

[National Statistics: Historical national statistics notices on milk utilisation by dairies, 2021](#)

Previously published copies of the monthly National Statistics publication on the volume of milk used by dairies.

[Official Statistics: Historical statistic notices on movement testing for tuberculosis \(TB\) in Cattle in Great Britain](#)

Previously published quarterly statistic notices on the movement testing for tuberculosis (TB) in cattle in Great Britain.

[Vision set out for a once-in-a-lifetime digital revolution that will fundamentally change National Highways' roads](#)

Other initiatives that could lead the charge on a digital revolution for roads include intelligent road materials able to repair themselves and more connected and autonomous plant.

These are some of the systems set to be rolled out as part of National Highways' Digital Roads strategy which is being outlined today on a new [Digital Roads website](#) and 'virtual learning environment'.

The web pages clearly set out the company's Digital Roads 2025 vision and how the growth of digital technology and the move to electric, connected and autonomous vehicles will fundamentally change roads in the future.

National Highways Executive Director of Strategy and Planning Elliot Shaw said:

We are at the beginning of a digital revolution on our roads network, a once-in-a-century transformation which will fundamentally change how our roads are designed, built, operated and used.

The Digital Roads journey, the strategy that will create the roads of the future, is huge. It covers every aspect of the roads infrastructure from design and construction, to how roads are operated to the changing experience for all road users.

Digital Roads will make our roads safer and greener. Improvements and maintenance will be delivered more quickly with less disruption and road users will have a far better end-to-end journey experience, with savings on time and the cost of travel.

National Highways, formerly Highways England, is laying the foundations of the Digital Roads vision with several ambitious partnerships working at the forefront of technology.

The road twinning system is being developed in collaboration with UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), the EU MSCA COFUND programme, construction and engineering company Costain and the University of Cambridge. It will see drawings and static models replaced with digital versions that can identify when maintenance is needed.

The system is being developed thanks to two grants: the £8.6 million EPSRC Digital Roads Prosperity Partnership grant and the £6 million EU MSCA COFUND Future Roads Fellowships programme.

The University of Cambridge Principal Investigator of these grants Dr Ioannis Brilakis said:

It is high time the transportation infrastructure sector embraces digital transformation. We should strive to replace drawings and static 3D models with dynamic and data-rich Digital Twins, pdf documents with databases, file exchange with cloud permissions exchange, passive materials with smart materials able to sense and heal themselves and automate all manual routine maintenance. All this is possible on a data science foundation, able to generate rich, data-driven insights to help us make better decisions.

Combining 'live' data from intelligent materials in the existing road surface with a digital twinning system that visualises the road and its condition will identify when maintenance work is needed, with roads able to repair themselves using self-healing materials. This will dramatically reduce the

need for time consuming and costly on-site inspections, prevent unnecessary delays to drivers and reduce the emissions generated by roadworks.

Also in use or being developed are connected and autonomous plant, off-site fabrication and modular construction methods.

An automated cone laying machine that has been developed through National Highways' innovation fund

As well as reducing disruption for drivers, these steps will reduce the associated carbon emissions by around 50 per cent and help to meet the target of zero injuries or deaths on the network by 2040.

The Digital Roads vision for the strategic road network supports the Government's ambition of 'the UK being a world leader in shaping the future of transport' and supporting Britain's growth. For example, digital design and construction could reduce scheme delivery times by up to 50 per cent.

Roads Minister Baroness Vere said:

From digital road models that can predict where maintenance is needed on the real-life road network, to self-repairing road surfaces, and automated cone laying machines, we're committed to keeping the UK at the forefront of technological developments.

I'm therefore delighted that National Highways' vision reflects this, benefitting road users for many years to come with greener, smoother, safer journeys.

How the network is operated is becoming more automated and data driven. The use of technology enables National Highways to pre-empt situations rather than just responding to them. For example, sensor technology will forecast traffic levels, weather and environmental conditions enabling us to pre-emptively prepare and respond to situations.

Communication with drivers is improving, ensuring that accurate information is available to help plan journeys through their preferred digital channels. Longer term, the deployment of connected and autonomous vehicles is expected to drastically improve traffic flow and reduce incidents by up to 90 per cent.

Ian Patey, Immediate Past-Chair of ITS (UK), said:

National Highways' vision for Digital Roads will transform road transport in the UK; harnessing technology to create greener, safer, more inclusive and more reliable mobility – the embodiment of an Intelligent Transport System.

Visitors to the new website will be able to enter a 'virtual learning environment' with additional information about how National Highways will deliver its vision and the impact on road users, employees and companies in the supply chain.

The vision for Digital Roads also goes beyond 2025 and looks forward to 2050 and beyond. Freight platooning, personalised in-vehicle messaging as well as vehicles sharing data, and decluttered roads free from signage – these are some of the ambitions for the roads of the future.

National Highways recognises that realising the vision will rely on the continued support of the supply chain and stakeholders. We are preparing to launch a Digital Roads innovation competition later in the year looking for fresh ideas and involvement.

This will be funded through the Innovation and Modernisation designated fund. For more details about the National Highways Innovation and Research strategy visit [here](#).

Visit the [Digital Roads website](#).

General enquiries

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

Media enquiries

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

[Closed consultation: Waste prevention programme for England 2021](#)

Seeking views on our plans for the revised waste prevention programme for England.

[Charity Commission Annual Public](#)

Meeting 2021

News story

Charity Commission Chair, Ian Karet, our CEO and other directors invite you to the Annual Public Meeting on Thursday 30th September 2021 at 2pm.



You are invited to join our Annual Public Meeting on Thursday 30 September 2021 at 2pm.

Our Chair, Ian Karet will introduce the event and highlight the important role charities have played responding to the pandemic.

The Commission's Chief Executive, Dr Helen Stephenson will deliver a keynote address, providing insight into the Commission's work. The speech will report on our delivery of support and services to charities and outline our priorities and plans as the country recovers from the pandemic.

Our Chair will then host a Q&A session with Helen Stephenson and her executive team, taking questions from the public.

Details of how to submit a question to the panel will be provided during the broadcast.

About this Event

This year's meeting is a virtual event open to all members of the public and charity representatives.

We will be broadcasting live on the internet.

If you wish to join us for the event, please sign up below and we will send you a link for the live broadcast closer to the date.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/charitycommission/APM

We will also provide access to a British Sign Language interpreter for the event. Please sign up below if you require this service.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/charitycommission/APM/BSL.

Date & Time

Thursday 30 September 2021

14:00 – 15:30

Live on the [Charity Commission for England and Wales YouTube Channel](#).

If you have any questions about the event, please email events@charitycommission.gov.uk.

Our [privacy notice](#) for the live broadcast of our annual public meeting can be found on GOV.UK.

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