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Holyrood candidates to be quizzed tomorrow at cycling hustings

The 2016 Holyrood elections are only 7 weeks away, and GoBike, the Strathclyde Cycle Campaign, have assembled an impressive array of prospective MSPs to take part in their Hustings event. Political hopefuls will be quizzed on their commitment to investing in active travel and creating an attractive environment for walking and cycling in Glasgow, Strathclyde, and Scotland.

The hustings will take place on Wednesday 16th March at 7.30 pm, at the Admiral Bar 72a Waterloo Street, Glasgow.

All of the major parties are represented, with the panel comprising

- Cat Boyd, RISE candidate for Glasgow list;
- Robert Brown, Liberal Democrat candidate for Glasgow list;
- Patrick Harvie, Green Party MSP for Glasgow and Green Party co-convener;
- Michael Shanks, Labour candidate for Glasgow Kelvin;
- Sandra White, Scottish National Party MSP for Glasgow Kelvin;
- Brian Whittle, Conservative candidate for Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley.

The hustings will be chaired by the Glasgow-based journalist Pennie Taylor.

GoBike convener Tricia Fort commented, "I'm delighted that we have representation from all the major parties, plus a bit of extra excitement for voters in Glasgow Kelvin, with 3 of their candidates attending (Claudia Beamish, Labour, is unable to join us) and I encourage anyone with an interest in travel or the environment to come along on March 16th and hear what the panellists have to say. These are the people who, if elected, will decide how our money is spent. If we want investment in good cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, we need to let them know."

The event is not restricted to GoBike members, with attendees encouraged to join on the night to support the work of the campaign. Questions are expected on segregated cycleways, air quality, Presumed Liability and many more topics.

GoBike, Strathclyde Cycle Campaign is a membership organisation, aiming for better cycling infrastructure in Glasgow and the surrounding area. The organisation combines campaigning activity with a programme of organised bike rides for all abilities, and works with local councils to improve the environment for cycling.

Cycling improves health and well-being, and is a sociable, affordable way to get about. Over half of all journeys in the UK are shorter than 5 miles and many of these could easily be managed on a bicycle. Yet fewer than 2% of people currently cycle to get around.

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