

# Etape Loch Ness 2024 Update for Community Councils Dated 29/01/2024

The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Etape Loch Ness cycle sportive will take place on Sunday 28 April 2024. The Events Team would like to thank all local communities, residents and businesses along the route for their ongoing support.

### **Key Stats**

- 5600+ cyclists expected in 2024
- 79% of entrants from outside Highland & Islands (2024)
- 30% of entrants from outside Scotland (2024)
- Estimated £3.6 million economic impact from the 2023 event, with 83% of participants having an overnight stay in the local area.
- £1.92m raised to date for official charity, Macmillan Cancer Support, by Etape Loch Ness riders since 2014. Macmillan are aiming to raise £250K at the 2024 event.

An annual donation is given to the Community Council for distribution to a local community project or charity.

## Would you like to get involved?

The event could not happen without the support and commitment of our volunteers. If you would like to join our team, and raise money for a local community group or charity, contact: volunteers@etapelochness.com

In return, we will give a donation to the community group or charity of your choice. Donations were made to over 90 charities and groups in 2023 as a thank you on behalf of our volunteers.

## **Temporary Traffic Restrictions**

- Organisers have kept traffic restrictions to a minimum to ensure the safety of participants and other road users.
- Roads will be closed in both directions to create a safe traffic-free environment for the event.
- Temporary traffic restrictions remain unchanged from 2023.
- Local Fire Service and RNLI crews are located at their stations in case of emergencies.
- Link to map showing temporary traffic restrictions
- Link to summary of temporary traffic restrictions

## Advance notice is given via:

- Royal Mail leaflet drop to 34,700 letterboxes scheduled for first week of April, covering Inverness to Spean Bridge.
- Two emails to database of local businesses, care centres, tourism and community groups, in January and April.
- Event social media channels and website
- Local media
- Advance notice signage along the route 12 days prior to event
- We continue to work with Highland Council, Transport Scotland, Traffic Scotland to communicate to the wider public that the area is open for business.

#### **Official Escorts**

- Organisers continue to work with local businesses, care homes and communities to identify those who have essential journeys to make during the event and facilitate these when it is possible and safe to do so.
- As the roads are subject to a Temporary Traffic Order, any movements must be agreed in advance with organisers and ideally travel in the direction of the event.

- If you or someone you know has an essential journey to make, please get in touch well in advance of the event and the team will work with you to find a solution and plan essential journeys wherever possible. <a href="mailto:info@etapelochness.com">info@etapelochness.com</a>
- Pre-planned escorts that were carried out in 2023 included care workers and hotel staff.