



Department
for Transport

Report by the Secretary of State on the use of his powers under section 70 of the Charities Act 2006

For the year 2017/18

March 2019

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Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 70 of the
Charities Act 2006

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1. Executive summary

This report is presented pursuant to the Charities Act 2006, section 70, which enables a Minister "...to provide financial assistance to charitable, benevolent or philanthropic institutions in respect of any of the institution's activities which directly or indirectly benefit the whole or any part of England."

Transport matters. It helps to get people around, it helps people to get on, and people want safe, reliable and affordable journeys. This is essential in delivering long-term economic growth and ensuring the benefits of such an economy is shared by all.

Many of the transport solutions needed in the country are delivered by local organisations with both specialised and local expertise. The Department will always seek to use organisations with key expertise, and local area knowledge, where relevant, to deliver on its objectives.

This latest report summarises the funding provided by the Department in 2017/18 using the Charities Act 2006. Each helped to deliver a number of Departmental objectives in a local, road transport or maritime setting. Grants went to:

- a. **Big Bike Revival project** - £500,000 was granted to Cycling UK to continue the Big Bike Revival programme. This will further unlock the potential for cycling amongst those who do not currently cycle or cycle infrequently. This supports the Department's vision of achieving a step-change in cycling levels.
- b. **Walk to School Outreach projects** - £620,000 was granted to Living Streets to continue their walk to school outreach programme which help encourage more children to walk to school and support government ambitions to increase walking levels.
- c. **Chartered Institute for Highways & Transportation (CIHT)** - £52,862 was granted to CIHT to provide Secretariat Duties for the UK Roads Liaison Group and its constituent boards during 2017/18.
- d. **Inland Rescue Boat Grant Fund** - £1,021,000 was granted to sixty-two inland rescue boat charities. These charities respond in emergencies to those in danger, during flooding and severe weather episodes on lakes, rivers and inshore waters. They provide a vital service, often working in partnership with the emergency services during search and rescue operations. They also contribute to the UK's national flood response capability.
- e. **Review of the National Cycling Network (NCN)**– The department awarded £83,900 to Sustrans to develop a long-term Strategic Improvement Plan for the entire UK identifying where the NCN needs developing, realigning, and in some cases curtailing.
- f. **Modeshift STARS** - £60,000 was awarded to Living Streets on behalf of Modeshift to reward achievement in schools for the successful promotion of walking and cycling.

- g. **Mobility Centres** - £4,761,739 was awarded to thirteen Mobility Centres to conduct driving, passenger and wheelchair/scooter assessments

2. About the charities awarded funding

The charities and a summary of their objectives are listed below;

- 2.1 **Sustrans** is a UK charity whose main aims are to enable people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys made every day. They are coordinators of the National Cycle Network which is now over 16,000 miles and is within one mile of just over 60% of the population. (www.sustrans.org.uk)
- 2.2 **Cycling UK** has a vision of a healthier, happier and cleaner world, because more people cycle. Cycling UK has championed the cause of cycling for well over a century. They promote all forms of cycling, protect the interests of existing and would-be cyclists, and inspire people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to discover the joys of cycling. As an independent, democratic and expert organisation, their activities reflect the commitment of members, volunteers and partners to make cycling mainstream and make a lasting difference to the lives of individuals and communities. (www.cyclinguk.org)
- 2.3 **Living Streets** is a national charity that campaigns for creating safe, accessible, attractive and enjoyable streets where people want to walk. Strategically, it sees itself as a strong voice for pedestrians that influences decision makers and campaigns for change. Living Streets works closely with Modeshift in promoting cycling and walking in schools. Established in 2007, Modeshift is a not for profit membership organisation funded by the public, private and community sectors in the United Kingdom. Its aims are to secure increased levels of safe, active and sustainable travel in educational establishments, businesses and communities thereby engendering widespread travel behaviour change in the long term. (www.livingstreets.org.uk)
- 2.4 **Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation (CIHT)** is a charity, learned society and membership body with 12 regions and a number of international groups. CIHT represents and qualifies professionals who plan, design, build, manage and operate transport and infrastructure. (www.ciht.org.uk)
- 2.5 **Inland safety boat** charities are volunteer, community-based groups that respond in emergencies to rescue those in danger during flooding and severe weather on lakes, rivers and inshore waters. These Charities provide a vital service, often working with blue-light services during search and rescue operations. They also contribute to the UK's overall flood response capability. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inshore-and-inland-rescue-boat-grant-how-to-apply-2017-to-2018>)

2.6 **Mobility Centres** are made up of nine charity organisations and four NHS Foundation Trusts. Their purpose is to promote greater opportunities for disabled and older people by finding solutions to enable them to keep driving or to keep their mobility. Driving Mobility is a charity that acts as an umbrella body for the centres aiming to improve quality of service and consistency of outcomes.
(<https://www.drivingmobility.org.uk>)

3. Details of projects delivered by charities in 2017/18

Big Bike Revival

- 3.1 The Department awarded Cycling UK £500,000 in 2017/18 to build on the success of the Bike Revival (BBR) in 2015 and 2016. The delivery of a robust programme reached more people, fixed more bikes, replaced more car journeys with cycle journeys and increased perceptions of cycle safety by 104% from 2016.

The aim of BBR in 2017 was to further unlock the potential for cycling amongst people who do not currently cycle but would consider either starting or returning to cycling. BBR was bigger than ever before in 2017. Working with 123 bicycle recycling centres, community groups and grassroots organisations, allowed Cycling UK to achieve the following outcomes:

- 52,431 beneficiaries engaged, 113% increase from 2016
- 21,569 beneficiaries have an improved perception of cycling safety, 104% increase from 2016
- 21,093 beneficiaries exercising more, 135% increase from 2016
- 1,448 free events delivered across the UK, 39% increase from 2016
- 6,213 non- regular cyclists becoming regular cyclists, 343% increase from 2016

One of the major objectives for BBR in 2017 was too improve the perception of cycling safety by providing a high volume of opportunities for the public to access. To ensure this was achieved the BBR model was adapted from previous years and modelled on three core elements of safety:

- Fixing and servicing bikes to ensure they are safe to use
- Learning, empowering new cyclists & existing cyclists through training courses
- Leading, delivering led rides that are accessible to a wide range of abilities and audiences

As a result of this new model, 246 ride leaders have been trained across 38 courses, an increase of 18% from 2016 numbers. For 2017 this led to 140 celebration rides.

This has clearly been a success as evidenced from the 21,569 beneficiaries having an improved perception of cycling safety.

Walk to School Outreach Projects

- 3.2 Living Streets was awarded a £620,000 grant to continue the walk to school outreach programme which helps encourage more children to walk to school. It aims to overcome barriers to walking and help the government reach its target of 55% of children walking to school by 2020.

Key work packages include:

- Retaining and developing the existing partnership of five transport authority areas:
- Embedding the delivery of the programme in existing cohort of 200 schools
- Seeking to extend the programme to a number of additional schools in each target area.
- Continuing to deliver more intensive work with a smaller group of these schools, looking at tackling barriers to walking and informing local capital spend plans where possible.
- Continuing to support alternative funding of schools' participation in the programme, to ensure active travel promotion is more sustainable in the long term.

Chartered Institute for Highways & Transportation

- 3.3 Chartered Institute for Highways & Transportation (CIHT) was granted £52,862 in funding to provide Secretariat Duties for the UK Roads Liaison Group (UKRLG) and its constituent boards during 2017/18.

The charitable objectives and powers of CIHT are;

a) to advance for the public benefit the science and art associated with highways and transportation in all their aspects;

b) to promote education, training, and research and development of the said science and art. The UKRLG undertakes activities in support of the charitable objects of CIHT.

The Department for Transport, as a member of the UKRLG, pays a proportion of the cost of the secretariat duties to CIHT. The other organisations that are members of the UKRLG and share its secretariat costs are; Highways England, Transport Scotland, Welsh Assembly Government, Transport Northern Ireland and Transport for London.

Inshore and Inland Rescue Boat Grant Fund

- 3.4 The 2014 budget included a statement announcing that the Government would “introduce a 5-year grant of £1 million per year for inland safety boat charities across the UK”. The first round of grant awards ran in 2014/15. Applications were invited from established charitable organisations which already operated inshore rescue boats for the purchase of assets or training that would support their operations.

Applications for 2017/18 were assessed against a set criteria by an expert panel comprising officials from the DfT and Defra and the devolved administrations in addition to expert advisers from the RNLI, Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the Royal Yachting Association. The panel took into account factors including how the asset would be used to support lifesaving, search and rescue operations and flood response capability on a local and national basis; whether there would be wider community benefits and how any assets purchased would be sustained into the future. The panel recommended awards of £1,021,000 to sixty-two charities operating in England, Wales and Scotland. Other grants were made from the Fund in respect of activities in Northern Ireland but these are outside the scope of this report.

Many charities who received grant funding invested in capital equipment (such as lifeboats, flood rafts or launch and recovery vehicles). Many of these have already been used in search and rescue operations and, in many cases, in life-threatening situations. Other charities used their grant awards for purchasing a variety of new kit for their volunteer crews including personal protective equipment and other enhancements which will improve safety and enhance operational efficiency or capacity.

Review of National Cycling & Walking Network

- 3.5 Sustrans was awarded £83,900 to develop a long-term strategic plan for the entire UK identifying where the National Cycle Network (NCN) needs developing, realigning and in some cases curtailing.

NCN is a sixteen thousand mile network and Sustrans spend over £1 million every year maintaining it. With the help of 4,000 volunteers, they keep paths clear, replace signs, repair routes, improve infrastructure and generally look after the network. The NCN carries seven hundred and sixty five million trips per year and passes within one mile of half of all UK homes. Of this network, around one third is traffic free.

Since the inception of the NCN in 1986 Sustrans have worked closely with Governments nationally and locally to improve cycling and walking infrastructure and are now providing strategic support for Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans in England.

Modeshift STARS - School Award Scheme

3.6 The Department for Transport supported Modeshift in arranging the National STARS Schools Travel awards which was held in the Houses of Parliament. This event was sponsored by Andrew Selous MP of the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Group. This event is to recognise and reward schools that have demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. Once a school has gained STARS accreditation they can be nominated by their local authority for a regional award. Winners of the regional were invited to the National STARS school award.

Key outcomes of event:

- Ladycross Infant school won National STARS Primary School of the year for its commitment to best practice in sustainable school travel. Working closely with Derbyshire County Council's Travel Smart Programme the school has shown an 11% decrease in car use in 3 years, with only 16% of journeys to school being made by car.
- The Grammar School at Leeds won the National STARS Secondary School of the year Secondary reducing car use by 9%, It did this by using an innovative approach in creating 'GSAL Transport Limited' providing an in-house bus service for students to use for school travel within a 30mile radius.

Mobility Centres

3.7 Mobility Centres promote greater opportunity for disabled and older people through finding solutions to enable them to keep driving or retain mobility. They provide the clinical expertise necessary to understand the impact of a disability or medical condition on driving and aim to find a solution to enable more people to either take up driving or keep driving safely and for as long as possible.

The Department awarded £4,761,739 to thirteen mobility centres and Driving Mobility to conduct driving, passenger and wheelchair/scooter assessments. The department paid out the following in 2017/18 to the following centres;

Mobility Centre Name	£
Driving Mobility Centre (West of England)	220,809
Cornwall Mobility	356,059
Derby DrivAbility	246,598
East Anglia Driveability	508,214
Hertfordshire Action on Disabled Mobility Centre	218,703
William Merritt Disabled Living Centre	307,652

Mobility Centre Name	£
North East Drive Mobility	284,891
Queen Elizabeth Foundation	478,442
Regional Driving Assessment Centre - Birmingham	968,536
South East DrivAbility	375,722
The North-West Driving Assessment Service	235,900
Wessex DrivAbility	298,529
Chester DrivAbility	41,684
Driving Mobility	220,000
Total	4,761,739

The centres carried out a total of 11,992 assessments in 2017/18 and supported 5,275 people to continue driving. The centres advised 2,626 'at risk' drivers to stop driving.

The Department provided the Mobility Centres with just under £20m grant funding between April 2011 and March 2017 for their work to enable disabled and older people to keep driving or retain mobility. Details of the Department's funding can be found on the Mobility Centres accounts published on the Charities Commission website.

<http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/registerhomepage.aspx>

4. Further information

4.1 Inshore & Inland Rescue Boat Fund

The following is a link to a map showing the rescue boat fund awards:

<http://maps.dft.gov.uk/water-rescue-charities/index.html>

And the press release can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lifeboat-charities-receive-1-million-to-boost-search-and-rescue-efforts>

4.2 Big Bike Revival

Further details can be found here: <http://www.bigbikerevival.org.uk/about/>

4.3 Walk to School Outreach

Further detail can be found here

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us/walk-to-school/primary-schools/travel-tracker>

4.4 Chartered Institute for Highways & Transportation

Details on UK Road Liaison Group can be found here

<http://www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org/>

4.5 Modeshift STARS

Further details can be found here <https://www.modeshiftstars.org/>

4.6 Mobility Centres

Details on Mobility Centres can be found here <https://www.drivingmobility.org.uk/>

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