



THE ASSOCIATION OF BIKEABILITY SCHEMES

[www.tabs-uk.org.uk](http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk)

## TABS MEMBERS UPDATE – AUGUST 2014

### 1. TABS SUMMER/AUTUMN APPEAL: 'Don't stop Bikeability – it has changed our lives'

At the beginning of August TABS emailed all member schemes with an email, plus a template letter to send to MPs. To find out how you can get involved, download the template letter, and to see what action has been taken to-date – [click here](#).

MPs that TABS are aware have been contacted so far include: The Rt.Hon. Jeremy Browne, Somerset & Andy Slaughter MP, Hammersmith

**TABS urges all schemes to get in touch with their MPs as soon as possible, to encourage them to lobby the Secretary of State for Transport and also the Minister to ensure that funding will continue, and that Bikeability is written into Department budgets for the next 5 years.**

**You may also wish to raise your concerns regarding the Transport Committee report into Road Safety – see next item.....**

### 2. CAMPAIGNING & NETWORKING

#### **Press release re. Transport Committee report into Road Safety**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July, TABS sent out a press release with their response to the Transport Committee report into Road Safety: <http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Transport-Committee-3rd-report-Road-Safety-TABS-August-2014-voob.docx>

This was covered in the press by <https://www.bikebiz.com/news/read/tabs-warns-of-risk-to-funding-for-bikeability-training/016697>

TABS has also written to several MP's directly, including Sarah Woolaston MP and will be continuing to talk to MP's during August regarding the statement: *"Local Authorities should work with local cycling organisation and retailers to fund and promote cycle training and ensure it is best suited to the local environment"*.

It is TABS opinion this recommendation were taken seriously it would be a disaster for the future of a national cycle training programme. As we know from the demise of Cycling Proficiency, once funding is left to local groups then the structure gradually disintegrates. The availability of training becomes a postcode lottery, and there is no oversight of either the quality or the appropriateness of the training curriculum; this gradually gets out of date since there is no oversight or guidance on best practice.

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**TABS response to TfL's Cycle Action Safety plan**

TABS response to TfL's Cycle Action Safety plan is available to view at:

- [http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CSAP2\\_TABS\\_response.pdf](http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/CSAP2_TABS_response.pdf)

There is also a thread on Microcosm for you to add your own comments:

- <https://tabs.microco.sm/conversations/1529/#comment30618>

TABS feel that the emphasis on the vulnerable road users (ie people not in cars) detracts from targeting the people who generally cause the KSIs, the people in motor vehicles. The outcome of this is actions directed at them could be much stronger. We also think that targets around NS/Bikeability training numbers need to be more explicit. TABS has offered to meet with TfL to discuss these views in more detail.

For information, the Road Danger Reduction Forum's response is at:

- <http://rdf.org.uk/2014/07/23/whats-wrong-with-transport-for-londons-cycle-safety-action-plan-part-one/>
- <http://rdf.org.uk/2014/07/23/whats-wrong-with-transport-for-londons-cycle-safety-action-plan-part-two/>

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**TABS input to the draft London Cycling Design Standards (LCDS)**

TABS was invited to attend some of the developmental work for the LCDS. There was a useful discussion about road position and cycle lanes. TABS will continue to monitor the progress with this document.

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**TABS guidance for Halfords**

TABS has provided Halfords with a set of [Top Tips for cyclists](#) and for balance some Top Tips for drivers about [sharing the road with cyclists](#) . The difference between these Top Tips and a lot of other advice is that these messages are evidence based (cf KSI research from TfL etc) and based on the National Standard/ Bikeability guidance. These positive suggestions regard people on bikes and in cars as equals and assert an equal right to use the roads and look out for each other.

TABS has suggested to Halfords, which serves both motorists and drivers who both have a role in minimising risk and road danger that they are in a good position to foster road sharing and contribute to ending the conflict through balanced messaging. And by directing people who wish to improve their riding skills to their local Bikeability scheme or cycle training scheme would also be good for relationships within the sector. TABS has also suggested that Halfords staff may wish to experience some urban riding training and has offered to set this up.

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**Meetings**

TABS has regular catch up meetings every 2 months with the Bikeability Support Team – the latest one having just taken place on 15<sup>th</sup> July. The next meeting is scheduled for the start of September. **If you have any issues that you would like TABS to raise with the Support Team and/or the DfT at their next meetings, please send them through to [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk) (see also Item 6 – TABS FORUM)**

**Update – Cyclists Stay Back stickers, London**

TABS sits on the working group advising TfL on the revisions to the advice stickers for vehicles. Based on feedback from cycle campaign groups TfL have confirmed a series of 10 actions – [click here to read the details](#). They have also issued revised draft designs for their stickers on vehicles – see samples below.



**Don't forget:** If you have any campaigns, meetings, news that you'd like to share please contact us. And TABS forum has a place for you to discuss issues around [cycling training, policy and safety issues](#)

**3. RESEARCH**

**Update on 2014 Bikeability School Travel Survey**

As mentioned in the July newsletter, TABS is now recruiting schemes to help us sign-up schools to take part in the 2014/15 Bikeability School Travel Survey. At the start of August TABS also wrote to all Local Authorities involved with Bikeability inviting them to get involved. All that was required was to [download the template letter](#), put it on their headed note paper, sign and return to TABS, along with contact details for schools. TABS will then follow up & contact schools directly. THANK YOU to those of you who have already contacted us to assist with the recruitment of schools.

**We are still looking for schemes, including Local Authorities that will work with us on the 2014-15 Bikeability school travel survey. Please email Michael Frearson, ideally by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August: [michael@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:michael@tabs-uk.org.uk) (and cc. [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)) if you are able to assist.**

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## 4. TRAINING & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

### Video Training for Driving Instructors

Carlton Reid has invited TABS to collaborate in the making of a series of short, pertinent driving instructor videos from a cycling perspective, for distribution to UK driving instructors, as well as appearing on the Driving Instructor website. TABS Directors, Michael Frearson and David Dansky will be advising Carlton on the production. The project is at a very early stage of planning and not due for completion until Autumn 2014 at the earliest. Updates to follow in future newsletters.

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### Training Courses

For details of current course available visit: <http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk/training-courses/>

*Don't forget: if you have any courses/training you would like to publicise, or thoughts on training requirements etc. please contact: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)*

## 5. MEMBERSHIP

### NEW TABS ADVISOR

Mark Tournier, Partnership Development Manager at Chesterfield School Sport Partnership will be attending TABS Board meetings from September onwards, as an advisor put forward by the Youth Sports Trust.

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### NEW MEMBERS

It's not too late to join TABS in 2014/15. If you know of fellow schemes that aren't yet TABS members please do contact them and encourage them to consider joining us!

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### MEMBER NEWS

#### **Sustrans' 'Vision for the future: Delivering safe active journeys to school for every child'**

Please find a write-up of Sustrans event in Parliament as part of their Campaign for Safer Streets [here](#) which includes a summary of all the speaker's speeches and the Q&A findings. Sustrans will continue to push its Campaign for Safer Streets up to and beyond the 2015 election and will have a programme of activity in the autumn.

**BikeRight!:** MP's – An overview of BikeRight!'s training delivery was sent to Lord Keith Bradley after a conversation with him about the continuation of Bikeability funding. (lack of). Ed Miliband was lobbied at a Business event in Manchester and introduced to Bikeability. BikeRight! also trained the Lady Mayoress of Liverpool and her daughter in on-road National Standard training before her taking part in a 110 mile charity bike ride for the Liverpool women's hospital. **Safe Urban Driving (SUD) courses** – accredited by JAAPT and free for drivers who are based in Greater Manchester or drive in Greater Manchester. Funded by Transport for Greater Manchester <http://www.bikeright.co.uk/services2/drivereducation>  
For further information email [driver@bikeright.co.uk](mailto:driver@bikeright.co.uk)

BikeRight! has developed a **Bikeability PLUS** module (5<sup>th</sup> session) with Warrington Borough Council for children who have achieved their level 2 course outcomes to consolidate their learning and put their skills into practice. They ran a pilot of this training during the summer term for 75 pupils funded by Warrington Council. They are funding a further 300 places during the autumn term. The course has been well received by children, parents and schools as it consolidates their learning and gives the children close to 100% riding time, focussing on combining outcomes and real-world journeys. Other local authorities are being encouraged to take up this training too.

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### **PHOTOS – APPEAL**

TABS would like to add more photos to the website gallery, and also overhaul the website / materials with more good quality photos, ideally without any particular scheme branding. We have also updated a template power point presentation which needs more good pix!

Please send any of your favourite photos, that you would be happy to share with TABS (credit will be given wherever used) to: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)

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**Please do continue** to send in information about any achievements, successes, challenges, case studies you've experienced so we can share this with other members. **If anyone has managed to train any more MPs or high-profile persons please let us know!**

***Don't forget:*** If you want other colleagues to receive this newsletter directly send their email address(es) to: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)

## **6. TABS FORUM**

### **Guidance on DBS duration**

TABS is currently preparing a paper with recommendations about the duration of DBS. The first draft will be circulated in September to all TABS members for comment, before being presented to the Bikeability Support Team as best-practice advice. To add your comments, please see the thread on the Forum about the duration of DBS @ <https://tabs.microco.sm/conversations/1594/>

### **QUESTION CORNER**

If you have questions or topics for discussion that you would like either the DfT, the Bikeability Support Team, the ITO Group or the TABS Board to consider there is now a dedicated thread on the Forum where you can post your question(s) either @: <https://tabs.microco.sm/conversations/253202/> (for ITO Group) or @ <https://tabs.microco.sm/conversations/253203/> Or you can email: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk) directly. Answers will be published in the newsletter, on the Forum and on TABS website.

***Don't forget:*** do let all your instructors that the forum is there for them to ask questions, generate debate around Bikeability issues. And if you send Isobel ([isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)) their emails we will send them an invite to join along with log-in details.

## 7. PR/MARKETING

### Some recent stories about Bikeability in the news

- <http://www.bikebiz.com/news/read/bikeright-sights-growth-following-contract-win>
- <http://www.bristol247.com/2014/07/24/bristol-news-wire-july-24-2014/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Sustrans/posts/10152136607611315>
- <http://aberdeen.stv.tv/150191/>

**NB** – there is a page on TABS website where we can add good news stories. See: <http://www.tabs-uk.org.uk/brilliant-bikeability-positive-stories-about-bikeability/> Send to: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk)

## 8. AOB / Dates for Diary

### Dates to note:

- **Lambeth Road Safety Conference** – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2014
- **TABS Board meeting & ITO Group meeting:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2014 – hosted by British Cycling at their offices in Manchester
- **Active Travel Wales conference** – September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (Cardiff) – TABS has been invited to talk about the results of the pupil travel survey - *'What difference does Bikeability training make to children's cycling?'*
- **National Road Safety Conference** – 26-27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in Brighton: <http://www.roadsafetygb.org.uk/conference/index.php>
- **Road Safety Week** 17-23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2014: <http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/>
- **TABS Board meeting:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 (10.30am – 1pm), hosted by Cycle Training UK at their offices in south London.

Do use Twitter to share your thoughts: **@TABSBikeability** If you have anything you would like included in the SEPTEMBER newsletter (for example, special achievements, news items, training events, topics for discussion) please contact: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk) **by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**

If you would like to either **unsubscribe** from this mailing list, or would like to suggest other contacts to receive it please contact: [isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk](mailto:isobel@tabs-uk.org.uk) If you would like a pdf copy sent please also ask. And, of course, any comments or queries please do get in touch. Thank you.

Isobel Stoddart (*Development Manager, TABS*), 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014