

Civil news: changes to the HPCDS contract

News story

Changes to the Housing Court Duty Possession Scheme (HPCDS) contract come into force on 1 November 2021.



We are making two changes to the HPCDS contract.

What does this mean?

The following contractual changes will commence on the 1 November 2021 and will initially be in place until the 30 April 2022. The arrangements will be reviewed on a 6 month rolling basis.

- Providers will now be able to claim both the HPCDS fee and the Legal Help matter start fee when a client assisted through the HPCDS goes on to be assisted under Legal Help
- Where a provider attends court for a possession listing and no clients are seen (i.e. a nil session) or only 1 client is seen they will now be able to claim as though they have seen two clients (i.e. two HPCDS fees will be claimed and paid)

These rules will apply to all claims made under the HPCDS from 1st November 2021 irrespective of when the listed hearing took place.

The revised contract can be found at [Standard civil contract 2018 – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101424/Standard_civil_contract_2018.pdf).

Further information

The revised HPCDS provider guidance and reporting tools can be found at

[Housing Possession Court Duty Schemes \(HPCDS\) – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

Further information [Standard Civil Contract 2018](#) – 2018 civil contract documents are available on GOV.UK

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[Have your say on new designs for M1/M62 Lofthouse junction near Leeds](#)

National Highways is inviting road users, residents and other members of the community to have their say on the options, all of which will improve safety, create more capacity to cut congestion and improve journey times, boost connectivity to support economic growth while minimising the impact on the environment.

Approximately 75,000 vehicles move through the junction every day, leading to significant queues at peak times and disrupting the journeys of thousands of road users. Travel demand is set to grow over the next 30 years, with 107,000 vehicles expected to use the interchange every day by 2044.

Roads Minister Baroness Vere said:

Works to improve this busy junction will help ensure that this crucial interchange is fit for the future, creating safer, faster and better journeys for people in West Yorkshire as we continue to build back better from the pandemic. Therefore, it's really important that as many local people as possible give their feedback through the consultation process.

There are plenty of ways to get involved. You can find out more online, attend an exhibition, dial into a telephone surgery or pick up a copy of the consultation document at your local library.

National Highways project Manager Andrew Potter said:

We're asking as many people as possible to have their say on the options under consideration. Road infrastructure improvements affect everyone. They help us move around the country and connect with one another, whether we are driving, cycling or walking.

It's essential that we understand people's views so we can ensure we deliver the right scheme to make the Lofthouse interchange fit

for the future.

Feedback from this public consultation will help us understand how the proposed options impact road users and the local community. People will be helping to shape the scheme and maximise the benefits as we progress the design.

Details and short videos of all three options can be found by clicking on the consultation button on the [project webpage](#).

Option A – new roundabout

The existing roundabout was built in the 1960s and now requires regular maintenance to keep it safe. This option will replace the existing roundabout with a new one with additional lanes built to the latest standards. It will require less maintenance which means there will be less disruption to road users. If traffic volumes continue to increase in the future, the existing traffic problems at the interchange may return within five years with this option.

Option B – new free flow link

Free-flow links allow drivers to travel from one motorway onto another, without having to stop at a roundabout or traffic lights. Option B would see a new free-flow link connecting the M1 northbound to the M62 eastbound. It would pass through the centre of the interchange to reduce the additional land required and help to minimise the environmental impact. The existing roundabout would still be retained and would require regular maintenance work to keep it fit for purpose. As with Option A, if traffic volumes continue to increase in the future, the existing traffic problems may return within 15 years, at which point another project may be required to provide further improvements.

Option C – Full free-flow interchange

New free-flow links would be provided between the M62 and M1 to remove the need for vehicles to stop at the interchange. The new free-flow links would pass through the middle of the junction to reduce the additional land required and help to minimise the environmental impact. The existing roundabout would no longer be required and would be demolished, avoiding the current and future delays caused by maintenance work.

The consultation runs from today to 11.59pm on Friday 10 December 2021, with feedback helping National Highways develop its planning application for a Development Consent Order (DCO), should the scheme be developed further.

A DCO is required for all nationally significant infrastructure projects and will allow for the Planning Inspectorate to make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will decide on whether development consent should be granted for the proposed scheme.

Members of the public are invited to find out more about the options by visiting a virtual exhibition that can be found on the [scheme page](#) any time between now and the end of the consultation.

They can also visit a mobile exhibition where the project team will be on hand to explain the options and answer any questions. The exhibitions will take place at the following times and venues:

- Wednesday, 10 November, Junction 32 Shopping Outlet, Tomahawk Trail, Castleford, 10am to 5pm
- Thursday, 11 November, Stourton Park and Ride, M621 junction 7, 7am to 6.30pm
- Friday 12 November, Crown Point Retail Park, Junction Street, Leeds, 10am to 5pm

In addition telephone surgeries will be held where people will be able to speak to a member of the project team and ask any questions about the proposals. These will run at the following times:

- Wednesday 10 November, 14:00 – 16:00
- Tuesday 16 November, 17:00 – 19:00
- Saturday 27 November, 10:00 – 12:00
- Thursday 2 December, 10:00 – 12:00

The number to call is 08081 964 502.

Consultation brochures can be picked up from Ardsley and Tingley Library 213a Bradford Road, Tingley, WF3 2DL, requested by emailing lofthouse@highwaysengland.co.uk or by calling 08081 964 502 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Details on how to respond can be found online or in the brochure.

This project is one of 32 announced in National Highways' 2020-25 [Delivery Plan](#) as being considered by the government for further development for the next five-year roads investment period which starts in 2025.

Some £347 million of funding has been allocated to the development of these projects, which have been identified through National Highways' programme of strategic studies, route strategies, specific areas of research and work with stakeholders. Not all schemes in the pipeline will progress to construction.

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.

Work of Strategic Command personnel recognised in Operational Honours List 2021

News story

Members of Strategic Command have been recognised in the Operational Honours List for their services to defence.



Strategic Command Headquarters, Northwood

Members of Strategic Command have been recognised in the Operational Honours List for their services to defence. The list recognises the bravery, commitment and commendable service of armed forces personnel.

The following individuals from Strategic Command have been recognised:

Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)

- Royal Navy Commodore D A Bassett

Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)

- Royal Navy Captain F Percival

NATO Meritorious Service Medal

- British Army Major General A S D Harrison DSO MBE

Joint Commander's Commendation

- British Army Lance Corporal J Daviot

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PM launches new initiative to take Green Industrial Revolution global

- UK launches 'Clean Green Initiative' at COP26 to help developing countries take advantage of green technology and grow their economies sustainably
- Initiative includes a doubling of UK aid-funded green investments to more than £3bn over five years and new guarantees to support clean infrastructure projects
- PM will chair an Action & Solidarity Roundtable at COP26 today, bringing together the countries most vulnerable to climate change with those responsible for the majority of emissions

The Prime Minister is announcing a major funding package at COP26 today (1 November 2021) to support the rollout of sustainable infrastructure and revolutionary green technology in developing countries, helping to tackle climate change and boost economic growth.

The funding kickstarts the UK's new Clean Green Initiative (CGI), which will help to scale up public and private investment in quality, sustainable infrastructure globally.

The Prime Minister will emphasise the importance of providing climate finance for the developing world, the democratisation of green tech and other solutions to the climate crisis at an Action and Solidarity Roundtable this afternoon at COP26, alongside the leaders of India, the United States and 24 other countries.

To support the Clean Green Initiative the UK will deliver over £3 billion in climate financing for green growth in developing countries over the next five years, including £200m for a new Climate Innovation Facility. This is double the amount the UK's development finance institution, the CDC, invested in climate projects its previous strategy period from 2017-2021.

The Climate Innovation Facility will support the scale-up of technologies to help communities deal with the impacts of climate change, such as drought-resistant agriculture and sustainable forestry, in markets where private investors have been reluctant to take on the risk alone. It will be delivered by CDC in partnership with the private sector.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

I want to see the UK's Green Industrial Revolution go global. The pace of change on clean technology and infrastructure is incredible, but no country should be left behind in the race to save our planet.

The climate has often been a silent victim of economic growth and progress – but the opposite should now be true. Through the Clean Green Initiative, we can help to build back better and greener from the pandemic and put the world on the path to a more sustainable future.

The UK aid-backed Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) will also commit more than £210m in new investment today to back transformational green projects in developing countries. The financing will go to schemes including electric vehicle manufacturing in India, green bonds in Vietnam and solar power in Burkina Faso, Pakistan, Nepal and Chad – projects which are expected to mobilise more than £470m (\$650m) in additional private sector finance.

In addition, the UK is announcing a package of guarantees to multilateral development banks that will provide a major boost to investments in climate-related projects in India and across Africa.

A new ‘Room to Run’ guarantee to the African Development Bank (AfDB) is expected to unlock up to £1.45 billion (\$2 billion) worth of new financing for projects across the continent, half of which will help countries adapt to the impacts of climate change. For example, it is expected to support the AfDB’s work on generating high-quality climate data to help countries plan for future impacts, water resource management and helping farmers increase their resilience to drought.

The UK will also provide an ‘India Green Guarantee’ to the World Bank, to unlock an additional £750 million (\$1 billion) for green projects across India. The financing will support clean and resilient infrastructure in sectors such as clean energy, transport and urban development.

The Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said:

Developing countries need the right form of investment to help drive clean growth, whilst dealing with the impacts of climate change.

The opportunities are clear and this new initiative will enable us to seize them, working closely with our allies to deliver honest and responsible investment and cleaner and more reliable infrastructure in the developing world.

The Clean Green Initiative is a key part of the UK’s contribution to the G7 Build Back Better World initiative announced at the Carbis Bay Summit in June. It is intended to be a long-term approach to help developing countries bridge the infrastructure gap, while supporting climate change and sustainable development goals.

The UK will work, through the CGI and with the support of Mark Carney in his role as the PM’s Finance Adviser for COP26, to support the development of country partnership platforms to make it easier for vulnerable countries to

get access to climate finance. The national-level platforms would coordinate between governments, donors, development banks and the private sector to connect the pipelines of green projects with funding and investments.

PM address at COP26 World Leaders Summit Opening Ceremony

Good afternoon everybody,

welcome to COP, welcome to Glasgow and to Scotland whose most globally famous fictional son is almost certainly a man called James Bond

who generally comes to the climax of his highly lucrative films strapped to a doomsday device

desperately trying to work out which coloured wire to pull to turn it off

while a red digital clock ticks down remorselessly to a detonation that will end human life as we know it

and we are in roughly the same position, my fellow global leaders, as James Bond today

except that the tragedy is that this is not a movie, and the doomsday device is real

and the clock is ticking to the furious rhythm of hundreds of billions of pistons and turbines and furnaces and engines

with which we are pumping carbon into the air faster and faster- record outputs

and quilting the earth in an invisible and suffocating blanket of CO₂

raising the temperature of the planet with a speed and an abruptness that is entirely manmade

and we know what the scientists tell us and we have learned not to ignore them

2 degrees more and we jeopardise the food supply for hundreds of millions of people

as crops wither, locusts swarm

3 degrees and you can add more wildfires and cyclones – twice as many of them, five times as many droughts and 36 times as many heatwaves

4 degrees and we say goodbye to whole cities – Miami, Alexandria, Shanghai – all lost beneath the waves

and the longer we fail to act

the worse it gets and the higher the price when we are eventually forced by catastrophe to act

because humanity has long since run down the clock on climate change.

It's one minute to midnight on that doomsday clock and we need to act now.

If we don't get serious about climate change today, it will be too late for our children to do so tomorrow.

I was there with many of you in Copenhagen 11 years ago when we acknowledged we had a problem

I was there in Paris six years ago when we agreed to net zero

and to try to restrain the rise in the temperature of the planet to 1.5c

and all those promises will be nothing but blah blah blah – to coin a phrase

and the anger and impatience of the world will be uncontrollable

unless we make this COP 26 in Glasgow the moment when we get real about climate change

and we can

we can get real on coal, cars, cash and trees

We have the technology to deactivate that ticking doomsday device

not all at once

I am afraid it is too late for that

But one by one and with ever greater speed and efficiency we can begin to close down those billions of hydrocarbon combustion chambers that you find currently in every corner of the planet

we can phase out the use of cars with hydrocarbon internal combustion engines – by 2035 – we can do that and we in the UK are ending new sales by 2030

We can end the use of coal fired power stations – we can do it by 2040 in the developing world and 2030 in the richer nations

we can plant hundreds of millions of trees – a trillion – it's not technologically difficult

and halt and reverse deforestation by 2030

not just because it is a spiritually uplifting and beautiful thing to do
but because that is the way to restore the balance of nature and to fix
carbon in the air

and as we look at the green industrial revolution that is now needed – around
the world

we in the developed world must recognise the special responsibility to help
everybody else to do it

because it was here in Glasgow 250 years ago that James Watt came up with a
machine that was powered by steam that was produced by burning coal

and yes my friends – we have brought you to the very place where the doomsday
device began to tick

and even though for 200 years the industrialised countries were in complete
ignorance of the problem that they were creating

we now have a duty now to find those funds –

\$100bn a year that was promised in Paris by 2020 but which we won't deliver
until 2023 –

to help the rest of the world to move to green technology.

But we cannot and will not succeed by government spending alone

We in this room could deploy hundreds of billions, no question

But the market has hundreds of trillions and the task now is to work together
to help our friends to decarbonise

using our funds – the funds we have in development assistance

and working with the multilateral development banks so that in the key
countries that need to make progress

we can jointly identify the projects that we can help to de-risk so that the
private sector can come in

in just the same way that it was the private sector that enabled the UK to
end our dependence on coal

become the Saudi Arabia of wind

we have the technology

we can find the finance and we must

and the question for all of us today is whether we have the will

My fellow leaders – I do not wish to put too fine a point on it

but when we all talk about what we are going to do in 2050 or 2060
I don't think it will escape the notice of the crowds of young people outside
and the billions who are watching around the world
half of the population of the world under 30
that the average age of this conclave of cardinals is 60
and I fully intend to be alive in 2060
I will be a mere 94 years old
even if I'm not still in Downing Street – you never know
but the people who will judge us are children not yet born
and their children
and we are now coming centre stage before a vast and uncountable audience of
posterity
and we must not fluff our lines or miss our cue
because if we fail they will not forgive us
They will know that Glasgow was the historic turning point when history
failed to turn
They will judge us with bitterness and with a resentment that eclipses any of
the climate activists of today, and they will be right.
COP26 will not, cannot, be the end of the story on climate change.
Even if this conference ends with binding global commitments for game-
changing real world action, two weeks from now smokestacks will still belch
in industrial heartlands,
cows will still belch in their pastures –
even if some brilliant Kiwi scientists are teaching them to be more polite –
cars powered by petrol and diesel will still choke congested roads in the
world's great cities
and no one conference could ever change that.
If summits alone solved climate change then we would not have needed 25
previous COP summits to get to where we are today.
But while COP26 will not be the end of climate change it can and it must mark
the beginning of the end.
In the years since Paris the world has slowly and with great effort and pain,

built a lifeboat for humanity.

Now is the time to give it a mighty shove into the water, like some great liner rolling down the slipways of the Clyde,

take a sextant sighting on 1.5c, and set off on a journey to a cleaner, greener future.

So let us therefore in the next days devote ourselves to this extraordinary task

so that we not only continue with a programme, a green industrial revolution, that is already

creating millions of high wage high skill jobs in power and technology

taking our economies forward

let us do enough to save our planet and our way of life

and as we work let us think about those billions of beady eyes that are watching us around the world

increasingly edgy and disenchanted

and let us think of the billions more of the unborn whose anger will be all the greater if we fail

We cannot let them down

We have the ideas

we have the technology

we have the bankers, we have the corporations and the NGOs

we have the interpreters and the meeting rooms and if all else fails we have the unbeatable hospitality and refreshment of Glasgow

we may not feel much like James Bond

not all of us necessarily look like James Bond

but we have the opportunity

the duty

to make this summit the moment when humanity finally began – and I stress began – to defuse that bomb

and make this the moment when we began irrefutably to turn the tide and to begin the fightback against climate change

yes it's going to be hard

but yes we can do it

and so let's get to work with all the creativity and imagination and goodwill that we possess

Thank you very much and good luck to all of us. Thank you.