

[Guidance: Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): symptoms, transmission, prevention, treatment](#)

The symptoms, means of transmission, best means of prevention and treatment of RSV.

[Consultation outcome: Updating the UK plan for shipments of waste](#)

Seeking views on the updated UK plan for shipments of waste.

[Vaccine-carrying drones and self-driving cars: government fund backs cutting-edge innovation](#)

- Multi-million government fund backs local authorities and regulators that are helping businesses to unleash innovation across the UK
- 21 initiatives backed by latest round of Regulators' Pioneer Fund includes the development of standards for drones to carry medical supplies
- Business Minister Lord Callanan: These projects will help bring benefits to British businesses and consumers alike

Regulators are clearing the runway for drones to transport vaccines and other life-saving drugs, in a ground-breaking venture funded by government.

The project, to be run by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), is one of [21 bold new initiatives](#) backed by the government's Regulators' Pioneer Fund to propel cutting-edge innovation across the UK.

The Fund supports projects led by regulators and local authorities that help support the country's regulatory environment to keep pace with technological advances of the future – benefiting both entrepreneurs and consumers.

Using its grant, the CAA will develop world-first standards for special containers that will allow drones to safely carry sensitive goods like medical products, so that remote communities can access critical supplies without delay. At present, there is no regime anywhere in the world for testing and approving these containers to make sure that they do not leak even in the event of a crash.

The aviation regulator has also received money to create a service for the public to report safety concerns about drones, while Oxfordshire County Council has won funding to help innovators understand their legal requirements when setting up new trials in the drone industry.

Business Minister Lord Callanan said:

Good regulation should spur entrepreneurship, not stand in its way, and this Fund will keep the UK at the cutting-edge of innovation.

The projects we are supporting could pave the way for exciting developments across a range of sectors, from drone technology to healthcare, all of which will bring benefits to British businesses and consumers alike.

In total, 21 projects received a share of £3.7 million of funding, and winning projects include:

- Oxfordshire County Council – in collaboration with the Met Office, Ordnance Survey, and others – received £198,000 to develop a tool to help self-driving car developers know when they can conduct trials
- The Health and Safety Executive received £198,000 for a project to support construction companies to share information about dangerous incidents to help prevent injuries
- Cornwall Council received £200,000 to improve the monitoring of harmful algal blooms that can enter the food chain through shellfish, leading to sickness and product recalls
- The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency received £200,000 for a hub bringing together businesses and regulators in the Grangemouth Industrial cluster to move towards a net zero economy

This investment comes on top of the £10 million awarded by the Fund from 2018 to 2020, which saw approximately £700,000 provided to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency to develop synthetic datasets, supporting the development of cutting-edge medical technologies to fight coronavirus (COVID-19) and cardiovascular disease.

The Fund is part of wider government work on regulation. This includes the recent [Reforming the Framework for Better Regulation consultation](#) and the Better Regulation Committee, chaired by the Chancellor, which is driving an ambitious reform agenda to ensure the UK's regulatory framework is fit for purpose and delivers the government's strategic objectives.

The funding was awarded following an assessment process conducted earlier

this year. The full list of winning applicants in this round of funding, subject to agreement of contracts, are:

- The Care Quality Commission received £169,000 to support innovation by GPs to reduce health inequalities in areas of deprivation, through better regulatory recognition and sharing of best practice
- The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) received £55,000 to trial the use of special containers to allow drones to carry sensitive goods such as medical samples
- The CAA also received £198,000 to look at options for creating a service that would allow drones owners and the general public to report safety concerns for investigation
- Cornwall Council received £198,000 to improve monitoring of harmful algal blooms that can enter the food supply chain through shellfish causing illness and necessitating product recalls
- The Costs Lawyer Standards Board received £58,000 to conduct a research project aimed at exploring potential ways to reduce the cost of legal services
- The Drinking Water Inspectorate received £170,000 to create a one-stop-shop with Ofwat and the Environment Agency to make it easier for innovators to obtain advice on navigating regulatory barriers in the water and sewerage industry
- The Environment Agency received £175,000 to help design systems to support sustainable economic growth within the Tees valley Freeport
- The Environment Agency has received £195,000 to standardise environmental metrics for food businesses that go beyond legal baselines
- The Greater London Authority received £200,000 to research potential regulatory changes to support collaborative streetworks across the UK's utility companies
- The Health and Safety Executive received £198,000 to develop proposals to increase data-sharing in the construction sector, to help prevent injuries
- The Information Commissioner's office received £182,000 to develop new regulatory guidance and host a series of 'techsprints' to improve businesses' confidence around the use of privacy-enhancing technologies.
- The Information Commissioner's office also received £187,000 to build a case for a direct advice service to innovators on the data protection implications of their new ideas
- The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency received £194,000 to research how adaptive AI algorithms in medical devices change and how to regulate their decisions
- The Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult and National Institute for Biological Standards and Control received £200,000 for a collaboration aimed at harmonising the measurements used for Adeno-associated virus (AAV) Gene Therapy
- Oxfordshire County Council – in collaboration with the Met Office, Ordnance Survey, Warwick Manufacturing Group and National Physical Laboratory – received £198,000 to develop a tool to help self-driving car developers know when they can conduct trials
- Oxfordshire County Council also received £169,000 to enable trials of drones by establishing a framework for understanding legal compliance

requirements

- The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency received £200,000 for a hub bringing together businesses and regulators in the Grangemouth Industrial cluster to move towards a net zero economy
- The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency also received £200,000 to develop a one-stop-shop Knowledge Hub to address regeneration challenges
- The Security Industry Authority received £192,000 to improve interactions between the regulator and businesses that need to vet private security contractors
- The Solicitors Regulation Authority received £167,000 to address regional inequalities in access to justice, by demonstrating the feasibility of new legal technology tools
- West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service received £195,000 to build a web-based 'Fire Safety Awareness Tool' for businesses

[Engagement into plans for cycle route reaches final week](#)

Press release

A public engagement asking for views on new plans for a cycling and walking route to be created on the south coast has entered its final week.



An artist's impression of what the new cycle and pedestrian route will look like at Nutbourne

National Highways launched the engagement on plans for a six-mile long route which will link Chichester with Emsworth along the A259 on 22 July.

The route, which is currently part of the National Cycle Network route 2, will link into the Centurion Way (former railway conversion) and other local routes on the Manhood peninsula towards Chichester.

The improvement will also link several schools, and will enable more people to leave their cars at home and cycle or walk safely to work or school, helping to improve air quality in the area.

National Highways project manager Adrianna Chirovici said:

There's just one week to go of this engagement and I urge anyone interested in the scheme to visit our virtual exhibition to find out more about the proposals and share their thoughts with us. Peoples' feedback on our proposals will help us develop plans and deliver improvements which will benefit health, safety and the wider environment.

For full details of the engagement and how to get involved please visit the [West Sussex County Council website](#). The engagement is set to finish on Thursday 23 September when the team will start the process of analysing all feedback and continue to develop the proposals to maximise the benefits for everyone.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.

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[Collision between train and part of lorry at Penistone](#)

News story

Collision between train and part of lorry at Penistone, South Yorkshire, 27 August 2021.



The train and lorry after the accident (image courtesy of Network Rail)

At around 08:48 hrs on 27 August 2021, a passenger train travelling from Huddersfield to Sheffield struck the stabiliser leg of a lorry parked next to the track. The lorry's stabiliser legs were deployed as its crane was being used to lift portable welfare facilities onto its flatbed. There were no injuries, but the lorry and the train were both damaged.

We have undertaken a [preliminary examination](#) into the circumstances surrounding this incident. Having assessed the evidence which has been gathered to date, we have decided to publish a [safety digest](#).

The safety digest will be made available on our website in the next few weeks.

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