

this is cycling UK



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Cracking the code

After more than ten years of Cycling UK campaigning, the Highway Code has been revised to protect vulnerable road users.

Sarah Mitchell celebrates

We were delighted to start 2022 as we mean to go on – with a resounding campaigning success! More than ten years of patient and persistent lobbying by Cycling UK and partners led to the Government's changes to the Highway Code, announced at the end of January.

At last cyclists will benefit from a clear hierarchy of responsibility on our roads, protecting the most vulnerable. Other changes include simpler

rules at junctions, new rules to tackle close passes, and an adoption of the Dutch Reach technique promoted by Cycling UK to prevent the dreaded car-dooring. The next important step will be to ensure that the Government communicates the update clearly, so that we see the changes reflected in the behaviour of all road users.

I'm really proud of our work to deliver this big change for cyclists – work that is true to our history and values as the campaigning organisation for all cyclists. I also want to thank many of you for supporting this and our other campaigning work.

But we don't rest on our laurels at Cycling UK, and so we have a full calendar of campaigns work coming up in 2022. First up is the decision on the judicial review we've brought against West Sussex council, which is due around the time this magazine drops through your letterbox. Then, coming up very soon, there will be a cornucopia of local elections across England, Scotland, and Wales, as well as National Assembly elections in Northern Ireland.

We'll be supporting our network of local campaigners to secure commitments from local leaders to support cycling in their manifestos. If you're keen to ensure that cycling is



New minimum passing distance

an election issue in your area, do consider joining our Cycle Advocacy Network (cyclinguk.org/CAN).

As the winter skies start to clear, more cyclists and would-be cyclists are coming out of hibernation to join in our cycling projects across England and Scotland. Our Big Bike Revival and Shift projects will be back in action for spring, welcoming many thousands

more people onto their rides, and we know our member groups are also busy finalising timetables for a year of rides. Don't forget to share your upcoming member group event on our website (cyclinguk.org/events).

Given our incredible history at Cycling UK, some of our member groups are now more than 100 years old – and still going strong. It's a great privilege to hear from our groups about their history, so do let us know if your group is celebrating your centenary in 2022. Please drop us a line at publicity@cyclinguk.org.

Providing inspiration for your rides, and hot on the heels of the West Kernow Way, we'll be sharing two new long-distance routes in 2022. As part of the European Regional Development Fund EXPERIENCE project, we'll be launching routes in Kent in May and Norfolk towards the end of the summer. Both routes are designed with the cyclist tourist in mind, with accommodation and local services mapped alongside the routes – giving you everything you need to plan and enjoy some fantastic cycling in some beautiful parts of the country.

So there's plenty to look forward to in 2022, and I look forward to keeping you posted and seeing many of you (perhaps even in person!) this year.



77%

of people support measures in their local area to encourage cycling and walking

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