

## WEEK IN WESTMINSTER

Week ending Friday 19 July

### Government confirms £500 million to 2020 for ultra-low emission vehicles

Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin has announced that the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) will receive £500 million of new funding to 2020 to advance ultra-low emission vehicle (ULEV) technology as well as encourage uptake and use of ULEVs. The announcement was made in a Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) outlining government's roads reform command paper '[Action for Roads](#)', which provides further detail on roads investment following the Spending Round. Government states in the 'Action for Roads' paper that its £500 million funding plan "constitutes one of the longest-term and most comprehensive packages of support for this sector anywhere in the world." The paper also reiterates government's intention to publish a long-term strategy for ULEVs later this year. Mike Baunton, SMMT Interim Chief Executive said: "Today's announcement that government will support the development and uptake of ultra-low carbon vehicles through to at least 2020 is excellent news for the UK automotive industry and its position as a global leader for new technological development. Government's £500 million funding and longer-term commitment will provide industry and investors with much needed certainty to research, develop and manufacture the next generation of clean, fuel-efficient vehicles in the UK and, importantly, will boost consumer confidence helping to drive up the market for low emission vehicles." (Source: DfT/SMMT)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/roads-for-the-21st-century>

### Lobbying Bill published

Government has published its long-awaited Bill on a statutory register of lobbyists. The Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trades Union Administration Bill details legislation on a statutory register of lobbyists as well as on issues related to election fundraising and trade union membership. The proposed legislation for a statutory register of

lobbyists covers public affairs consultancies including those who are paid to lobby on behalf of third parties. The proposed register covers communications (oral or written) made personally to a government minister or permanent secretary. Entries on the register from consultants and consultancies must include information on clients and it would be a civil offence for a person to carry out the business of consultant lobbying without being registered. The Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR), representing individual public affairs practitioners issued a statement saying that the scope was too narrow and should include in-house lobbyists. Labour also responded to the Bill where its Shadow Minister for the Cabinet Office Jon Trickett MP is expected to table a number of amendments to the Bill to broaden its scope. (Source: Cabinet Office)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bill-to-bring-more-transparency-to-politics>



### Parliamentary debate on EU-US trade held

A debate on EU-US trade and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) has been held in the House of Commons. The debate was secured by Labour MP John Healey in his role as Chair of the newly created All-Party Parliamentary Group on EU US Trade and Investment. Adrian Bailey MP, Chair of the Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee spoke in the debate and highlighted key issues for the automotive sector. Mr Bailey said: "About 80% of the cars we produce are exported, and the US is the second-largest market after Europe for those exports. The removal of non-tariff barriers within the US are considerably more important [than tariffs] for

stimulating exports or reducing costs, and the British Government must concentrate on those as part of the EU negotiating team." Iain Wright MP, Labour's Shadow Business Minister replying on behalf of the opposition also noted the importance of the automotive industry in relation to the trade agreement and the important principle of mutual recognition of technical standards. Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Skills Matthew Hancock MP provided the government's contribution to the debate reflecting on the significant economic impact such a trade deal could achieve. (Source: Parliament)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130718/debtext/130718-0002.htm#13071867000004>

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## TfL issues report on London 2012 transport legacy

Transport for London (TfL) has issued a report looking at the transport legacy following the 2012 London Olympic Games. Key to the report is the assessment of the infrastructure legacy of £6.5 billion for the Games, but the report also focuses on issues around road management, accessibility, travel demand management and freight and logistics. TfL noted the success of the Freight Demand Management programme for the London 2012 Games, where TfL had set up a Freight Delivery Unit and will continue the Freight Forum, which brings together those making, receiving and managing freight and logistics in London, to build on the lessons from the Games. TfL issued a Code of Practice, encouraging the use of 'Quiet Deliveries' of goods during non-standard delivery hours, the success of which has led TfL to develop permanent guidance. This is expected to be published in early 2014. TfL notes that the Department for Transport has a commitment, from the Logistics Growth Review in 2011, to re-write its existing guidance on Quiet Deliveries, expected to be published in the summer incorporating lessons learned from the Games. The Business Secretary Vince Cable also published a government report highlighting the impact of the London Olympics on wider UK business. (Source: TfL)

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/media/newscentre/28308.aspx>

## Government announces £85 million for key technologies

Minister for Universities and Science Rt Hon David Willetts MP has announced £85 million of funding for three key technology areas. The Minister's announcement follows a call for proposals issued by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). Funding will be made available to more than 20 universities across the UK to support and strengthen existing research in the areas of Robotics and Autonomous systems, Advanced Materials, and Grid-scale energy storage. David Willetts said: "For Britain to get ahead in the global race we have to back emerging technologies and ensure our universities have the latest equipment. This capital investment will help scientists make new discoveries and take their research through to commercial success. It will drive growth and support the Government's industrial strategy." (Source: EPSRC)

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/newsevents/news/2013/Pages/85million.aspx>



## Week ahead

**The House of Commons is in recess until 2 September.**

**House of Lords**

No relevant business

The House of Lords rises for recess on 31 July, returning on 8 October.