National Infrastructure Assessment

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The Commission
The Commission provides government with impartial, expert advice on major long term infrastructure challenges.

The Commission’s objectives are to:

- support sustainable economic growth across all regions of the UK,
- improve competitiveness, and
- improve quality of life.

In fulfilling our purpose and objectives, we:

- **set a long term agenda** – identifying the UK’s major economic infrastructure needs, and the pathways to address them,
- **develop fresh approaches and ideas** – basing our independent policy recommendations on rigorous analysis, and
- **focus on driving change** – building consensus on our policy recommendations, and monitoring government progress on their delivery.
Our tools to shape the infrastructure agenda

The National Infrastructure Assessment

Studies on specific issues

Our annual Infrastructure Progress Review
Transport Decarbonisation in the Second Assessment
Emissions from infrastructure have fallen, but there is more to do

Annual greenhouse gas emissions by infrastructure sector, 1990 to 2019
Emissions from Transport

Emissions from cars and vans accounted for around 75 per cent of the UK’s total domestic transport greenhouse gas emissions in 2019.
Charge point deployment is an immediate priority

- ZEV uptake will only happen through adequate access to charging infrastructure
- There has been progress, but the required growth is a steep trajectory
Electrification of the fleet is crucial

- Electrification of the fleet is key
- ZEV mandate as the flagship tool
- But significant uncertainty remains which is not resolved by the ZEV mandate
Managing uncertainty

Adaptive approach should set and monitor targets – implement remedial policies to keep on track when trigger points are reached.

- **Targets**
  - Composition of the fleet
  - Demand for road transport
  - Carbon intensity of non-ZEVs

- **Trigger points**
  - Establish tolerances around the targets

- **Remedial policies**
  - Policies should be identified that are scalable in size and can be implemented quickly

- **Review**
  - Set out clear regular review points
  - Implement policies when/if trigger points reached
Decarbonisation and induced demand

- Road enhancement must be compatible with net zero
- Induced demand from better roads doesn’t make decarbonisation significantly harder
Growth and net zero can be pursued together

- Network enhancement and growth are not at odds with net zero
- Stopping road building is not the right approach
- Conditional on monitoring and review, electrification of the fleet and chargepoint provision