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## Industrial action at DVLA: Tuesday 4 May to Friday 7 May

News story

The scheduled dates for industrial action at DVLA and how it may affect our services.



Industrial action is scheduled to take place between Tuesday 4 and Friday 7 May that will directly affect DVLA services. During this time, you are likely to experience delays with the paper applications you send to us and if trying to reach our contact centre.

Our online services are available and are the quickest and easiest way to deal with us. For information and to access our services, go to [www.gov.uk/browse/driving](http://www.gov.uk/browse/driving).

Published 30 April 2021

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# New Co-Chair of the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, appointed Lord Browne of Madingley, FRS, FREng to the Council for Science and Technology (CST) as its new independent Co-Chair today.

The CST is the government's highest-level advisory body on science and technology, advising on issues that cut across the full range of the government's responsibilities.

Members of the council are leading figures in the science and technology community, including representation from academia and key high-tech businesses. Presidents from the national academies and the Chief Executive of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) participate as ex-officio members. Lord Browne will co-chair the council alongside the Government Chief Scientific Adviser, [Sir Patrick Vallance](#).

The Government Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir Patrick Vallance, said:

Lord Browne brings with him a wealth of experience which will enable the council to continue to deliver high calibre advice on science and technology issues to the government. I look forward to working with him across a range of important issues.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dame Nancy Rothwell who has provided exemplary leadership and invaluable contributions over her 10 years as independent Co-Chair of CST.

Lord Browne said:

The importance of science and engineering to human progress has never been more apparent. I am delighted to take on the co-chairmanship of the council, and look forward to working with its distinguished members to provide independent advice to the Prime Minister for the benefit of society.

Lord Browne was CEO of BP plc from 1995 to 2007. He is presently a Senior Adviser to General Atlantic on Climate and Net Zero, as well as Chairman of the Francis Crick Institute and Chairman of the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering. He sits on the boards of IHS Markit, Pattern Energy and Spark Cognition. Lord Browne is Chairman of the Courtauld Institute of Art, a former Chairman of the Tate Galleries and a past President of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

The council was established in 1993 and has provided independent advice on a wide range of issues, from how to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 to how science and technology can support levelling up. The CST's advice has contributed to high-profile government initiatives including the establishment of the Alan Turing Institute and the 100,000 Genomes Project.

The period of Lord Browne's appointment is 3 years from 29 April 2021. It is not remunerated.

1. The appointment was made via an open process run in accordance with the [Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments' Code of Practice for Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies](#).
2. [Please see published CST advice to the Prime Minister](#).
3. The council's current work programme includes:
  - the contribution of science and technology to inform the government's levelling up agenda
  - science and technology for a sustainable health and social care system
  - principles to strengthen the UK's position as a science and technology superpower
  - advice to inform the government's innovation strategy
4. CST reports directly to the Prime Minister. Its terms of reference are to advise the Prime Minister and government on the implications of science and research, engineering and technology. CST works across the remits of individual departments.

Areas of advice include:

- the opportunities and risks that science, technology and disruptive innovation present
- using horizon scanning to highlight issues about:
  - research and science capability
  - innovation and the economy
  - health and quality of life within the UK
  - sustainable development and resilience
  - how science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) can be developed and sustained in the UK; this can be through education and skills, and the promotion of international co-operation
  - what the government's high-level priorities for science and technology should be

## **Membership**

5. Members of the Council for Science and Technology are:

### **Chairs:**

- Sir Patrick Vallance FRS, FMedSci, FRCP – Government Chief Scientific Adviser
- Lord Browne of Madingley, FRS, FREng, FGS – Senior Advisor on Climate

and Net Zero, General Atlantic, Chairman of the Francis Crick Institute, Fellow and former President of the Royal Academy of Engineering Members

#### Members:

- Dr Christopher Bishop FREng, FRSE, FRS – Director of the Microsoft Research Lab
- Professor Julia Black CBE, FBA – Strategic Director of Innovation and Professor of Law, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Professor Philip Bond BSc, DEA, FIMA, FInstP – Professor of Creativity and Innovation at the University of Manchester, Visiting Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics and Visiting Professor in Engineering Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Bristol
- Professor Muffy Calder OBE, FREng, FRSE – Vice-Principal and Head of College of Science and Engineering, University of Glasgow
- Professor Sir David Cannadine FBA, FRSL, FSA, FRHistS – President of the British Academy (ex-officio member)
- Suranga Chandratillake FREng – General Partner at Balderton Capital
- Professor Jim Hall FREng, FICE – Professor of Climate and Environmental Risks, University of Oxford
- Professor Anne Johnson FMedSci – President of the Academy of Medical Sciences (ex-officio member)
- Saul Klein – Entrepreneur, Investor and Executive Fellow of Management Science and Operations and Strategy and Entrepreneurship, London Business School
- Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser DBE, FRS – Chief Executive, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) (ex-officio member); Director of the Sainsbury Laboratory, University of Cambridge
- Professor Max Lu FAA, FTSE, FICHEM, FRSC – President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Surrey
- Professor Jim McDonald FREng, FRSE – President of the Royal Academy of Engineering (ex-officio member) and Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Strathclyde
- Dervilla Mitchell CBE, FIEI, FREng – Director of Arup
- Professor Fiona Murray CBE – Associate Dean for Innovation and Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Management
- Professor Paul Newman FREng, FIEEE, FIET – Director of the Oxford Robotics Institute and BP Professor of Information Engineering, University of Oxford
- Professor Adrian Smith FRS – President of the Royal Society (ex-officio member)
- Professor Brooke Rogers OBE, FRSA, FHEA – Professor of Behavioural Science and Security and Deputy Head of Department in the Department of War Studies at King's College London
- Paul Stein FREng, FRAS, FIET – Chief Technology Officer, Rolls-Royce plc
- Lord Stern of Brentford – Chair of the Grantham Research Institute at the London School of Economics

'Ex-officio members' are people who become members automatically because they hold a particular office.

## Observers:

- Jo Shanmugalingam – Director General, Industrial Strategy, Science and Innovation at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
  - Charles Roxburgh – Second Permanent Secretary at HM Treasury
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# UK Hydrographic Office appoints Chief Executive

The UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) is pleased to announce the appointment of Rear Admiral Peter Sparkes as the new Chief Executive and Accounting Officer. Peter will be leaving the Royal Navy to take up the role.

As Chief Executive, Peter will continue to lead the organisation's important work in supporting safe, secure and thriving oceans. This includes the UKHO's vital work in support of Defence and merchant shipping. Working in close collaboration with national and international partners, the organisation will also continue to develop ADMIRALTY Maritime Data Solutions to support the responsible and sustainable use of our marine environment.

Commenting on his appointment, Peter said:

It is an enormous privilege to have been selected to be the UK Hydrographic Office's permanent Chief Executive. I am delighted to be able to continue working with the UKHO's fantastic team, Defence and our allies, and our marine partners to help safeguard our sea lanes and those operating in the maritime sector.

Going forward, UKHO will continue to meet the evolving needs of mariners around the world, contributing fully to the development of the IHO's second generation of electronic charting and digital services, the S-100 data standard. As part of the Ministry of Defence, UKHO plays a key role in supporting the UK's national security. Our teams will continue to provide defence partners with the decision support, data and expertise they need to conduct military operations.

We also join the international community in recognising that many of our vital marine environments are under threat from overexploitation and the damaging effects of climate change. With this, we will continue work with governments, NGOs and commercial partners to support the protection and sustainable use of our oceans.

Peter joined the UKHO as National Hydrographer in 2019 and was subsequently appointed as Acting Chief Executive in July 2020. Following Peter's appointment as CEO, Rear Admiral Rhett Hatcher will assume the role of National Hydrographer. In this role, Rhett will work to improve the collection, standardisation and sharing of marine geospatial data through international collaboration.

Peter served in a wide variety of appointments in the Royal Navy, both at sea on operations and ashore. Notably, he commanded the frigate HMS CUMBERLAND on counter-piracy patrol off Somalia and the UK's Ice Patrol Ship, HMS PROTECTOR, in Antarctica. In addition to this, he commanded the 46 units (aircraft carriers, destroyers, frigates, mine-hunters, patrol vessels, and the maritime explosive ordnance disposal teams) of the Portsmouth Flotilla.

Ashore, Peter Sparkes has served in Ministry of Defence acquisition appointments and was responsible for the development and introduction into RN service of the Warship Electronic Charting Display Information System.

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## [Changes to the enhanced DBS check application process](#)

This article was originally published on 30 April 2021.

The changes detailed within this article are now live, and we have added some further information for Registered Bodies, and information around applications submitted prior to 31 May 2021.

As of 31 May 2021, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) will be implementing a change to the enhanced DBS check application process. The change will mean that DBS is no longer able to amend an applicant's personal information on the application form, once it has been submitted.

### **For applicants:**

The sections of the application form affected by this change will be:

- Section A – Your current and previous names
- Section B – Your current address
- Section C – Five-year address history

Enhanced DBS check applications that are submitted with omitted or incorrect information regarding these sections will be withdrawn, and a new application will need to be submitted.

If an application is withdrawn due to an omission or error in your personal

information, we are unable to provide a refund.

Where an omission, as detailed above, is found, DBS will not contact the applicant, but will instead write to the Registered Body that submitted the enhanced application to inform them.

## **For Registered Bodies**

If incorrect personal information is provided, or an omission is identified, in relation to the below sections of the application form, from 31 May 2021, the application will be withdrawn, and a new application will be required:

- Section A – Your current and previous names
- Section B – Your current address
- Section C – Five-year address history

For RBs, as before, DBS will contact you to resolve the query, and only if an error or omission is confirmed, will the application be withdrawn.

If an application is withdrawn for the above reasons, a refund will not be given.

Where such an error is found, DBS will not contact the applicant, but will instead write to you as the Registered Body that submitted the enhanced application.

## **Applications submitted prior to 31 May 2021**

For applications submitted prior to 31 May 2021, DBS will continue to apply amendments, however applications submitted after this date will be subject to the withdrawal policy and a new application will be required.