

**News release – for immediate release

13th October 2017

Royal Bank of Scotland receives Scotland’s first-ever Cycle Friendly Employer Plus Award

Royal Bank of Scotland’s Gogarburn HQ presented with new Cycle Friendly Employer Plus Award by Cycling Scotland in recognition of its commitment to encouraging cycling.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Gogarburn HQ was today presented with the first-ever Cycle Friendly Employer Plus Award in recognition of its efforts to support and encourage more staff to cycle.

The nationally-recognised award, which is delivered with funding from Transport Scotland and supported by Healthy Working Lives, recognises and encourages workplaces committed to increasing levels of cycling at their workplace. 480 organisations have achieved Cycle Friendly Employer status in Scotland, covering 225,000 employees.

Ross McEwan, CEO of RBS said:

“Royal Bank of Scotland is delighted to receive this award from Cycling Scotland.

“We place a huge importance on the health and wellbeing of our staff across the business and our efforts to support cycling initiatives at Gogarburn have been well received by colleagues.”

Minister for Transport and the Islands, Humza Yousaf MSP said:

“It is fantastic that the Royal Bank of Scotland Gogarburn site has been recognised with Cycling Scotland’s first ever Cycle Friendly Employer Plus award. There are so many environmental and health benefits that can be gained simply by choosing to cycle. The fact that RBS continues to improve facilities and support staff in making the switch is something we should absolutely welcome.”

Keith Irving, Cycling Scotland CEO, said:

“With hundreds of people cycling to work everyday, pool bikes for anyone to use and major cycling fundraising efforts, from Sport Relief to STV Children’s Appeal, RBS deserves this new Cycle Friendly Employer Plus Award. We are delighted to see such leadership from a major company, supporting a healthier, happier and more productive workforce.”

The Cycle Friendly Employer Award is open to all Scottish employers. Interested employers can register online by completing a short questionnaire at www.cycling.scot.

For further media information please contact:

Vicky Tibbitt, Communications Officer, Cycling Scotland

0141 229 5350 / 07701 289257

vickytibbitt@cycling.scot

NOTES TO EDITORS:

About Cycling Scotland

Cycling Scotland is the national cycle training, promotion, events and engineering organisation for Scotland. We're working to establish cycling as an acceptable, attractive and practical lifestyle option. Cycling Scotland is a recognised Scottish Charity SCO29760.

Vision

A sustainable, inclusive and healthy Scotland where anyone, anywhere can enjoy all the benefits of cycling.

Mission

Cycling Scotland is the nation's cycling organisation. Working with others, we help create and deliver opportunities and an environment so anyone anywhere in Scotland can cycle easily and safely.

For more information please visit www.cycling.scot.

Cycle Friendly Employer Award

Cycle Friendly Employer is part of a suite of Cycle Friendly Awards spanning primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities, workplaces and communities.

The award was developed by Cycling Scotland and the Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives, with funding from Transport Scotland.

As administrators of the award, Cycling Scotland offer best practice guidance on commuting and workplace cycling facilities and help organisations to create sustainable travel plans. A number of accredited service centres across Scotland support the award process.

For more information about Cycling Scotland's Cycle Friendly programmes, visit www.cyclingscotland.org/our-projects/award-schemes

Transport Scotland

Transport Scotland is the national transport agency for Scotland, delivering the Scottish Government's vision for transport and funds the majority of Cycling Scotland's programmes. Find out more at www.transportscotland.gov.uk