



Press Release

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CECA: Transport Investment Strategy Will Drive Post-Brexit Growth

Civils contractors have welcomed the Government's launch of a new transport investment plan that prioritises rebalancing the economy.

Unveiling the strategy, Transport Secretary the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP described it as “a blueprint for how we can harness the power of transport investment to drive balanced economic growth.”

A key part of the proposals are the Government's announcement that it will be consulting on plans for a ‘Major Road Network’, which would see a share of the annual National Roads Fund, funded by Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), given to local authorities to invest in local roads.

Commenting, Director of External Affairs for the Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) Marie-Claude Hemming said: “CECA believes that substantial underinvestment outside London and the South East is a key cause of everyday challenges on regional transport networks. In the long term, this contributes to reduced business investment, growth and productivity.

“CECA is also a keen advocate of rebalancing the economy, and has argued that all nations and regions in the UK must be given the opportunity to become powerhouses in their own right.

“We are particularly pleased that the Government has committed to prioritising predictable funding and a stable long-term pipeline of projects, which provides the certainty our members need to deliver schemes on time and on budget.

“Proposals for a ‘Major Roads Network’ should also be welcomed, as they will enable local authorities to target investment where it is needed, to the benefit of road users and the taxpayer.

“Investment in transport will be central to securing the economy and driving post-Brexit growth. The challenge now is to ensure the Government's investment plans are implemented as quickly as possible to deliver a transport infrastructure that is fit for the 21st century.”

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Notes to Editors

1. The Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) represents over 300 contractors of all sizes, covering approximately 80% of the civil engineering market in Great Britain. Our members build infrastructure that provides the basis for economic sustainability and quality of life in communities across the country.

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