



## Cycling UK AGM – 10 September 2021

### Questions received during the broadcast

**Colin Clarke** – How many staff are there at Cycling UK?

*Question answered verbally by Phil Hall (Dir. of organisational effectiveness & finance).*

During the period covered in the Annual Report and Accounts to the end of March 2021 there were 104 members of staff, an increase from 71 from the prior year. As of the end of August 2021, the headcount for Cycling UK staff is c.120.

**Paul Mills** - Why increase the Student/Junior rate from last year it was based on ability to pay and has only been in place for 12 months?

*Question answered online by Georgi Cox (Head of membership).*

The existing concessionary rates for students / juniors were merged into one category last year to simplify membership categories. To further help streamline, we are bringing the student rate in line with the concessionary rate which still offers good value for money. The current proportion of members in this category is less than 1%.

**Colin Clarke** - How will you decide which option to offer in terms of a general meeting? (relating to motion 5)

*Question answered verbally by Phil Hall (Dir. of organisational effectiveness & finance).*

This year Cycling UK have reflected on the ongoing restrictions and desire to protect the health and safety of members; making the decision to hold a virtual AGM. In the 2020 AGM the formal requirement to guarantee an annual meeting was removed from the Articles, however, Cycling UK remain committed to engaging with members and holding meetings. The options considered will be driven by a consensus around the best way to maximise engagement with members and the desire to create other opportunities to engage with members and increase participation whilst remaining in-line with any pandemic-related restrictions.

**John Catt** - Following the closure of CTC Holidays and Tours has any consideration been given to allying with organisations such as the Holiday Fellowship to provide tours for members?

*Questions answered verbally by Sarah Mitchell (ceo).*

Cycling UK is currently considering other travel organisations to promote following the closure of Holidays & Tours. We are keen to promote companies which offer a range of different options which meet the preferences of our members. At the start of 2022 we



will be advertising a select number of companies which meet these needs and fit in with the values of the organisation. Consideration will be given to Holiday Fellowship as a potential option.

**John Catt** - Since promoting cycling can be viewed as a public benefit for the improvement in health that it provides, has any consideration been given to eliminating the need for riders accompanying group rides to be members? Perhaps encouraging membership over a longer period would be more beneficial than having an arbitrary cut off?

*Question answered verbally by James Scott (Dir. of behaviour change & development).*

As outlined in the strategy refresh, Cycling UK are very keen to involve member groups and member clubs more in our strategic overarching aim of enabling millions more people to cycle; recognising the value of member groups and clubs in achieving this. A current barrier is insurance which places a limit of up to three rides before membership is required. We want to work with Member groups to further understand the role they can play in achieving our strategy and enable more people to cycle and the above question will be considered as part of this work.

**Colin Clarke** - A child in England died due to strangulation by her helmet. In the USA CPSC advise that helmets should be removed when not actually cycling, should the UK provide similar advice?

*Question acknowledged during the meeting by Matt Mallinder (Dir. of influence & engagement) who has provided the below response.*

There too have been a small number of fatalities in the UK involving children in off-cycle activities, although specifics vary on each case, so we'll decline to comment on the individual circumstances. Cycle helmet design and manufacture is regulated by various safety UK, European and international recognised standards. The standards approve their suitability for use for cycling purposes rather than off-cycle activities, so it would therefore be logical to recommend that they be removed when not cycling.

**Colin Rand** - Could the Trustees do more to promote attendance at this meeting among members? There is no reference to it at all on the website and joining instructions where in the small print of the papers insert in the magazine.

If I search for AGM on the website the only results are regional meetings. I have also gone through every menu option. Could you please direct me to the pages you mentioned in your reply?

*Question answered verbally by Janet Atherton (chair) and Phil Hall (Dir. of organisational effectiveness & finance).*



Trustees are keen to encourage as wide a representation as possible from members at the AGM and have tried various approaches of engagement, whether in-person or virtual meetings. A specific AGM page - [AGM 2021 | Cycling UK](#) - can be found on the Cycling UK website which has published details relating to the AGM (joining instructions, motions, etc.). We are continuing to develop our website as part of our Digital Transformation project and wish to draw attention of members, the cycling public and non-members to the website, including governance pages. AGM event details were also included in CycleClips emails. We will ensure that we continue to improve the promotion and awareness of the AGM and hope that members will also encourage members of their local groups to attend.

**Mark Jacobs** - What are your main concerns for the next 12 months?

*Question answered verbally by Janet Atherton (chair) and Sarah Mitchell (ceo).*

Janet Atherton – Recognising the challenges of the pandemic and also the opportunities that the pandemic has raised, including investment in sustainable transport, it is important that the organisation continues to capitalise on this. I am concerned that we support member groups appropriately to enable them to get back on their feet following various constraints and enable them to thrive and welcome new members.

Sarah Mitchell – Regarding external concerns, we are eagerly awaiting the comprehensive spending review in the autumn which we hope will be for three years and demonstrate substantial commitment from the UK government to funding cycling into the future. It is also important to continue to build our foundations as an organisation and progress with major projects, such as our digital infrastructure, supporting our back-office function to enable the organisation to be as efficient and effective as possible. We also recognise the challenges of continued changes to ways of working and the difficulties of face-to-face meetings with members, member groups and staff over the next 12 months.