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Dear School

Modeshift STARS – the National School Travel Awards

The Prime Minister's summer 2013 announcement to shift cycling up a gear detailed a number of supportive measures for cycling to be delivered in the coming years. This included a National Schools Awards scheme to recognise schools that have demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling and walking.

On the 6th November Baroness Kramer, Minister of State for Transport, attended the Modeshift Annual Convention where she announced a Department for Transport grant of up to £184,000 to expand the Modeshift STARS national school award scheme to every school in England.

We would now like as many schools as possible to take part in Modeshift STARS which is an existing national schools awards scheme that has been established to recognise schools that have demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable transport. It advocates delivering a package of measures, which can include a range of existing initiatives that are designed to engage all sections of the school community.

The Department's grant will allow every school in the country to sign up to the Modeshift STARS programme for free as well as supporting the delivery of five regional award events each year and the creation of improved support and best practice sharing for schools.

Schools wishing to participate in Modeshift STARS, should follow the steps below:

- Visit www.modeshiftstars.org
- Select the local authority that your school sits under from the list on the opening page
- Using the 'register' button from the top right corner of the homepage, register your staff for Modeshift STARS logins (when registering you will be able to select your school from a drop down menu).
- If your local authority is signed up to Modeshift STARS, they will approve your registration and provide further guidance. If they are not signed up, Modeshift will approve your registration and email the schools user guide to you.

Modeshift STARS presents a huge opportunity for us to collectively increase the number of children and young people that get more active on the journeys to school. We therefore hope that you school will be joining us on this exciting journey.

Yours faithfully,

Nick Butler
National Modeshift STARS Manager