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PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

HADDENHAM CYCLE TRAINING AWARDED INSTRUCTOR TRAINING ORGANISATION (ITO) STATUS BY DfT

Following an extensive application and assessment process, local group Haddenham Cycle Training has been awarded **Instructor Training Organisation (ITO) status by the Department of Transport..** HCT is one of only 18 ITO's in the UK accredited to deliver Bikeability Instructor Training. ITO status recognises the fact that Haddenham Cycle Training has been assessed by the DfT as fit for purpose to deliver Instructor Training in line with the National Standards.

This accreditation is particularly commendable for such a small organisation, which is the only ITO in Buckinghamshire and its surrounding counties. Haddenham Cycle Training's Chairman and Accredited Instructor, Francesca Flaxton explains: "Most of the other 17 Instructor Training groups throughout the UK are much larger cycle training bodies or departments within local authorities, so we are especially proud of our achievement. At present, we are a group of 8 cycling instructors, most of us part time. Some of the other ITO's have well over 100 Instructors, so we feel we have done exceptionally well to reach this high standard. Our small size means we can offer Bikeability and Instructor Training courses tailored to the needs of each individual or group. We are aiming to fill a gap in this part of the country and we look forward to welcoming new instructors into our team or helping individuals to set up their own training programmes elsewhere".

HCT will initially be running three Instructor Training courses per year. Cycling England currently offers a bursary of £300 towards the cost of training as a National Standard Instructor and £150 towards the cost of training as National Standard Assistant Instructor. Anyone who is considering becoming a Cycling



Instructor should contact HCT at info@haddenhamcycletraining.org.uk. HCT will continue to provide Bikeability Training in schools throughout Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties and to run its monthly Bike Club, funded by the Cycle Touring Club (CTC). Haddenham Cycle Training has delivered a record number of courses in 2010 and the number is expected to increase further next year, so there is definitely scope for more new Instructors in Bucks.

The new ITO system requires that all new and existing Bikeability instructors register with an approved ITO, to enable them to continue to deliver training funded by Local Authorities. Haddenham Cycle Training will be welcoming Instructors as new members from January 2011. Details of HCT's membership package and all other information can be found on their website: www.haddenhamcycletraining.org.uk. Instructor Training Course dates will be added in the New Year.

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Further information

For information about Haddenham Cycle Training and their ITO accreditation, please contact Francesca Flaxton on 07554 141810 or by e-mail to:

francesca@haddenhamcycletraining.org.uk.

More details about Bikeability and becoming an Instructor can be found on the DfT's website at the following link:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/bikeability/delivering-bikeability/becoming-a-cycle-instructor/>

The full list of the 18 ITO's can be found on:

http://www.dft.gov.uk/bikeability/wp-content/uploads/101215_Cycling_Instructor_Training_Organisations_list1.doc

Details about the National Standards for Cycle Training:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/ctsb/nationalstandards/>