



RECYKE-A-BIKE.CO.UK
REPAIR | RE-LOVED BIKES | TRAINING | HIRE | OUTREACH

IMPACT REPORT 2025/2026

Operations Manager's Message



Ella Brakefield

"The highlight of 2025/26 for me personally was celebrating our 20 years of being an incorporated charity – a huge achievement for us and one that couldn't have happened if it wasn't for the hard work of staff, volunteers, trustees, customers and partners over the last 20 years! Thank you, all!"

2025/26 was a particularly special year for Recyke-a-bike as we celebrated our 20th anniversary. Since being established in 2005, we have remained committed to making cycling accessible, inclusive and beneficial for our communities. To mark this milestone, we welcomed partners, funders, volunteers, former colleagues and supporters to a celebration event at our Causewayhead premises. We were delighted to reflect on two decades of impact and to celebrate the many people and organisations who have helped shape Recyke-a-bike's journey. Alongside the event, we launched our '20 Things for 20 Years' campaign, offering free repairs, competitions, events and cycling activities as a way of thanking the communities that have supported us over the years.

Beyond the celebrations, 2025/26 was a year of continued growth and impact. Grant income enabled us to strengthen and expand our activities, supporting more people than ever through cycle training, employability programmes, bike access initiatives, inclusive cycling opportunities and community repair projects. We continued to work across Stirling, Clackmannanshire and Falkirk, building on established partnerships while developing new opportunities to reach underserved communities. Despite ongoing challenges facing the charity sector, our dedicated staff, volunteers and trustees remained focused on our mission, ensuring that more people could access the benefits of cycling. A huge thank you to our staff and wider volunteer team for their hard-work, dedication and support during 2025/26.

Charity Spotlight

Founded in Fallin in 2005, Recyke-a-Bike is a cycling charity dedicated to making cycling accessible, sustainable, and enjoyable for everyone. We refurbish and sell affordable second-hand bikes, helping to reduce waste and promote reuse, while our skilled team delivers Bikeability training and Learn to Ride sessions in schools and cycling sessions for individuals and businesses across the community. Alongside our repair services and Dr Bike outreach events, we also run volunteering and employability programmes that give people the chance to learn new skills, build confidence, and connect through cycling.

Achievements and Performance

We are happy to report that within 2025/26 Recyke-a-bike has seen growth, development and increased impact whilst working towards our charitable values and within our 2023 – 2026 Strategic Plan. Income from Grants and Donations has exceeded budgeted expectations during the reporting period, allowing us to deliver our core projects, as well as work with new communities, providing a wider range of activities. Our core income streams from the Shop and Outreach Activities remained in line with previous years, helping to continue to serve our patrons, partners and wider communities. The charity sector is not always the easiest to navigate and grow in, Recyke-a-bike has had its challenges within 2025/26 however we have remained committed to our core mission and are pleased with the year overall.

Our committed team of staff and volunteers continued their vital work supporting more people into cycling, and we were pleased welcome new additions to our team. This growth has strengthened our capacity to deliver meaningful projects and respond to increasing demand for our activities and programmes.

As was the case last year our shop and repairs income was steady – again we saw a nominal decrease in the number of bikes sold, but as per the previous year the reduction was to be expected as we continued to support more bikes going into our free bikes projects – Access to Bikes. We saw a measured increase in bikes being brought into our shop for servicing/repair, we believe this is down to improved marketing around this service and a shift in attitudes, that we can service high-end bikes like other for-profit bike shops. Within the year we also saw an increase in e-bikes coming into our shop for servicing/repairs. To prepare staff for this change we have invested in providing staff training with a select group of e-bike providers, such as Bosch and Shimano. We look forward to continuing to offer this important service in the years to come.

During 2025/26 we put emphasis on perfecting our established core projects, to ensure that they are working effectively and impactfully. However, we were also excited to pick up new bodies of work including supporting a large cluster of schools in Falkirk with Bikeability 1 and 2 support and working with Young Carers across the three local authorities.

The expansion of our activities and services has enabled us to increase both our reach and the long-term impact of our work, we are happy to report an increase in the number of people supported in 25/26.

Our work remained focused on providing inclusive, holistic and joined-up support that responds to the needs of the individuals, as well as communities we engage with across the Forth Valley (including rural and low-income areas). Looking forward, we have ensured that this is a key part of our delivery and have included this as a core priority within our 2026-2031 Strategic Plan.

Happily, our charity turned 20 in the summer of 2025. We had a party at our building and invited lots of friends, partners, previous colleagues and funders. It was a fantastic day, and we were thrilled to have so many people come and celebrate with us. To show our appreciation for our amazing communities we held '20 Things for 20 Years' - where we ran competitions, events, free repairs sessions and lessons for the community to enjoy.

As with previous years and like many charities, we operated within challenging financial and staffing pressures, which at times put pressure on delivery. Despite this, the year was characterised by positive development, meaningful outcomes and continued growth. We are pleased with the year that was 25/26 and look forward to putting our learnings from the year into positive actions for 26/27 and beyond.



Our Year in Pictures

This year has been another rewarding one for Recyke-a-Bike, as we've continued to make cycling more accessible through bike recycling, cycle training, and community projects. The photographs throughout this report capture just a glimpse of another busy year, full of new opportunities, growing confidence, and stronger communities.

Bikeability



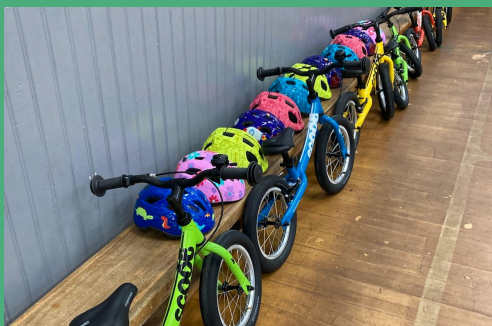
We continued to deliver Bikeability 2 training to all eligible primary schools across Stirling and Clackmannanshire, with every school containing Primary 6 pupils taking part. The programme helps children develop the confidence, awareness and practical skills to cycle safely on roads and in real traffic conditions. Many primary schools in Stirling and all primary schools in Clackmannanshire also received Bikeability 1 playground sessions for Primary 5 pupils. Building on our work with two rural Falkirk schools in 2024/25, we expanded to 16 Falkirk schools in 2025/26, delivering both Bikeability 1 and 2. With Falkirk historically seeing low Bikeability participation, we're proud to be helping more young people gain the skills and confidence to cycle safely.

The Bike Library saw a reduction in hires to 80 loans. Although we were a little disappointed in this decrease in the number of rentals from the previous year, we were required to close the project for 5 months, due to changing rental providers and needing to go through their in-depth set-up procedures and fully servicing all of the bikes. The Bike Library continued to get positive feedback from our patrons, and we know it enabled more people to cycle within 25/26.

Bike Library



Nursery Bikes Project



We supported 6 nurseries within the Carron Valley area, providing each nursery with 12 new balance and pedal bikes along with a day of training for the staff and the children at the nursery. We also provided a Dr Bike for each nursery, fixing bikes that the families of the children in attendance at the nurseries had brought in. This project was really well received, with many of the families commenting on how the Dr Bike session would enable them to utilise bikes that otherwise were not safe to ride.

Through Tactran we were awarded funding for our Access to Bikes programme. Under this programme we gave away 142 recycled bikes (and new accessories) to children, 30 bikes to adults living within Stirling and 6 trikes to children with additional support needs. Partners involved with this project included Stirling based primary and secondary schools, Forth Valley Welcome, the Resettlement Team at Stirling Council, Includem and Stirling Social Work. Adults on this project received tailored cycling support also, ensuring that they felt safe whilst using their bike. We had a huge amount of positive feedback from this valuable project and thank Tactran and our partners for their support.

Access to Bikes



InspiRide



Our six-week training course, InspiRide, continued to go from strength to strength in 25/26, with 20 participants aged 16+ who are not in education, employment or training taking part. Our numbers were slightly lower than normal, as we paused the project for 4 months whilst repeat funding was being secured from The National Lottery and Robertson Trust. The programme supported participants to develop bike mechanic and cycling skills, gain volunteering experience, and access tailored employability support. Each participant also builds and keeps their own bike, providing them with free, sustainable transport beyond the course. We continue to keep in touch with participants who have been on the InspiRide courses, offering them the opportunity to volunteer with us or join future meet up days.

Within schools we worked with 111 young people with additional support needs – this was predominately through New Struan (where we did weekly sessions during term time) and the ASN/EASN departments at Wallace High, Denny High and at Alloa EASN. This project was hugely successful and impactful, with many of the young people cycling outside of the school gates and/or progressing from trikes onto 2 wheeled bikes. Many of the young people could not ride a bike when our sessions started, we started with balance, stopping and steering and then enabled the young people to challenge themselves in a controlled environment. Unfortunately, New Struan is set to close in June 2026, we wish the young people and staff all the very best in their transitions to other destinations.

Adaptive Cycling



Dr Bike



We were awarded funding from various funders to offer Dr Bike sessions to schools and communities within the Forth Valley. These sessions are always gratefully received by our recipients, and although we saw a reduction in bikes fixed under Dr Bike (as the Paths for All funding had come to an end in 24/25, and they are no longer able to fund cycling activities) we were still pleased with the number of bikes repaired and made safe for the public, all for free.

Our Stirling in-schools active travel officer also supported 315 children with cycling skills, which ranged from Bikeability 1, learn to ride, transition rides to the High School for children in Primary 7 and maintenance classes. Tactran supported this project and we are grateful for their support. The schools were identified by their locality to the Walk, Cycle, Live network within Stirling – the aim for the project is that more children feel confident cycling, which hopefully they transfer into later life.

Schools' Active Travel



Volunteers



Our volunteer project continued to provide opportunities for skills development, socialisation and community in 25/26. Volunteers developing skills in bike stripping, cleaning and maintaining parts and stock management. Many volunteers progressed into bike building, which was extremely useful for our shop stock. We also invited a volunteer to join our team of staff, on a part-time contract, which he was thrilled with. We will endeavour to offer employment to volunteers whenever possible and practical. The volunteers remain an important part of the Recycle-a-bike community, and we are extremely grateful for their ongoing commitment, time and contribution.

Other projects

Within Clackmannanshire and Falkirk and with thanks to funding from Cycling UK, we distributed 24 free bike packages each including a refurbished bicycle, a brand-new helmet, lights, and a lock to adults and children. In previous years we have capped this project at supporting adults only, however in 25/26 we intentionally included a group of children too, to widen the reach and impact. Cycling UK also funded us to provide 111 repairs for people living in Clackmannanshire and Falkirk. We focused these repairs predominantly on schools and offered the repairs to families. The project was well received and enabled more children to choose to cycle to school, after their bike had been repaired.

Private lessons for children, typically learn to ride lessons were hugely popular in 25/26, with an increase of 48% from 24/25. We struggled to keep up with demand and offered lessons within the holidays when weather permitted and after school. We are so pleased that because of our lessons more children are learning how to ride a bike.

We worked with 91 adults with visual impairments and/or significant mobility needs utilising our Van Raam Fun 2 Go side by side bike. This project allowed us to work with adults who ordinarily would not normally have access to cycling – we received fantastic feedback, with many of the participants telling us that they hadn't cycled for years, even decades before the sessions with us.

11 people completed their City&Guilds Level 1 certification with us. These courses were a mix of private (normally individuals or small groups working/volunteering with another organisation) courses or funded courses to support people not in training, education or employment. Our mechanic worked through the course content systematically with the attendees, ensuring to give additional time to those who need more support. Our ambition through supplying this course is that those who attend feel better equipped to fix their own bikes/the bikes of their families and friends or join the world of work within the cycling industry.

In 25/26 we've seen a large jump in bike donations. We believe this is due to a considered effort to make donating a bike an easier process for our supporters, by increasing the number of home collections carried out. Although labour intensive for Recyke-a-bike, these collection days (normally 2 per month) support people who do not have the means to get their bikes to the recycling centres that we work with.



Our Year in Numbers

Processing:

- 2283 bikes donated.
- 5208 bikes collected.
- 1278 bikes refurbished for sale in our shop.
- 1394 bikes dismantled for parts for re-use.
- 18.94 tonnes of bikes re-used via sales in our shop (based on an average weight of 12.5kg per bike on assumption that the bikes were 50% adult at 15kg and 50% children's at 10kg – Furniture Recycling Network figures as specified by Zero Waste Scotland).
- 17.43 tonnes of bikes recycled for spare parts and/or metal recycling (weight assumptions as above).

Sales:

- Bikes sold – 1515
- Bikes serviced or repaired in our shop – 933
- Transactions – 6173

Refurbished bikes given away:

- 52 bikes and accessory packages given away to adults within the Forth Valley who ordinarily couldn't afford a bike.
- 151 bikes and accessory packages given away to young people within Stirling who ordinarily couldn't afford a bike, including 6 young people with additional support needs who received new, bespoke trikes.

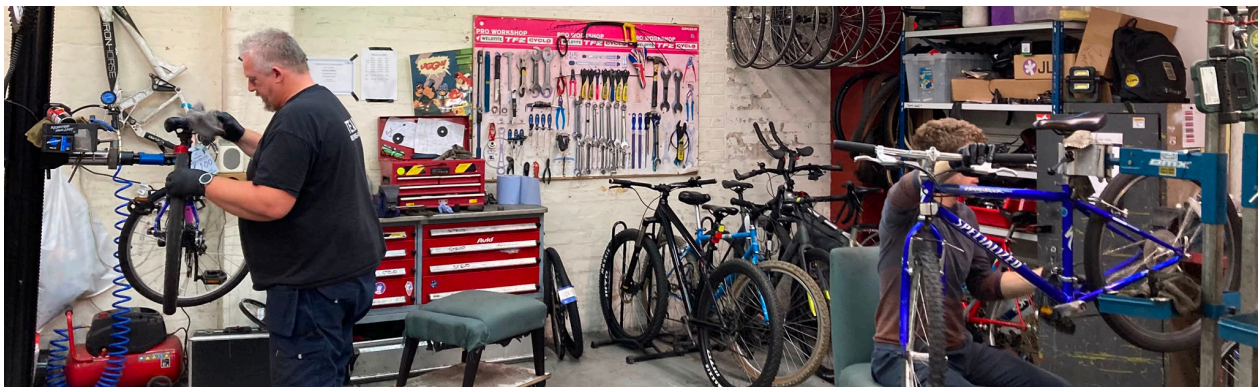


Outreach:

- Trained 20 participants on our Training and Employability project InspiRide.
- 76 drivers trained on our PCAT and SUD courses.
- 127 bikes repaired at the partnered NHS Dr Bike sessions at Forth Valley Royal Hospital and Stirling Health and Care Village.
- 899 bikes repaired at Dr Bike sessions within the Forth Valley including at Stirling University, Schools, Community Centres and other partner organisations.
- 84 people trained in bike mechanics at our classes.
- 14 Young People from various secondary schools were supported in our High School Cycle Protect in Fife.
- We continued to provide women and non-binary rides, with 55 riders attending our 11 ride-outs.
- Worked with various support needs departments/schools, benefitting 111 riders.
- Clackmannanshire - 473 children receiving Level 1 Bikeability training, 415 received Level 2.
- Stirlingshire - delivered Bikeability Level 1 training to 164 children and Level 2 to 935 children.
- Falkirk – delivered Bikeability Level 1 training to 535 children and Level 2 to 179 children.
- Supported 315 Stirling based children in 6 different primary schools with wrap-around cycling supporting, including Learn to Ride lessons, Bikeability 1 and Transition Rides to High School.
- 20 Young Carers were provided with a package of respite cycle rides with our staff and a free bike, helmet, lights and lock.
- 196 children supported in learning how to ride bike within private lessons.
- 6 council funded nurseries within the Carron Valley area were provided with 12 new balance and pedal bikes each as well as a day of training and bike repairs.
- 91 adults with additional support needs were provided with free access to accessible cycling via our inclusive fleet.
- 80 riders given access to a free electric bike/trike via our e-bike library.
- 11 candidates were trained in City&Guilds Level 1 Bike Mechanics, with 3 attendees going on to gain their City&Guilds Level 2 Bike Mechanics qualification.

Placements/Volunteers:

- 24 people regularly volunteered in our workshop.
- Volunteer days: 3433 hours of volunteering was completed over 51 weeks.
- Bikes built by volunteers – 124.
- 4 supported employment placements completed, with 3 of the staff continued into be employed by Recyke-a-bike in 2026/27.



Customer Feedback



“This was amazing. I just donated a bike that I got from here a wee while ago and got a new bike and it felt great. Would 100% recommend to anyone looking for a bike. Bonus there is a good view of cool rocks and a large parking area that can be used for testing bikes. Overall a great place” – Jarth



“Fantastic service, really friendly team and quick turn-around too, my bike is better than ever, thanks!” – Tim



“Amazing company with fantastic staff and unwavering support! Thanks to them, our whole family now has bikes — two parents and five children. We also had cycling lessons with clear and detailed safety instructions. There truly aren’t enough words to thank them for everything they do. Many thanks once again, guys!” – Kristina



“Donated numerous bikes here and it's always good to see them back on sale after having received the TLC that was needed. Also an excellent service for any bikes that you have and a good source for parts too.” – Iain



“Thank you so much for the sessions. I have been catching up with a few of the pupils this morning and the pride and sense of achievement that they all had was fantastic. Many of them commented on how great it was to have people who helped them so much and a lot of them are now wanting to do more cycling.” - Headteacher



“Thank you for the Dr Bike. I am really glad to see so many of our children’s bikes being made safe and the savings for our families has been great.” - Headteacher



“I just wanted to say how amazing it was to see ‘K’ during his Learn to Ride session at the school — his face was an absolute picture! The massive smile said it all, he was totally buzzing.” - Teacher

Some statistics



We trained 1762 pupils in Bikability 2 across Stirling, Clackmannanshire and Falkirk. 1354 pupils were trained in Bikability 1.



This year Recyke-a-bike held 94 dr bikes and fixed 850 bikes.



100% of Dr Bike users gave a 5 star rating for the quality of their bike check and repairs.

Contact



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