Westminster *e*Forum and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:
Next steps for connected and autonomous vehicles
Timing: Morning, Monday, 14th December 2026
*****Taking place online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

9.05 **Connected and autonomous vehicles in the UK - developments, deployment and implications for wider transport**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **Vehicle approval and certification for automated vehicles - standards, requirements and readiness for deployment**
Senior representative, regulation

9.40 **Implementation of the *Automated Vehicles Act 2024* - authorisation, licensing, and the route to deployment**
sequencing remaining legal, regulatory and operational milestones ahead of 2027 | *developing secondary legislation, authorisation and licensing arrangements* | *Automated Passenger Services permits and local consent - roles, capacity and access to information* | *assessing the Statement of Safety Principles* | *in-use monitoring and allocation of responsibility across manufacturers, software developers, operators and regulators* | *data access, insurance and liability* | *scope for proportionate variation in requirements according to the type of service, level of risk and operating environment* | *transition from supervised operation to services without a safety driver* | *implications for investment and market confidence*
James Connolly, Lead for Autonomous Vehicle and Future Mobility Strategy, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
John Birtwistle, Head of Policy, First Bus
Senior representative, manufacturer
Senior representative, legal

10.00 Questions and comments from the floor

10.25 **Safety assurance for autonomous vehicles - evidence, standards, in-use oversight and real-world performance**
Professor Saber Fallah, Professor, Safe AI and Autonomy; and Director, Connected Autonomous Vehicle Research Lab, University of Surrey

10.35 **Road safety, public confidence and priorities for responsible deployment**
Rebecca Guy, Senior Policy Manager, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

10.45 Questions and comments from the floor

11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

11.10 Break

11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

11.25 **Preparing the road network for autonomous vehicles**
Joanna White, Director, Engineering, National Highways
Questions and comments from the floor

11.45 **Transition from trials to commercial deployment - evidence, investment and commercial viability**
Senior representative, industry

11.55 **Wider deployment of connected and autonomous mobility - commercial models, workforce and inclusive deployment**
commercially viable use cases and routes to wider deployment | *passenger, freight, logistics and specialist applications* | *interaction with existing transport services and markets* | *workforce, skills and transition* | *accessibility and passenger assistance without a driver* | *infrastructure requirements, local authority readiness and access across urban, suburban and rural areas*
Jamie Sands, Head, Solutions, Welch Group
Dr Raphael Grech, Technical Strategist, Research Director, Keysight Technologies
Senior representative, workforce
Senior analyst

12.15 Questions and comments from the floor

12.40 **Next steps for connected and autonomous vehicles - policy, regulation and priorities for deployment**
Ruth Cadbury MP, Chair, Transport Select Committee
Questions and comments from the floor

13.05 **Chair's and Westminster Forum Projects closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Howard, Westminster Forum Projects