Cycling UK kit. Each item purchased helps fund our campaigning and charitable projects. Visit: stolengoat.com/cycling-uk. For details of all member discounts, see: cyclinguk.org/member-benefits



New Cycling UK kit, available now

Fundraising

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

Is this the year you decide to leave a gift in your will to Cycling UK? Many of our members have made the decision to leave a gift to ensure that generations to come experience the joy of cycling. Our chair of trustees, Janet Atherton, is one of those members choosing to support the future of cycling with her will. If you'd like to know more, email fundraising manager James Newman: legacy@cyclinguk.org

Raffle

WIN THIS WINTER

Thank you for all your support in 2021. To show our appreciation, we've got over 50 prizes for you to win in our Winter Thank You Raffle. Prizes include up to £500 cash, a Madison waterproof jacket, light sets, and more. Here's what's up for grabs.

- **1st prize:** £500 cash
- **2nd prize:** £100 each for three runners up
- **3rd prize:** one of ten Madison waterproof jacket (sizes limited)
- **4th prize:** one of 14 KitBrix packs
- **5th prize:** one of three Lezyne Zecto light sets
- **6th prize:** one of five CatEye Volt 500 XC light sets
- **7th prize:** one of six Pelotan sets (water bottle, cap, cream, stick)
- **8th prize:** one of ten GT85 bike cleaning sets

By taking part in our online raffle, you'll also help support our important charitable work and campaigning in 2022. Buy some tickets today and encourage friends and family to join in too!

If you'd like to support us but don't want to play the raffle, you can donate via the website: cyclinguk.org/donate.

How to play

Enter online at cyclinguk.org/raffle and pay by debit or credit card. Entries must be made by 10am on 21 February 2022. Your raffle tickets will be emailed to you. To cut our administration costs and to maximise your support, the Winter Thank You Raffle is online only.

The draw will take place on 22 February 2022. We will contact the winners via email or telephone on the same day. As soon as everyone has been contacted, the winners' names will be listed on our website.

Full terms and conditions can be found at cyclinguk.org/raffle. You must be 16+ to take part. Please gamble responsibly.

BeGambleAware.org
Helpline: 0808 8020 133