

ITC NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017/18

RESEARCH UPDATE

HOW WILL LEAVING THE EU AFFECT UK TRANSPORT?



Following the outcome of the 2016 Referendum the UK Government has been preparing to leave the EU. While much discussion has focused on the economic impacts of this process, the Independent Transport Commission (ITC) believes that the transport aspects have been neglected. To remedy this the ITC ran a major consultation exercise with our corporate members in early 2017 collecting evidence and viewpoints on the key issues that the Government must take into account in its negotiations with the EU. This resulted in the production and release of an ITC Occasional Paper in July 2017 providing an overview of crucial issues affecting the transport sector as a result of leaving the EU, with the aim of raising awareness of these within Government and the civil service. The paper was drafted by a team of ITC experts using the evidence and material supplied by

supporters in our consultation in order to provide an industry-led perspective on the key issues that need to be taken into account to help ensure the smoothest possible transition.

The paper addresses concerns in relation to four key areas: the movement of people and goods, funding and financing schemes associated with the EU, regulations and standards, and passenger rights. It was sent to Ministers in a number of Government departments, and the paper's findings were praised by the UK Transport in Europe association body.

NEW ITC CALL FOR EVIDENCE: THE CONTRIBUTION OF PEAK AND OFF-PEAK TRAVEL TO THE URBAN ECONOMY

As part of the ITC's new 'Cities and Infrastructure' workstream we have agreed to explore changing patterns of peak and off peak travel in our cities in order to understand better what is driving these changes and also their impact on our urban economies. There is some indication that a broader 'peak' travel period is related to the size and vitality of a city, but its economic and social consequences are not well understood. From a policy perspective there exists a tension between the advantages cities draw from a busy peak in terms of justifying major investment in transport infrastructure and services, and the problems it causes as a result of congestion and overcrowding.

To inform this study the ITC has launched a nationwide **Call for Evidence** to understand the extent of current knowledge on peak and off peak travel patterns in urban areas and how these are valued. We are keen to receive any relevant information and evidence on these issues in order to ensure that the ITC's research will be directed at filling knowledge gaps. For more information, or to respond with evidence, please contact project research assistant Saphia Haffeejee at saphia@theitc.org.uk.

THE STRATEGIC CHALLENGES FACING UK AVIATION

UK aviation policy has been dominated for many years by the debate on whether and where to develop airport capacity in the South East. Now that the Government has announced its conclusions, the time is ripe to look forward. The ITC therefore commissioned a broader strategic review of the aviation sector and air connectivity in order to uncover the wider significance of these for the UK economy, and the challenges that lie ahead.

This research involved an extensive industry consultation during Summer 2017, in response to which we received responses from many organisations across the breadth of the aviation sector. The material submitted has been analysed and compiled into a major new report by former Bank of England economist Dr Rebecca Driver, entitled **The Strategic Challenges facing UK aviation: assessing the future of air connectivity**.

The report was launched with our corporate members and industry leaders at a special dinner discussion hosted by Eversheds Sutherland on 20 November 2017, at which National Infrastructure Commission Chairman and ITC Patron Lord Adonis gave an address. Based on wide-ranging analysis of existing economic evidence, the report highlights the importance of the aviation sector, and the global 'connectivity' it provides for individuals and families, for businesses across the country, for the productivity of the UK economy, and more widely for jobs, skills and wages.

The findings will now be shared with Ministers and civil servants, and we will be consulting with the industry and policy makers to determine on which of these strategic challenges the ITC should focus its attention.

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

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



ITC EVENTS

21ST JUNE 2017 THE FIFTH ITC ANNUAL LECTURE

Transport and Health: a symbiotic relationship?



The ITC was delighted to welcome more than 100 supporters and eminent figures from across the transport and land use worlds, as well as the health sector, for our Fifth Annual Lecture. The ITC's Annual Lecture series, which was inaugurated in 2013, explores major strategic questions that will affect the future of transport as well as its connections to other policy areas. This year's Lecture was hosted in the heart of London at No. 11 Cavendish Square by the internationally renowned health research unit,

the King's Fund, and explored the important policy relationships that exist between transport, travel and health.

To lecture on this subject, ITC welcomed a highly distinguished panel. **Sir Mark Walport FRS**, Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government, gave a welcome address outlining the importance of understanding connections between major policy areas. To deliver the main double Lecture, the audience listened to speeches from **Simon Stevens**, the Chief Executive of NHS England, and **Tricia Hayes**, Director-General of Roads, Motoring and Devolution at the Department for Transport.

Mr Stevens explored the way in which transport systems had an impact upon our health, both positively and negatively. In particular, air pollution from transport was becoming a major concern. He also focused on the role that transport had to play in changing healthcare patterns. Two main trends were at work, he noted: one towards a greater concentration of specialist services, and the other towards a diffusion of more basic services at the local level. Transport would be important for delivering both. Ms Hayes replied in her talk by explaining her increasing interest in the role transport policy could play in improving health through active travel. Transport also helped to spread well being, ensuring better provision of health services and enabling rural communities to stay connected.

Following the lectures a lively question and answer session was held. A number of key issues were raised, including the need for policy makers in health and transport to work together more closely. A full report on the event can be found on the ITC website.

26TH OCTOBER ITC AUTUMN DISCUSSION EVENING

What will be the impact of aerial drones on transport?

The ITC's Autumn Discussion Evening tackled one of the most significant transport technological developments in recent years: the proliferation of aerial drones for civilian and non-military uses. With a range of opportunities now existing to extend the use of drones into areas including search and rescue, cargo deliveries, and passenger transport, the ITC welcomed a distinguished panel and audience to debate the likely policy impacts of this new technology and how it could best be managed and harnessed for the benefit of society.



Chaired by ITC Commissioner and host **Dr Stephen Hickey**, over 60 senior experts attended and the subject was introduced through talks from a panel comprising **Professor Tom Cherrett** of the University of Southampton, **Tim Johnson**, Director of Policy at the CAA, and **Olivier Usher**, Head of Challenge Prize research at NESTA. ITC Patron **Lord Freeman** also explained how he was advancing the question of drone safety in Parliament. Key issues raised in the discussion included the need for better regulation of aerial drones, and a better understanding of the wide range of different uses that drones had. The prospect of passenger drones was also explored, as well as concerns about the safety of operations and the potential for abuse by terrorists. Finally, several delegates noted that drone use would ultimately be affected by international developments and standards.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

6th December 2017: ITC Annual Benefactors Dinner

7:00 to 10:00pm, House of Lords, Hosted by ITC Patron Lord Freeman

The ITC is delighted to welcome our core benefactors to our Annual Dinner, this year hosted in the magnificent surroundings of the Attlee Room at the House of Lords.

21st February 2018: Discussion Evening exploring the future for Private Hire

6:15 to 9:00pm at the Cowcross Street Gallery, London

Join us to explore the future prospects for private hire and taxis in Britain

All our supporters receive invitations to our core events; for enquiries please email Lucy Kilborn, ITC Events Secretary, at events@theitc.org.uk