

## **Gary Lavery, Cycling Ireland, Regional Development Officer Ulster,**

### **Current Work Plan April 2020 to March 2021:**

#### Completed Areas ✓

##### **Club Meetings and Communication:**

- mostly via Zoom or Teams since April 2020. (March 2021)

##### **Ongoing development of the Clubs Section on the CI website:**

- ⊖ Cycling Clubs, resources and templates including ClubMark resources and information.

##### **Coach Education and Club Participation Courses:**

- Ride Leader, Sprocket Rocket, Foundation Award, Bike for Life, Safeguarding, ongoing through 2020/2021 (all of these courses have now been put on hold until March 2021 due to C19 Pandemic).
- Completed: RL x 4, Foundation x 1 (Feb and March 2020)

##### **ClubMark:**

- Ongoing communication of "ClubMark" initiative for clubs in Ulster Only ✓ and then the rest of ROI in 2020.
- 12 Cycling Clubs signed up to complete ClubMark to date:
  - 2 Clubs Completed.
    - Belfast BMX (*Previously with Belfast CC*)
    - Old Bleach CC

##### **Development and Roll-Out of New Coach Education Courses for Cycling Clubs:**

- Basic First Aid for Cycling Clubs ✓, Bike Maintenance Workshops\*\*, Balance-ability, Funding ✓, Social Media ✓. The rest are ongoing through 2020. These have now been put on hold due to C19 pandemic, and bookings now being taken for March 2021.
- \*\*Agreement with The Turnaround Project in Oct 2020 to develop and deliver "Bike Maintenance" workshops with the new Cycling Hubs in Ulster from March 2021.

##### **Women on Wheels 2020 and 2021 Project:** (currently on hold due to C19 pandemic)

- "Women on Wheels" New Participation Initiative (August 2021)
  - 10 Clubs taking Part in WOW May 2021 to August 2021\*
  - 120 New Female Participants.
  - 12 New Female Ride Leaders Trained March 2021, a further 12 to be trained May 2021\*.

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### **Policing and Community Safety Partnership:**

- “Safer Cycling” and Local Council Engagement Projects x 11 Councils (March 2021)
  - 2 PCSPs Completed with Safer Cycling Resources supplied to clubs:
    - ABC Council x 15 Cycling Clubs and Fermanagh and Omagh x 5 Clubs – May 2019
  - Plans to expand this with other local councils during 2020
  - Communication with PCSPs and funding applications sent to Derry and Strabane and Mid and East Antrim (both funding applications are currently on hold due to C19 Pandemic)

### **Cycling Facilities Development 2020-2021**

#### **Meetings:**

- Engagement with 11 Local Councils in NI and 3 Councils in ROI, the Department of Communities and Department of Infrastructure.
- Meetings held with 8 of the 11 local councils in NI and 1 in the ROI (Monaghan) regarding the development of their localised area action plans and the inclusion of facilities for cycling. (March 2021).
  - Further Meetings to be held with 3 of the 14 councils regarding development of facilities for Cycling.

#### **Henry Jones Playing Fields:**

- Currently being undertaken is a major Cycling Project with Cycling Ireland, Cycling Ulster and Belfast City Council for the development of a potential “National Cycling Multi-Disciplined Cycling Hub” at the Henry Jones Playing Fields, Belfast. (March 2021)
  - Feasibility study and business case for the Henry Jones PF site now commissioned and completed with Abacus. May 2020.
  - Further meetings planned with Belfast City Council (Oct 2020) and a consultation event planned for November 2020 with local residents and clubs.

#### **Cycling Hubs:**

- Business Case sent and agreed with the Department for Communities in Feb 2020 for 30K funding of 3 regional cycling hubs. The 3 Cycling hubs will to be used for the development of Cycling in NI and they will facilitate :CI Coach Education Programmes, CI and Club based Participation Programmes, CI Provincial and National Training Squads and Programmes for their commissions and for local Cycling Clubs and their Volunteers usage.
- Second Business case for 30K sent to DFC (October 2020) for additional funding for another 3 regional cycling hubs in, Mid Ulster, Antrim and Newry, Mourne and Down Council areas (Venues still tbc and agreed with the councils).
  - In partnership with Sport NI an additional business case being completed for 2 hubs at 2 schools in Derry and Strabane and Mid and East Antrim (R)
  - The first of the 3 new regionally based “Cycling Hubs” to be sited and operational by November 2020.

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- Service Level Agreements being agreed at present and the hubs to be on site by November 2020, (due to C19 these have been put back to November 2020 from original plans of June 2020).
  - The hubs sites include:
    1. Gosford Forest Park, Armagh (ABC Council)
    2. Ecclesville Centre, Fintona (Fermanagh and Omagh Council)
    3. Jim Watt Sports Centre, Garvagh (Causeway Coast and Glens Council)
    4. Cavan County Council (Killykeen FP)
    5. Derry and Strabane (Foyle College)
    6. Mid and East Antrim (Carrickfergus Grammar School)
    7. Mid Ulster Council (Cookstown)
    8. Antrim Council (Antrim Forum)
    9. Newry and Mourne District Council (Newry or Downpatrick area)
- Confirmed Agreements with Local Councils
- School Hub Sites

### **All Party Cycling Working Group:**

- Meeting held with Chris Lyttle MLA, and several key partners, Oct 2020 of the All-Party Cycling Group.
- Additional meetings planned November 2020.
- Funding being made available for Cycling Infrastructure for projects in key areas in NI. (March 2021)

### **DFI Walking and Cycling Group:**

- Meetings held with Liz Loughran DFI and Simon Hamilton MLA, and several key partners, August and September 2020 of the walking and cycling group. Next meeting planned for November 2020.
- £20million Funding being made available for walking and cycling infrastructure for projects in key areas in NI to be completed by March 2021. (March 2021)