

[Press release: Hurricane Irma: statement from Priti Patel](#)

Commenting on the impact of Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean International Development Secretary, Priti Patel, said:

The thoughts of the British people are with all those affected by Hurricane Irma and Britain has already taken swift action to respond.

We have deployed three UK aid humanitarian experts to the region to help coordinate the response, and positioned a British naval ship with 40 Royal Marines, Army Engineers, and vehicles, tents and facilities to purify water on board.

Our staff are on standby, both in the UK and at post, to support any British people affected. We urge British Nationals in the affected area to closely monitor and follow Foreign Office and local travel advice.

[News story: Civil news: limits on emergency representation for JR work](#)

Make sure you understand the rules when self-granting emergency representation in the housing category.

Providers must ensure they do not carry out judicial review housing work we cannot pay them for when attempting to self-grant emergency representation via delegated functions. We know of several examples of this happening and firms should be reminded that delegated functions cannot be exercised for judicial review save for specified exceptions.

Exceptions for self-granting

Specific exceptions where self-granting emergency representation is possible includes:

- proceedings under Part VII Housing Act 1996 (as amended)
- section 21 National Assistance Act 1948 (as amended)
- section 20 Children Act 1989 (as amended)
- section 47(5) National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 (as amended)
- section 19(3) Care Act 2014 or

- section 36 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 These exceptions are dealt with in paragraph 5.3 (a) of the specification to the Standard Civil Contract – see link below.

Public interest cases

These are dealt with under paragraph 5.3 (b) of the Standard Civil Contract which states: “Public interest cases: you do not have the power to make a determination that a client qualifies for civil legal services on the grounds that the case has a significant wider public interest.”

Further information

[Standard Civil Contract 2015](#) – to download Standard Civil Contract 2015 specification (sections 1 to 6)

[News story: Civil news: pilot aims to cut paperwork for certificated work](#)

Deadline is 15 September 2017 for Bristol providers invited to take part in pilot scheme.

Bristol providers invited to join a pilot to simplify certificated work processes in certain family proceedings have until 15 September to respond.

The pilot scheme is due to start on Monday 25, September 2017 and those providers invited have been contacted directly.

The scheme will involve legal aid certificates being granted with a wider limitation for scope or costs restrictions.

This will allow providers to free up administrative time currently spent collating and submitting evidence before they can carry out work.

Why are we doing this?

We want to reduce the paper burden for providers because this will allow them to act more quickly for clients and spend less time having to contact us for further information.

There will be no changes to fee schemes, claimable work or Legal Aid Agency (LAA) evidence requirements and no impact on court proceedings.

It just means evidence LAA needs to see can be submitted when proceedings are concluded rather than upfront.

More time for complex work

An added benefit is that our caseworkers will have more time to spend on complex applications and providing a quality service.

[News story: LCV2017: high-performance carbon-reduction sports car unveiled](#)

HIPERCAR – which stands for High Performance Carbon Reduction – is a project by [Ariel Motor Company](#), [Delta Motorsport](#) and [Equipmake](#) to develop an ultra-high performance sports car with advanced carbon reduction technologies.

Phase one results were made public for the first time today at [Cenex-LCV](#). A number of prototypes are on show. This work was supported through a £2 million grant from Innovate UK.

The model sports car will be built at Ariel's facility in Somerset.

Bridging the route to market

Simon Edmonds, Director – Manufacturing and Materials, Innovate UK said:

Routes to market for new technologies – especially in automotive – are very challenging. Projects we fund like HIPERCAR bridge that gap and aid wider commercial exploitation in mass market vehicles in the future.

This exciting project pulls through a number of novel low emission technologies developed by UK based SMEs and deploys these in this stunning vehicle for the first time.

Anchoring low carbon tech in the UK

Simon Saunders, Director of Ariel said:

Developing another of the fastest cars in the world is important for Ariel, but anchoring the technology in this country and building a British supply chain is vital for the economy.

The government assistance through Innovate UK to us and other contributing projects has been vital in developing the many technologies and components featured in the vehicle.

This is an extremely advanced, cutting-edge car that brings together UK developed technology in every aspect of its design. The fact that it has been developed in the UK and supported by UK government agencies shows just how important the vehicle and the technology is to the UK automotive industry.

HIPERCAR prototype is unveiled at LCV2017.

Looking to the future

In addition, the project has received funding for its next phase from the Advanced Propulsion Centre (APC), worth £6 million. This will enable the team to carry out further testing, development and production.

Jon Beasley, Director of Technology and Projects at the APC said:

The HIPERCAR project is a great example of how smaller companies and members of the UK's niche vehicle network are creating opportunities to adopt, and bring to market, cutting-edge low-carbon technology through their future vehicle programmes.

This is one of a number of projects in APC's portfolio that is significantly reducing CO2 and safeguarding or creating jobs, in addition to developing UK automotive capability. APC8, the next round of funding, is now open.

[News story: Venturefest Scotland: business growth and innovation support](#)

If you're a high-growth small business or ambitious innovator you could benefit from attending this free business innovation event.

[Venturefest Scotland](#) gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to meet, collaborate and share expertise with other businesses and investors. It will take place on Wednesday 20 September 2017 at the [Glasgow Science Centre](#).

Innovate UK is supporting the event. Entry is free.

Free business advice

Delegates at Venturefest Scotland can access a [meet the expert](#) programme to help them progress their innovation. You can book appointments with experts

in tax, intellectual property, design, marketing, training, digital and finance.

There will also be expert speakers and workshop sessions on topics such as:

- uncovering the R&D tax relief hiding in your business
- how to hire for growth
- prototyping and making your idea come to life
- extracting value from your data
- legal basics, including corporate and intellectual property
- ways to raise finance or access grant funding
- how to protect your brand, including trade marks, designs and logos
- how the circular economy can unlock your potential for sustainable business growth

Innovate UK's Deputy Chief Executive, Kevin Baughan, is a keynote speaker.

You will also have the chance to view Innovate UK's infocus women in innovation photographic exhibition. This highlights female role models and aims to change perceptions of what it looks like to be a female innovator.

About the Venturefest Network

Innovate UK and the [Knowledge Transfer Network](#) launched the [Venturefest Network](#) in 2014. Its aim is to strengthen connectivity between innovators, investors and entrepreneurs.