<u>Wales ready to lead Electric Vehicle</u> <u>charge</u>

The Economy Secretary was speaking ahead of a Welsh Government hosted Low Carbon Intelligent Mobility event bringing internationally recognised manufacturers including Aston Martin Lagonda, Toyota, Renault, Peugeot and Nissan together with academics, public service providers and specialists at Hensol Castle.

The event will see Welsh Government outline its policies to support decarbonisation, focussing on the automotive supply chain changes and opportunities as cars go from the internal combustion engine to electric and hydrogen power sources.

Economy Secretary Ken Skates said:

"Skills, innovation and sustainability are all things I, as Economy Secretary, have put front and centre of my economic policy over recent years, most explicitly in last year's Economic Action Plan.

"It's this focus, alongside the expertise and vision of companies such as Riversimple, Calsonic and Hemmels here in Wales which means we are in a fantastic position to maximise on the enormous opportunities presented by low carbon vehicles, which are unquestionably the future of travel.

"And the prospects do not begin and end simply in manufacturing the cars of tomorrow, but through exploring and finessing the innovative technology and supply chain opportunities with interested parties and partners who all stand to benefit.

"We at Welsh Government are absolutely determined to facilitate this and, through events such as this linking likeminded business with academia, supply chains and decision makers, I hope to unearth further opportunities for growth and collaboration, creating wealth, jobs and wellbeing in the process.

"Today we have a line-up of electric and hydrogen powered vehicles from Nissan, Peugeot, Renault and Toyota. Coupled with the highly anticipated fully electric RapidE and Lagonda vehicles from Aston Martin being made here in Wales and the already established hydrogen offering from Riversimple, and others, there is every reason to believe Low Carbon Intelligent Mobility is on the brink of something quite special, with Wales leading the charge."