

Press release: for immediate publication

Space for Cycling: the Big Ride

Saturday 11th June, 1030 to 1230, start and finish at Devonshire Green

On Saturday 11th of June hundreds of people will get on their bikes and take to the streets to call for more Space for Cycling in Sheffield. The ride is being organised by CycleSheffield, the local campaigning group for cycle transport. The event is a public demonstration to Sheffield City Council of the need to improve cycling infrastructure and support the Space for Cycling campaign

Ian Carey, Chair of CycleSheffield says “Last year’s ride attracted over 450 people and this year should be even bigger! CycleSheffield is calling on our local politicians to make riding a bike safe and enjoyable for everyone in Sheffield.”

The Space for Cycling campaign asks for:

- Protected space on main roads
- Removing through motor traffic in residential areas
- Lower speed limits
- Cycle-friendly town centres
- Safe routes to school
- Routes through green spaces

The ride starts and finishes at Devonshire Green, Devonshire Street, Sheffield, S3 7SW. Riders are asked to gather from 1030 for a 1100 start.

Ian Carey said "Riders are asked wear something red and bring a bell or whistle or horn to make some joyous noise. CycleSheffield wants Sheffield City Council to see that many people wish to ride a bike and that more needs to be done. I would love to see people who don't currently cycle feel comfortable about doing so. This will require much better cycling infrastructure than currently provided."

The route is approximately 2.5km long, generally very flat and circles the city centre, passing the Town Hall. With so many riders it is likely to take around 1 hour to complete. The route can be viewed here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1xTWMvZvk0ZKUIljG7qv8m--mSbw&usp=sharing>

Children under the age of 16 years are very welcome, as long as they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Riders participate at their own risk. The ride is being organised in accordance with guidelines from Cycling UK and is covered by liability insurance.

Ian Carey said "The Big Ride is safe and fun and everyone is welcome. CycleSheffield marshals will ensure the group stays together and that the pace is suitable for even the youngest of riders".

Space for Cycling is about giving everyone the freedom to cycle, but Sheffield council's cycling Inquiry found that 95% of people thought that "concern for personal safety and perceived danger caused by poor infrastructure, road surfaces and traffic" was a barrier to cycling. The campaign is calling on the council to change this.

Cycle Sheffield Chair Ian Carey says "We need our politicians to recognise the wider benefits of making Space for Cycling. We can make Sheffield a more pleasant place to live, with a healthier population, less traffic and cleaner air"



Notes

Further information from:

- <https://www.facebook.com/CycleSheffield/>
- <https://twitter.com/CycleSheffield>

Route Map

- <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1xTWmvZvk0ZKUILjG7qv8m--mSbw>

Contact Information

- Ian Carey, Chair, CycleSheffield: [redacted], [redacted]

About Cycle Sheffield

- Cycle Sheffield is the cycle campaign for Sheffield and campaigns to make Sheffield a more cycle-friendly and people-friendly place. Cycle Sheffield is run by a passionate team of volunteers supported by over 500 members.

Photos from last year's ride

- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/131114287@N07/sets/72157651754440777/>