





National Infrastructure Commission Outlines Key to Solving National Issues

The National Infrastructure Commission has recently published a detailed report on the state of UK infrastructure, outlining long-standing policy issues, as well as key priorities to enable growth.

The Commission identified the 3 C's as the basis for improving infrastructure: Congestion; Capacity; and Carbon.

Please click **here** for more information.

Inrix Releases Startling Congestion Statistics

Whether it is lost productivity time through commuter jams, or the haulage industry missing delivery targets, the issue of congestion across the country is reaching a critical point.



Traffic analysis experts, Inrix,recently reported that between September 2016 and August 2017 there were around 3,700 traffic jams per day across the UK.

Please click here for more information.



Transport Infrastructure Dominates Ministerial Visit

Black Country Chamber of Commerce members and local authority leaders were recently hosted by Andy Street at Wolverhampton University to discuss local business issues with Andrew Jones MP, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury.

The discussions outlined the hunger of business leaders to resolve the issues facing the Black Country, with the agenda including transport and digital infrastructure.

Please click **here** to read the full article.

Fears for Rail Freight Future Raised at Transport-led Development in the Midlands 2017 Conference

Robin C. Smith, West Midlands representative for the Rail Freight Group, this week urged that mixed-use rail infrastructure development is key for the UK, saving 76% of HGV movements from strategic road networks.

Although currently, rail freight movement only accounts for 10-11% of all UK freight movement, it is worth an estimated £30billion to the UK economy.



Whilst there are plans in the pipeline for strategic rail freight interchanges, there is a growing fear that rail freight is being ignored with large-scale rail developments.

Please click **here** to email me for more information.

Transport Policy Group Meeting

Our Transport Policy Group will next be meeting on **5th December 2017** at **9.30am** to discuss transport and infrastructure issues that are affecting the region. We will also be discussing how the Black Country can take advantage of devolved projects and opportunities through the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Confirmed speakers include Stuart Everton, Black Country Director of Transport, and Sarah Spink, Stakeholder Engagement Manager at Midlands Connect.

Please click <u>here</u> to email me if you are interested in getting involved in this meeting. Please note, places are limited.