

TRANSPORT UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2020



This month's Transport Update looks at the latest announcements on decarbonising transport, including the 2030 deadline for petrol and diesel cars and vans. We also highlight the response to the Future of Transport Regulatory Review, new funding for aviation projects, bus franchising in Scotland and the National Infrastructure Strategy.

COVID-19

Report of the Global Travel Taskforce and government response

A report by the Global Travel Taskforce sets out 14 recommendations on steps the Government can take to encourage the safe recovery of domestic and overseas travel and tourism while reducing the risk of imported cases of coronavirus. The Department for Transport responded in a [statement](#) to the Commons. The first initiative resulting from the Taskforce's work is the newly-launched "Test to Release" regime for international arrivals from countries that are not on the travel corridor list.

Accessibility

New funding for accessibility as government reports progress for disabled people across transport network

The Government has announced extra funding to improve travel for people with disabilities by launching a first-of-its-kind Accessible Technology Research and Innovation Grant (ATRIG), which will invest up to £500,000 in projects that can improve access to services or inspire more confidence to travel. Eligible projects could provide a range of practical solutions that remove physical barriers, make it easier to access information, automate processes or see better support for travellers.

Aviation

UK and US sign aviation agreement to protect vital travel links

The Transport Secretary, Grant Shapps, has signed a new bilateral Air Services Agreement safeguarding the future of air travel between the UK and US past the end of the Brexit transition period. The announcement will help ensure that the UK remains open for business with major economies around the world by maintaining this critical global link.

Drones to fight fires and deliver COVID-19 supplies are first to receive share of over £33 million government funding

The Government has announced the first wave of winners receiving government funding for ground-breaking aviation projects solving major global challenges, including the coronavirus pandemic and climate change, while creating new jobs across the UK.

Speech to Airport Operators Association

Grant Shapps addressed the Airport Operators Association covering the COVID-19 pandemic, recovery works, support, regional connectivity, longer term working and Brexit.

Brexit

Transporting goods between Great Britain and the EU from 1 January 2021: guidance for hauliers and commercial drivers

Joint guidance for haulage companies and commercial drivers who move goods between Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the EU explains what documents will be needed from 1 January 2021. It also explains how to follow new rules to manage traffic heading to ports and new border control processes.

Bus

Bus franchising: An important tool for delivering integrated transport systems or a white elephant?

Buses play a fundamental role in creating and maintaining a fully integrated transport system. Although buses have the potential to be a dynamic asset for local authorities – pulling together the various strands of an integrated public transport network – declining bus patronage means that potential is not being realised, leaving communities isolated and reliant on private car use. This article by Suzanne Moir discusses how the Scottish Government can best support local authorities in developing their franchise plans.

Decarbonisation

Countdown to Carbon Zero

Addleshaw Goddard's Transport Team has recently released a series of videos, talking to industry leaders about the Countdown to Carbon Zero and how the industry is taking positive steps forward on the road to net zero. Our Countdown to Carbon Zero [webinar](#) is also available on demand. The webinar addresses some of the key themes and brings to life some of the points addressed in the video series.

Government announces step towards net-zero with end of sale of new petrol and diesel cars by 2030

Following consultation with stakeholders, industry and the wider public, the UK Government has announced the end of the sale of new petrol and diesel cars in the UK by 2030. The two-step process will also see all new cars and vans be fully zero emission at the tailpipe from 2035.

Prime Minister outlines his Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution

Prime Minister Boris Johnson outlined his Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution to create 250,000 jobs in the UK. The plan includes a focus on electric vehicles, public transport, cycling & walking, Jet Zero and greener maritime. The blueprint will allow the UK to work towards eradicating its contribution to climate change by 2050, particularly crucial in the run up to the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow in 2021.

Report: Type approval and carbon dioxide emissions regulations 2020

An "In Focus" report from the House of Lords Library looks at three draft statutory instruments which make amendments to existing EU legislation around vehicles and carbon dioxide emissions targets to ensure the regulations can function effectively after the end of the Brexit transition period, and that the UK meets its obligations under the Ireland/Northern Ireland Protocol. The amendments were [debated](#) by the Delegated Legislation Committee on 12 November 2020.

A new Wales transport strategy

A Welsh Government consultation seeks views on proposals for a transport strategy which pledges a major reduction in carbon emissions from the transport network in Wales. Consultation ends: 25 January 2020.

General Transport

Consultation outcome: Future of Transport regulatory review

Following its consultation on micromobility vehicles, flexible bus services and Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) as part of the Future of Transport regulatory review, the Government has announced its next steps. It will:

- engage with demand responsive transport service operators and collate findings from Rural Mobility Fund schemes;
- take forward a code of practice for MaaS;
- use findings and learning from trials of new vehicles and services to explore what approaches or guidance can be developed to support trialling; and
- explore what approaches or guidance can be developed to support local leadership of new transport services and alignment with the upcoming Devolution and Local Recovery white paper.

Call for Evidence on future of transport: rural strategy

A Department for Transport (DfT) consultation seeks views on: the context of the *Future of Transport: rural strategy*; an assessment of the mobility trends in rural areas, and the emerging opportunities for rural environments in transport innovation. Consultation ends: 16 February 2021.

Call for evidence on union connectivity review

A DfT consultation invites responses to an independent review, led by Sir Peter Hendy, on how transport can support economic growth and quality of life across the UK. Consultation ends: 30 December 2020.

HS2

Department for Transport publishes recommendations to deliver fairer deal for communities on HS2 property schemes

Transport Minister Andrew Stephenson announced an overhaul of how land and property is purchased for High Speed 2, alongside the publication of a range of recommendations to improve acquisition processes.

Government overview of the case for HS2 Phase 2a and its environmental impacts - Update for the House of Lords

A policy paper by the Department for Transport (DfT) sets out an update for the House of Lords on the case for the HS2 phase 2a and its environmental impacts.

Consultation: High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill: draft class approval

The DfT has issued a call for views on the contents of the draft construction arrangements class approval in relation to the High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill 2019-21 Sch.17. The class approval allows the Secretary of State to approve appropriate measures to apply to the HS2 Phase 2a works and remove the need for repeated individual approvals from planning authorities. Consultation ends: 8 December 2020.

National Infrastructure Strategy

Policy paper: National Infrastructure Strategy

Alongside the Chancellor's Spending Review on Wednesday 25 November, the government published its National Infrastructure Strategy. The strategy sets out the government's plans to transform the UK's infrastructure networks. It is based around three central objectives: economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; levelling up and strengthening all areas of the United Kingdom; and meeting the UK's net zero emissions target by 2050. Our Transport Team discuss the impact on transport infrastructure in the UK in [this article](#).

Ports

[Freeports: Bidding Prospectus](#)

A publication from HM Treasury provides details on the UK Freeports model and sets out how bidders can apply for Freeport status in England. It sets out information on how Freeports should be delivered, and highlights the selection process that will see successful Freeport locations announced in Spring 2021.

Rail Network

[The Network Rail \(London to Corby\) \(Land Acquisition\) Order \(SI 2020/1259\)](#)

In force: 2nd December 2020

This Order confers powers on Network Rail Infrastructure Limited to acquire compulsorily land and rights in land, and to use land temporarily in connection with the alteration and improvement of the Midland Mainline railway between London and Corby.

[Explanatory Note](#)

[Stakeholder survey for the second post-implementation review of the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems \(Safety\) Regulations 2006](#)

An Office of Rail and Road consultation seeks comments on its review of the effectiveness and experience of the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006 for future improvement. Consultation ends: 17 January 2021.

Road Network

[Independent Review of Road User Charging in Wales](#)

An independent review of road user charging (RUC) commissioned by the Welsh Government on how RUC could assist Wales in meeting some of its commitments, including on air quality, a safer climate and better health.

[48 tonne intermodal freight trial: consultation document](#)

A Department for Transport (DfT) consultation seeks views on a possible trial of higher maximum weight limits for heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) carrying intermodal freight. Consultation ends: 4 January 2021.

[Longer semi-trailer trial](#)

A DfT consultation seeks views on whether it should stop the longer semi-trailer trial (LSTs), which tests the theory that the use of LSTs should lead to journey reductions, ahead of schedule. Consultation ends: 1 February 2021.

Shipping

[The Merchant Shipping \(Safety Standards for Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages\) \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2020 \(SI 2020/1222\)](#)

In force: 1 January 2021

The purpose of this instrument is to transpose Directive (EU) 2017/2108 which amended Directive (EC) 2009/45, pursuant to the UK's transposition obligations during the Brexit transition period. This will ensure a continued high standard of safety is maintained on UK seagoing domestic passenger ships, but with the advantage that such ships under 24 metres in length may now be covered by bespoke, and more proportionate, national safety standards.

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

[COVID-19: IMO makes renewed pledge for seafarers to get key worker status](#)

The International Maritime Organisation has approved a Maritime Safety Committee circular recognising industry-developed protocols, which set out general measures and procedures designed to ensure that ship crew changes and travel can take place safely during the pandemic. The protocols emphasize the need for governments to designate seafarers as

key workers providing an essential service. It will remain as a live document, which will be updated in line with developments concerning the pandemic.

First ever standard contract for autonomous ship operation underway

The Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) is in the process of developing an adapted version of its widely used SHIPMAN 2009 agreement for use with autonomous ships. It is expected that the first version will be published in 2021 and that adjustments to the agreement will be ongoing.

Space

UK government commissions space solar power stations research

The Government has commissioned new research into space-based solar power systems that would utilise large solar power satellites to collect solar energy, convert it into high-frequency radio waves, and send it to ground-based receivers connected to the electrical power grid. The research will examine whether this renewable technology could offer a resilient, safe and sustainable energy source.

Adoption of key principles for the global space economy

The European Council adopted a set of conclusions entitled "Orientations on the European contribution in establishing key principles for the global space economy" in preparation of the [tenth Space Council meeting](#), which took place on 20 November 2020. It highlights the emergence of a highly competitive European space industry and supply chains, which enables Europe to participate in, and contribute to, the global growth of the space economy.

Sustainability

Green Recovery Inquiry - Report

The Scottish Parliament's Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee has published a report which concludes that the Scottish Government must prioritise the creation of a comprehensive route-map to a green recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, with policy and budgetary coherence at its heart. The report discusses the need to reform transport networks, among other issues.



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