

## Press Release: Moving the Nation

Bicycle Association part of new alliance of the UK's leading walking and cycling organisations



A group of the UK's leading walking and cycling organisations has launched 'Moving the Nation', a manifesto demanding new measures to prioritise cycling and walking in our towns and cities.

The alliance of the Bicycle Association, Cycling UK, the Ramblers, British Cycling, Living Streets and Sustrans, has a combined membership of more than 330,000 people and span every form of walking and cycling, from the school run to Olympic success.

The manifesto, 'Moving the Nation', was launched today at a major conference on cycling in Manchester. The manifesto unveils a new vision of a future where everybody in the UK can live, work and play in places that are healthy, vibrant and that make walking and cycling the natural choice for short journeys.

The Moving the Nation manifesto outlines the five first steps it would like to see the Government take on board to begin the transformation of our roads and streets:

- **Speed** - 20 Lower default speed limits to 20mph for most roads in built up areas and 40mph for the most minor rural roads to make our roads and streets safer for everyone.
- **Space** - Adopt and ensure consistent application of existing 'best-in-class' infrastructure design standards to create safe, attractive and inviting places for people of all ages and abilities.
- **Safety** - Revise the Highway Code to improve safety for people walking and cycling, particularly at junctions.
- **Priority** - Prohibit pavement parking to create safer and more accessible streets.
- **Culture** - Provide cycle training for all children during their primary and secondary school years and embed a culture of walking and cycling throughout the school curriculum.



Julie Harrington, Chief Executive of British Cycling, commented:

“More people cycling and walking will reduce congestion, lower the costs of ill health on the NHS, and make our local communities safer and more pleasant places to be. The Government’s Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy is a step in the right direction but we need to do more.

“By speaking out for the first time with one voice, we have set out a clear vision for the future which will help our country become happier, healthier and greener.”

The vision set out in ‘Moving the Nation’ includes a number of areas of action, including: making walking and cycling the natural and easy choice for all short journeys; making sure every town and city is served by a core network of protected cycle routes and walking routes, particularly connecting people to green spaces; ensuring that every rail and bus stop has facilities that prioritise cycling and walking; making sure that every child is able to walk and cycle to school in safety and with confidence; and giving everybody an opportunity to take up walking and cycling, through programmes in schools, workplaces and local communities.

Aside from the five first steps outlined in ‘Moving the Nation’ the alliance is calling on the UK’s Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) to be strengthened, alongside walking and cycling’s place in the planned new Road Investment Strategy (RIS2). It’s also calling for long-term dedicated investment, to reflect a Safety Review carried out as part of the CWIS, and backed by charging for pollution.

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