

Contingent liability expertise

The Contingent Liability Central Capability (CLCC) is an analytical and advisory unit within [UK Government Investments \(UKGI\)](#).

The CLCC has been established to strengthen contingent liability expertise across government by improving the overall ability to manage the government's portfolio of risk from contingent liabilities.

This complements the existing support the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) provides to government departments on financial risks, including contingent liabilities.

What is a contingent liability?

A contingent liability represents a government commitment to possible future expenditure if specific adverse events occur.

Some contingent liabilities are loan guarantees where government agrees to pay the debts of a third party if they default. An example is the Export Development Guarantee scheme run by UK Export Finance.

Some other contingent liabilities include indemnities (protection similar to insurance) where government agrees to cover costs such as clinical negligence claims against NHS GPs.

The role of the CLCC

The CLCC team has a diverse skillset brought in by actuaries seconded from GAD, credit risk experts, policy professionals and analysts.

The team's main areas of focus are to:

1. provide departments with expert and timely analysis of proposed and existing contingent liabilities
2. build a database to collate information, review, and report on the government's overall portfolio of contingent liabilities
3. provide guidance and promote best practice across government

The team has also set up a network of contingent liability practitioners across Whitehall. The Contingent Liability Advisory Network provides a regular forum for discussing common issues.

Advice and support on contingent liabilities

Departments are encouraged to come to the CLCC with all issues related to new contingent liabilities, with early engagement particularly helpful for the team.

The CLCC will either be able to provide advice directly or they will signpost

you to GAD when our support is required.

The CLCC works very closely with GAD, and is designed to complement, rather than replace, GAD's existing support to departments.

Next steps

In the next few months, the CLCC will:

- conduct projects with selected departments to review their existing stock of contingent liabilities
- continue to provide advice and support on new contingent liabilities
- build on its network to share case studies and best practice

Get in touch

If you would like to discuss any contingent liability issues or would be interested in participating in the Contingent Liability Advisory Network, email: CLCC@ukgi.org.uk. You can also contact GAD at: enquiries@gad.gov.uk.

Public play key role in refined £1bn plan to transform the A66

National Highways has listened to the opinions of people and taken action by refining designs for the £1bn A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project.

The project will lead to significant improvements to the A66 between M6 junction 40 and A1 at Scotch Corner by dualling the remaining single carriageway sections of the route and upgrading key junctions.

The road runs east to west across northern England, providing access to the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District National Park, as well as carrying high levels of freight. However, the route is not up to modern standards, meaning drivers face congestion, delays at key junctions and substandard access to jobs and leisure locations.

Today, National Highways publishes its Statutory Consultation Summary Report alongside a Winter 2022 Project Update setting out updated plans for the vital project.

Last autumn National Highways spent six weeks talking to communities, drivers and businesses who use the vital route about the proposal. More than 1,200 people and organisations gave their thoughts, while over 1,500 attended a series of public information events.

The responses are helping to shape the final design and inform National Highways' application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) in May 2022 which, if successful, will pave the way for the scheme to go ahead.

Lee Hillyard, National Highways' A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project director, said:

We're delighted so many people have taken such a keen interest in our proposals and I'd like to thank everyone for their responses. Today we've published our statutory consultation summary report and Spring 2022 project update, which is the perfect opportunity to provide the latest information and show how we are acting on the feedback we've received.

While some changes are minor tweaks to the design shared in autumn 2021, others are more substantial. In those areas, National Highways has held targeted non-statutory consultations with local communities, landowners and stakeholders, whose feedback is currently being collected and will be incorporated into our DCO submission.

The provision of walking, cycling and horse riding (WCH) routes has been a major talking point during the route's development and, after listening to feedback, additional WCH routes are now being proposed in some areas.

Lee Hillyard added:

We have listened to the local communities and stakeholders on the issue of WCH, which was one of the most requested topics during consultation. We've maintained and relocated any severed WCH routes which cross the new road, and now we're proposing extra routes. Our new routes will deliver wider connectivity.

The project team have also completed surveys to gain an intricate understanding of the local area including the environment, ecology and heritage, while also exploring ways to mitigate potential impacts like noise, drainage and visual aesthetics. This has created opportunities in various locations to improve environmental and land impacts.

Meanwhile, on the section between Appleby and Brough, we are considering an alternative to the proposed replacement of the travelling community's Brough Hill Fair site. In the autumn 2021 statutory consultation, a site to the east of Warcop was earmarked on land belonging to the Ministry of Defence – known as the "bivvy" site. An alternative location, approximately 1.6 miles east from the current site, is now also being considered in response to feedback from the Statutory Consultation.

National Highways is keen to hear views on the sites with regards to their suitability for the annual event. As these are potential changes to the design presented in the autumn, a supplementary consultation is being carried

out to provide the chance to gather feedback on this specific issue.

To read the consultation summary report and a project, update visit the our [A66 A66 Northern Trans-Pennine web pages](#). You can email us at A66NTP@highwaysengland.co.uk or call 0333 090 1192. Phone lines are open between Monday and Friday, 9am to 5pm, or you can leave a message and the team will return your call.

You can follow the Twitter account [@A66NTP](#) and the Facebook page [A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project](#).

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

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

Nonsense then, and nonsense now: UK statement at the Security Council

Thank you, Mr. President, and may I join others in expressing our deep condolences to the Irish Mission and to the family of Jim Kelly – he was an exceptional and very well-loved colleague, and we will miss him. Thank you.

I also thank Ms Nakamitsu for her briefing today.

Mr President,

Only yesterday, this Council discussed Russia's invasion of Ukraine. We heard from UN briefers about the devastating impacts on Ukraine, its people and its cities. On the region, to which 3 million refugees have fled. And on the wider international community, facing higher economic prices, and the consequences for countries in need of this Council's attention.

Today however, we've had a rehash of amateurish disinformation, which we discussed and debunked last Friday.

It was nonsense then, and it is nonsense now.

As I said then – laboratories in Ukraine carrying out research on public health hazards are not a threat to international peace and security.

By contrast, President Putin's illegal and inhumane invasion of Ukraine is the most significant threat to international peace and security we face today.

So today's charade is really not worthy of a Permanent Member of the UN

Security Council.

The only thing this Council needs to hear from the Russian Federation – we didn't hear it yesterday, we haven't heard it today – the only thing this Council needs to hear is that Russia's troops are leaving Ukraine.

Ukraine does not want war. Russians and Ukrainians – soldiers, civilians, mothers, children – are dying.

Russia is isolated diplomatically, isolated economically and bogged down in Ukraine.

So we urge Russia to stop this invasion now, before any more damage is done in Ukraine – and also to Russia.

I thank you, Mr President.

[UK stands with Ukraine](#)

World news story

The UK condemns the Russian government's invasion of Ukraine. We stand with the Ukrainian government and its brave people. Find out what the UK is doing.



The UK and our international partners are united in support for Ukraine. The UK government is providing a range of economic, humanitarian and defensive military assistance to Ukraine, and is imposing additional sanctions on Russia and Belarus.

Read the latest developments [here](#).

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UK-Netherlands Cyber Dialogue 2022: joint statement

Press release

The UK and the Netherlands gave a joint statement following the annual Cyber Dialogue in London on 15 March 2022.



UK-Netherlands Cyber Dialogue in London, 15 March 2022.

Statement from the governments of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands:

On 15 March 2022, the United Kingdom and Netherlands concluded their annual Cyber Dialogue, with interagency consultations on cyber security in London.

The United Kingdom and the Netherlands shared their concern over malicious conduct of State and non-State actors in cyberspace and reaffirmed their commitment to the United Nations framework for responsible State behaviour endorsed by consensus by the General Assembly.

Both sides specifically denounced continuing cyber-attacks in the context of Russia's unprovoked and premeditated military assault on Ukraine. The United Kingdom and the Netherlands have strongly condemned these military actions that are in gross violation of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations. Both sides agreed to continue to work closely together within NATO to bolster deterrence and defence in cyberspace and enhance cooperation between the EU and NATO on cyber defence.

The United Kingdom and the Netherlands affirm their comprehensive cooperation on cybersecurity, including on threat assessments, multilateral efforts, governance of cyberspace, online safety and

security and cyber capacity building. Both sides agreed to further strengthen their bilateral cooperation with regard to deterring malicious cyber activity and irresponsible conduct in cyberspace. They also reaffirmed their support to the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise as a centre of excellence and expertise in global cyber capacity building.

The Bilateral Cyber Dialogue was held in London on 15 March 2022, with representatives from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Cabinet Office, National Cyber Security Centre, Department of Digital Culture, Media and Sport and Home Office; and from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Cyber Security Centre.

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