

# DVLA unveils Blood Bikes Wales as their Charity of Choice for 2020

Since being launched in 2014 the Charity of Choice scheme at DVLA has raised more than £300,000 for local charities through a variety of fundraising activities including charity concerts, skydiving, running half marathons, completing the Three Peaks Challenge and taking part in sponsored head shaves.

Nigel Ward, Chairman of Blood Bikes Wales, said:

I'm absolutely delighted DVLA staff have chosen Blood Bikes Wales to be their 2020 Charity of Choice. This means so much to us as we are all volunteers delivering blood samples, plasma, breast milk and other crucial items to the NHS completely free.

Our bikes cover hundreds of miles every week and need to be maintained to keep our riders safe. DVLA's support will help us do this so we can continue to deliver these essential items to local hospitals.

Julie Lennard, DVLA Chief Executive, said:

The volunteers at Blood Bikes Wales provide vital assistance to hospitals across Wales and I am delighted that we will be supporting them throughout 2020. Our staff have given so much of their own time over the years to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for charity and I'm looking forward to seeing the range of activities they come up with to support Blood Bikes Wales.

## **Notes to editors:**

Blood Bikes Wales are a volunteer charity that provide free courier service to the NHS across Wales from 7pm on Friday evening until midnight on Monday morning including bank holidays and Christmas day. They also operate on weekdays for some health board areas and deliver blood samples, plasma, breast milk, documents and other items all over Wales.

Since 2014 DVLA staff have raised £21,389 for the Wales Air Ambulance, £43,578 for LATCH, £70,906 for the Alzheimer's Society, £56,159 for Mind, £58,803 for Maggie's Swansea and £62,033 for Tŷ Olwen.