

To Whom It May Concern:

Scottish Cycling would like to provide their support towards the Alyth Hill Users Group (AHUG) application to develop mountain biking trails in Alyth, Perth & Kinross.

The Scottish Cycling facilities strategy states *'(In Scotland there) should be an appropriate number of facilities to ensure that Scottish Cycling can grow and develop both participation and standards of performance in cycling within Scotland.'*

This project is an excellent example of community driven demand for mountain biking. It is a holistic project which is responding to the needs of the community and its people. Indeed, we are particularly encouraged by the projects ability to fundraise, engage volunteers to help maintain the trails and run events, we believe, this bodes well for the future sustainability of the project.

The proposed trails will host the AHUG Bike Club. AHUG itself will become a Scottish Cycling affiliated club. A strong partnership exists between AHUG, the local community and Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS). It is these strong partnerships which will allow Scotland to achieve its aims of more participation, leading to improved health and well-being and helping Scots achieve success on the international stage.

We are delighted that this area would have a sustainable bike park which would allow the club to develop both its number of participants, deliver local/regional mountain bike races/events and provide a platform for the clubs members to succeed on a national and international stage. We have no doubt that the project will increase participation in mountain biking in Alyth and its neighbouring towns and villages.

This project, if successful, would make an ideal case study in community engagement and communities leasing land from FCS to drive forward the development of mountain biking in Scotland. Indeed, it would be the first project to successfully lease land from FCS to develop bike trails. We strongly support this model moving forward.

We know the project is an integral part of the regional development plan for the 'Tayside & Fife Cluster' which is part of the Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland project. This will ensure the benefits of the project will not only be for the town of Alyth but also the wider region.

If the funding is successful we are interested and committed to working with Alyth Hill Users Group and it's Bike Club to continue to develop and achieve its aims.

Yours sincerely



Craig Burn
Chief Executive