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A cycling training scheme which has helped over 10,000 school children learn valuable skills, is to continue for a further year.

Back in August 2016, Peterborough City Council was awarded funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) to deliver 'Bikeability' training sessions to local school children.

Since then, Outspoken training has delivered sessions on the council's behalf, with many schools reporting that more pupils are cycling in as a result.

The original Bikeability funding grant was scheduled to last until March 2020, however this has now been extended by the DfT by a further year until March 2021.

Councillor Peter Hiller, Peterborough City Council's cabinet member for strategic planning, commercial strategy and investment, said: "We are delighted to be able to continue to deliver such a worthwhile scheme. As a council, we want to build and sustain healthy communities and promoting cycling, especially to young people, will help achieve that.

"The Bikeability sessions are invaluable for children, helping them to gain confidence, life skills, road safety awareness and independence."

Some statistics on cycling in the city:

- > Peterborough has 280 miles of cycle routes connecting the city and its rural areas
- > The city's largest cycle route is the Green Wheel - which is 45 miles long and encircles the city
- > We have provided Bikeability cycle training for 10,000 school pupils
- > Of the schools we work with, pupils regularly cycling to school has increased from 5.8% to 22.3% - scooting has increased to 15.6% - over the past two years
- > Provided more than 10,000 bespoke personalised travel plans to employees and residents in the city over the past five years - to promote other ways to travel other than single occupancy car travel. This has led to an increase in cycling and other modes of either sustainable or public transport
- > Have also provided personalised travel information to 5,500 households in the city over the past three years - this has resulted in an increase in cycling and walking