

News Release ** for immediate release**

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Cycle Friendly Campus Award for University of the West of Scotland Ayr Campus

**University of the West of Scotland receives its second Cycle Friendly Campus Award from
Cycling Scotland**

Staff and students at University of the West of Scotland's Ayr Campus celebrated receiving the Cycle Friendly Campus Award from Cycling Scotland in recognition of their commitment to getting more staff and students cycling.

This is the second cycling award for the University, following the Cycle Friendly Campus Award for its Paisley Campus in July last year.

The award, which is delivered with funding from Transport Scotland, recognises the efforts of Scotland's colleges and universities that promote cycling as an accessible and convenient travel choice, was presented to Marcus Ross, Director of Strategic Planning and Development at the University, by Cycling Scotland's Valentin Jeanjean, in recognition of the outstanding level of commitment the Ayr campus has shown to encourage cycling to, from and around campus.

The University has implemented a wide range of measures to encourage students and staff to cycle, from the development of cycling facilities and regular free cycling events to the implementation of a bike-sharing scheme, Brodie's bikes, in 2017. An average of 35 loans per week over the first trimester have been recorded with plans in place to double the number of bikes available.

Efforts to engage staff and students in the development of cycling facilities through travel surveys, high level strategy and policy and strong partnerships with Cycling Scotland, UWS Student Association, Bike for Good and the Active Travel Hub Ayr all helped to achieve the award.

Marcus Ross, Director of Strategic Planning and Development, said: “We are delighted that our Ayr Campus has been recognised as a Cycle Friendly Campus. At UWS we are committed to sustainability and staff and student wellbeing and it is great that this is our second campus to receive this award. This achievement is testament to the hard work of colleagues across the University to encourage more students and staff to cycle.”

Valentin Jeanjean, Cycling Scotland development officer, said, “It’s great to see a second UWS campus receive the Cycle Friendly Campus award, once again showing great commitment to cycling and active travel for its staff and students. I look forward to working with them in the future to ensure staff and students at all four of its Scottish campuses can travel confidently and conveniently.”

The Cycle Friendly Campus Award is run by Cycling Scotland with funding from Transport Scotland and recognises exemplar projects from Scotland’s college and university campuses where efforts are made to embed cycling as a real and accessible part of campus life. Campuses can register to become a Cycle Friendly Campus online at www.cycling.scot.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Cycle Friendly Campus Award

Cycle Friendly Campus supports colleges and universities across Scotland to take a leading role in the promotion of cycling as a healthy, sustainable and accessible travel option

<https://www.cycling.scot/our-programmes/cycle-friendly/campus>

Cycling Scotland

Cycling Scotland

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.

Cycling Scotland is a recognised Scottish Charity no. SC 029760.

For more information, please visit www.cycling.scot

Transport Scotland

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

University of the West of Scotland

University of the West of Scotland (UWS) is one of Scotland's most modern and dynamic international universities, but has a heritage dating back to 1897.

It aims to have a transformational influence on the economic, social and cultural development of the West of Scotland, and beyond, by providing relevant, high quality, inclusive higher education and innovative and useful research. The University aims to make the communities it serves more successful; and create opportunities for all to participate.

The innovative technologies the University is developing help shape society in Scotland and throughout the world: from research in gravitational waves and 5G networking to apps for health monitoring.

UWS is committed to providing student-centred, personalised and distinctive learning and teaching experiences underpinned by professionally relevant research, knowledge exchange and enterprise. The University is officially recognised in the top 3% of universities worldwide, recently being featured in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings. UWS also features in the world's top 200 universities under 50 years of age in the recent Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings.