WEEK IN WESTMINSTER

22 April - www.smmt.co.uk/newsletter



Government diesel emissions testing report published

Government has published its report into diesel emissions testing. In a statement, SMMT said: "Industry is assessing the results from the tests carried out by government as part of the review announced in the autumn. What is immediately clear is that the vehicles tested met the legal standards with no new evidence that any other manufacturer has used any kind of lab cycle test recognition technology. The differences between the results from official laboratory tests and those performed in the 'real world' are well known, and industry acknowledges the need for fundamental reform of the current official test regime, which does it no favours. SMMT and industry support the introduction of the proposed new and more onerous test, RDE, which will help to reflect better 'real world' driving. Once it is fully adopted, all car models newly approved from next year will have to pass this on-road test, as well as a more representative lab test, if they are to be put on the market. This will require significant additional investment by manufacturers but will add greater transparency so consumers can be more confident industry is delivering on air quality while providing ever greater choice." (Source: SMMT)

HM Treasury publishes analysis on EU membership

HM Treasury has published analysis on the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternatives. This report assesses continued UK membership of the EU against the three existing alternative models: membership of the European Economic Area (EEA), like Norway; a negotiated bilateral agreement, such as that between the EU and Switzerland, Turkey or Canada; and World Trade Organisation (WTO) membership without any form of specific agreement with the EU, like Russia or Brazil. The Treasury's analysis shows that the UK would be permanently poorer if it left the EU and adopted any of these models. (Source: <u>HM Treasury</u>)



Week ahead

House of Commons Chamber Thursday 28 April

• 9:30am: Transport Questions

Commons Committees

Monday 25 April

 Transport Committee – Vehicle Type Approval, witnesses include Robert Goodwill MP, Transport Minister, Paul Higgs, Interim Chief Executive, VCA, Ian Yarnold, Department for Transport (4:05pm, Grimond Room)

Tuesday 26 April

- Business Innovation and Skills Committee Exports and the role of UKTI, witnesses include Lord Price, Minister of State for Trade and Investment and Catherine Raines, Chief Executive, UKTI
- Environmental Audit Committee Sustainability and the Department for Transport, witnesses include Lucy Chadwick, Director General for International, Security and Environment, Rosalind Wall, Head of Environmental Strategy, and Emma Campbell, Head of Environment and International Transport Analysis, Department for Transport

Wednesday 27 April

 Sub-Committee on Education, Skills and the Economy (9:30am, Grimond room) - Careers advice, information and guidance. Witnesses: Nick Boles MP, Minister for Skills, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and Department for Education, and Sam Gyimah MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education, Department for Education

Thursday 28 April

• Treasury Committee (10:30am, Wilson Room) The economic and financial costs and benefits of UK's EU membership. Witness: Rt Hon George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, HM Treasury

Westminster Hall

Tuesday 26 April

• 4:00 – 4:30pm – Debate on quiet cities (Mark Pritchard, Con, The Wrekin)