



INSTITUTE OF THE  
MOTOR INDUSTRY

# POLICY DRIVE

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## HOUSE OF COMMONS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

A new report published by the House of Commons Education Select Committee, claims that modern apprenticeships are not offering high-quality training and many people from disadvantaged backgrounds are missing out on apprenticeship opportunities.

The report, *The Apprenticeships Ladder of Opportunity, quality not quantity*, discusses the findings of the Education Committee's 'the quality of apprenticeships and skills training inquiry', launched at the start of the year.

The publication offers a series of recommendations, such as increasing funding for small and medium-sized businesses to get young people on the career ladder, creating a kitemark system for good apprentice employers and an expanded role for Ofsted inspections.

Notably, the report recommends that Ofqual should be given responsibility for the external quality assurance of all end-point assessments.



## MARKET REPORT: ELECTRIC VEHICLES USED MARKET

MotorTrader has released a market report assessing the impact of the rise in the demand for electric vehicles (EV's) on the used car market.

The report contains contributions from key individuals working in the automotive retail market. Notably, Philip Nothard of *Manheim*, a leading UK provider of products and services for the vehicle remarketing sector, highlights dealer concerns of the maintenance and servicing of EV's:

"Labour intensive servicing requirements that impact on business efficiencies and productivity, are often cited as reasons for dealers to steer away from EV's. Specialist storage requirements, safety concerns and a lack of skilled, specialist technicians to service the vehicles are further concerns".

## CBI URGES FURTHER APPRENTICESHIP LEVY REFORM

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer Phillip Hammond, urging further reform to the apprenticeship levy ahead of the next budget. Hammond had already unveiled a series of reforms to the levy at the Conservative Party Conference, such as the raising of the annual apprenticeship levy transfer facility from 10 to 25%. However, the CBI says that more needs to be done to tackle the UK's skills shortage. Specifically, the group calls on the Government to make it easier for small businesses (SME's) to access apprenticeship levy funds.



## IPCC CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT

A new report published by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), says that governments around the world must take "rapid-far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society to avoid disastrous levels of global warming".

The report also warns that there are only 12 years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5°C. Any temperatures beyond will have devastating consequences for the planet. Therefore, the automotive sector has a vital role to play in advocating for research, development and investment into greener technologies, in order to reduce the harmful effects of anthropogenic global warming and ensure vulnerable animals, environments, and humans get to live in safe and sustainable climates.



## PLUG-IN GRANT TO BE REMOVED



The Government is set to slash financial grants for electric vehicles, which could see the price of some electric models more expensive to buy.

The plug-in car grant allows car dealerships and manufacturers to reduce the price that consumers pay for brand new hybrid and electric vehicles. It currently stands at a maximum of £4,500 for electric vehicles.

Whilst the grant has been promised until 2020, the current rates offered are due to expire at the end of October, and it is now believed that the Treasury will need to secure emergency funding in order for the scheme to continue.

## BBC WITHDRAW FROM T-LEVEL WORK PLACEMENTS



In a blow to the government's forthcoming T-Level qualifications, the BBC has decided to withdraw from scheduled T-Level digital work placements for 2020.

The corporation had been due to offer industry placements in digital as part of a pilot programme, but has now instead decided to withdraw, citing the "need, dependencies and risks associated with having under 18s in our workforce" and costly Department for Education (DfE) requirements.

## NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR FAIRER FUNDING



Representatives of the Association of Colleges, the University and College Union, Unison and the National Union of Students, will march through London on the 17th October to demand extra funding for the further education sector.

The march will form part of the *Colleges Week* campaign, created by the Association of Colleges, to put pressure on the government to release extra funds for further education.

## JAGUAR LAND ROVER SHUT DOWN



Jaguar Land Rover is to shut down its plant in Solihull for two weeks at the end of October.

The carmaker cites weakening global demand, particularly a decline in sales from China and falling diesel sales as reasons for its decision to close temporarily.



## COX AUTOMOTIVE AND GRANT THORNTON PRODUCE CAR RETAIL INSIGHT REPORT

Cox Automotive and Grant Thornton have produced an analysis of the car retail market, covering diesel car sales, vehicle ownership trends and consolidation in the franchised dealer sector.

The report tackles questions such as: *How will the new and used car markets perform during the rest of this year? What will become the future fuel of choice? What are the barriers as we drive towards Mobility as a Service (MaaS)?*



## SMMT LAUNCHES CONTINGENCY PROGRAM FOR NO-DEAL BREXIT

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) has launched a “contingency aid package” to safeguard small and medium sized businesses (SME’s), operating in the automotive sector in the event of a ‘no-deal’ Brexit.

The SMMT claims that SME’s will lack the resources to prepare adequately for the dramatic, and immediate changes to trading conditions between the UK and EU in the event of ‘no-deal’.

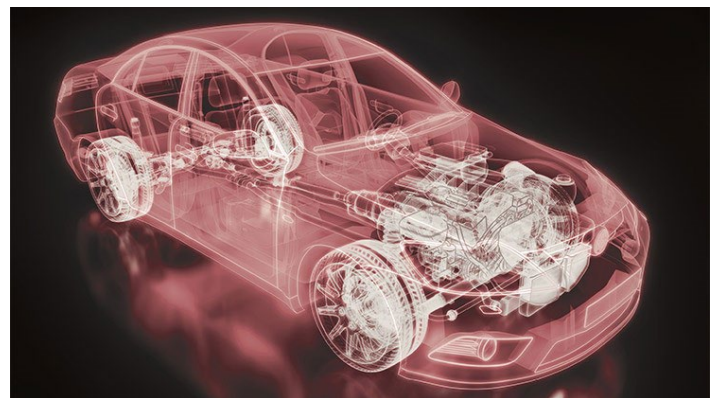
SMMT boss Mike Hawes said: “A no-deal Brexit could have devastating consequences. With the clock ticking on negotiations, businesses must plan for all eventualities, including the worst. Our new support package seeks to mitigate the threat of no-deal by helping businesses navigate the complex trade realities of a post-Brexit landscape.”



## TRANSFORMING VEHICLE PRODUCTION: HOW SHARED MOBILITY AND AUTOMATION WILL REVOLUTIONISE THE AUTO INDUSTRY BY 2030

A new report from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) makes a series of predictions regarding the state of the global automotive industry by 2030. The report’s key predictions include:

- ◆ Standardised, shared vehicles to get from ‘A to B’ will account for at least 30 percent of the market in Europe, with a greater proportion expected in the U.S and Asia.
- ◆ The size of the workforce on assembly lines and in body and paint shops will be halved because of automation and the new types of vehicles being assembled.
- ◆ The number of shop-floor logistics roles will be reduced by around 60 percent, partially because humans will be replaced by autonomously guided vehicles.
- ◆ The number of data engineers required will almost double in some types of plants, and increase by 80% in others. While the number of software engineers needed will rise by as much as 90%.
- ◆ The time required between R&D and the point of production is expected to shrink from the current three to five years, down to two years, to keep pace with technological changes.



## FUTURE PROOFING: AUTONOMOUS TECHNOLOGY AND THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

Writing in the Telegraph, Oliver Pickup discusses how autonomous technology will change the motor industry and how car manufacturers can benefit from the new technologies.