Northern Ireland
BELFAST BIKE BOOST
August was a good month for Cycling UK in Northern Ireland. We coordinated an All Party Cycling Group meeting for Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) on the future of safe cycling, and got the BBC to cover the event. The Department for Infrastructure announced trial segregated bike lanes the next day. Installation began just as the newly founded Belfast Cycle Campaign Group was set up. cyclinguk.org/cycling-provision-ni

Scotland
WORLDS APART?
The eyes of the cycling world turned to Scotland in August as the first ever combined UCI Cycling World Championships were hosted in Glasgow and around the nation. The flags and banners dotted around the city, emblazoned with the slogan ‘Power of the Bike’, summed up the desire of the organisers and the Scottish Government to create an impact beyond the sport.

They described a legacy where “everyone should be able to experience the freedom riding a bike can bring to our lives” and “encouraging cycling as a mode of transport for everyday journeys”. Laudable as this is, the reality of sporting events is that they don’t tend to increase participation in sport or physical activity.

Instead, Cycling UK urged government to start the work of creating a legacy now, and to sustain the effort. Success in boosting the number of people cycling as part of their normal lives can only happen if our national and local governments work together to invest in cycling as a mode of transport. They can make cycling a safe, easy and pleasurable option for daily journeys.

Humza Yousaf recently recommitted that his government will spend 10% of the transport budget, or at least £320m, on active travel next year. Hitting this milestone and making progress on several other key policies will help to make the legacy real.

For 10 days the World Championships shed light on the sporting brilliance of athletes. We now need total focus for the next 10 years and beyond to make Scotland a truly cycle-friendly nation.

Groups
INCIDENT REPORTING
There’s a new online incident reporting form for Cycling UK groups at bit.ly/cyclinguk-groups-incident-report. Forms go directly to our third-party insurers as well as the relevant heads of departments. This form should be used for any accidents/incidents or near misses that take place during Cycling UK activities. For incidents outside of Cycling UK-led events or rides, see cyclinguk.org/member-benefit/cycling-uk-incident-line.

Awards
100 WOMEN IN CYCLING 2023
There’s not long now to go until we reveal this year’s list spotlighting amazing women from all over the cycling world who are making it a more inclusive space. Cycling UK’s 100 Women in Cycling 2023 will launch early November. Make sure to keep an eye out for the announcement and check out who we’ll celebrate for their work to inspire other women to cycle, whether in their communities, the cycling industry, media or sport. cyclinguk.org/100women