

ITC NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2013

RESEARCH UPDATE

The Spatial Effects of High Speed Rail: 'Capturing the Opportunity'

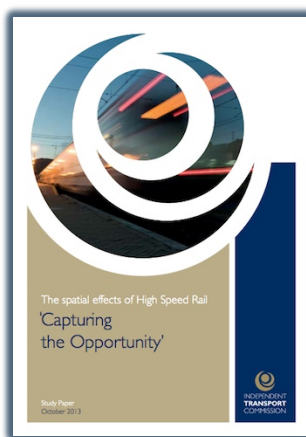


The ITC's workshop series looking at the effects of High Speed Rail on our cities and regions continued over the summer with events in Leeds, Manchester and London. A concluding symposium was held on the 23rd July in London, with guest speakers including David Prout, Director-General of HSR at the Department for Transport, Professor Sir Peter Hall from University College London, and Dominique Laousse, Head of Foresight and Innovation at SNCF.

More than 80 leading experts attended, and the discussion identified the extent to which HSR could act as a catalyst for local regeneration and growth if it was planned well and appropriate complementary measures were adopted. It was clear that capacity release and improved connectivity would be the chief benefits arising from a new line, and that cities and regions need to start planning now to improve local connections and investment.

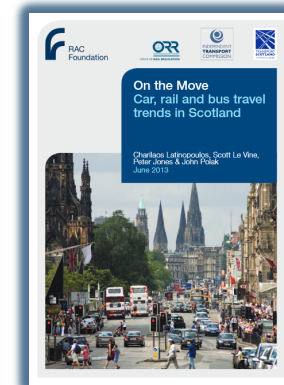
Following the series, the ITC is releasing a Study Paper providing an overview of the work conducted so far, including a summary of the ITC Call for Evidence and insights on the spatial effects of HSR from the ITC workshops and London Symposium. The paper also draws on this work to recommend some key messages for policy makers on how best to capture the opportunities provided by HSR. This paper will be submitted to the Growth Task Force led by Lord Deighton as a contribution to the Task Force's thinking.

The next phase of the study will be examining lessons we can learn from Europe about the effects of HSR on cities and regions, and seeing how we can incorporate those insights into UK planning. As part of this investigation a Symposium is being planned for Lille in February 2014 to learn from experience in France and the Netherlands.



On the Move: Car, rail and bus travel trends in Scotland

As part of the ITC's ongoing research into changing travel trends, a new report, co-sponsored by the ITC, RAC Foundation, ORR and Transport Scotland, has been released which investigates car, rail and bus travel trends in Scotland. The report uses the National Travel Survey and Scottish Household Survey to uncover changing travel patterns, and also the relationship between online activity and physical travel. The findings from the study show that Scotland has experienced similar trends to the rest of the UK, with overall car travel static in recent years, falling car licence holding by younger men, a dramatic fall in company car usage, and a sharp rise in rail patronage. In addition, the study revealed that in Scotland the length of time internet users spend online was negatively linked to car driving. Following the study a number of recommendations were made regarding improvements to the Scottish Household Survey.



The project partners will now be looking to update the main 'On the Move' report to investigate travel trends during the 2008-12 economic crisis, as well as more substantial work on the factors driving these changes in travel behaviour.

Van Travel in Great Britain

The ITC has commissioned research into van travel trends from Imperial College London as part of our mission to explore road and rail travel trends. The report, which is being released in October 2013, explores why van travel is rising in the Road Traffic Estimates but falling in the National Travel Survey. It identifies that van drivers are overwhelmingly male, in middle age, and self-employed, but also shows that the definition of what constitutes a van is changing. The report makes a series of recommendations for improving data collection on vans in order that we have a better insight into this important dimension of road travel.

For more information on recent ITC research and events please see our website: www.theitc.org.uk

To request copies of ITC reports please email: secretary@theitc.org.uk

ITC EVENTS

18TH JUNE ITC INAUGURAL ANNUAL LECTURE

Fusion: Feasibility and the Future of Transport

The first in the ITC's new series of Annual Lectures took place on 18 June 2013 in the magnificent surroundings of the Science Museum, London. To open the lecture series a welcome address was given by UK Transport Minister Stephen Hammond MP, and guests listened to a fascinating presentation by Professor Steve Cowley, Director of the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, and Professor Richard Parry-Jones CBE, Chairman of Network Rail.



The lecture explored how the UK was leading the search for a viable means of producing energy from nuclear fusion, and how this might transform the future of travel by providing a very cheap, sustainable and pollution-free source of electricity. The event was attended by over 100 leading figures from the transport and land use sectors, and a video of the lecture can be viewed via the following link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHuCSIVe_LA

10TH JULY DISCUSSION EVENING

Improving the efficiency of UK freight movements: the contribution to growth

An efficient freight transport system is of crucial importance to the UK economy, and it is vital we understand how we can best achieve this. The ITC has commissioned a research work stream to investigate how we can improve the efficiency of UK freight movements, and to mark the launch of this study an evening of discussion and debate was held at the Alan Baxter Gallery on the 10th July 2013.



Insights on freight practices were offered by Jolyon Drury, Chairman of the Public Policies Committee CILT(UK); Maggie Simpson, Executive Director of the Rail Freight Group; and Peter Harris, UPS Director of Sustainability for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The debate was chaired by ITC Commissioner Nicholas Finney OBE, and ITC Patron The Rt Hon The Lord Freeman gave a response.

Key issues raised by the audience included the need for greater co-operation within the industry to realise efficiency gains, the importance of addressing a skills shortage in the sector, the need to consider freight in the context of other policy issues, and the importance of balancing sustainability with the search for efficiency. Delegates also noted the importance of putting additional investment into the UK's transport infrastructure. The ITC study team will now take into account these issues in their ongoing research work.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

22nd October: ITC Discussion Evening on Rural Transport 6:15 to 9:00pm at the Alan Baxter Gallery, London

This discussion evening will explore how we can improve the provision and accessibility of transport in rural areas of the UK. The evening will be chaired by ITC Commissioner Dr Stephen Hickey, and confirmed guest speakers include Bill Freeman (Chief Executive of the Community Transport Association), John Birtwistle (Projects Director at FirstGroup) and Peter Warman (Director of WarmanConsult). A light supper will be served for guests after the debate.

3rd December: Annual Dinner for Core Benefactors hosted by Lord Adonis 7:00 to 10:30pm at the House of Lords, Westminster

We are delighted to announce that our 2013 Annual Dinner for Core Benefactors will this year be hosted by our distinguished Patron **Lord Adonis** in the magnificent surroundings of the Attlee Room at the House of Lords.

This will be an opportunity for us to thank our Core supporters and Patrons as well as to review this year's achievements.

All our core supporters will receive invitations to these events; for enquiries please email Lucy Kilborn, ITC Events Secretary, at itc.events@outlook.com