

POLICY BRIEF - JUNE 2022



PLYMOUTH
CITY COUNCIL

Growth and Infrastructure

Date of publication	Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee	 GOV
Quarterly update published 18th May 2022	<p>Department for International Trade - Trade and investment factsheets</p> <p>A snapshot of the UK's trade and investment positions with individual trading and investment partners overseas. Our 3 largest partners (US, Germany and China) had the following trade in goods and services in the four quarters to the end of Q4 2021 compared to the four quarters to the end of Q4 2020:</p> <p><u>US</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total UK exports amounted to £132.2 billion (an increase of 2.7¹%); ▪ Total UK imports amounted to £83.0 billion (an increase of 9.2%). <p><u>Germany</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total UK exports amounted to £46.6 billion (a decrease of 6.2%); ▪ Total UK imports amounted to £62.7 billion (a decrease of 5.4%). <p><u>China</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total UK exports amounted to £27.0 billion (an increase of 3.0%); ▪ Total UK imports amounted to £66.1 billion (an increase of 15.8%). 	Official Statistics
9 th June 2022	<p>Cabinet Office - Right to buy extension to make home ownership possible for millions more people</p> <p>The Prime Minister has announced 2.5 million tenants renting their homes from housing associations will be given the right to buy them outright. In his speech he has confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to Buy scheme extended to housing association tenants, with government pledging to build a new social home for every one sold. • Universal Credit reform will incentivise more people to save for a house deposit. • Review of mortgage lending market will aim to turn more of 'Generation Rent' into 'Generation Buy'. 	Housing, local and community

¹ Trade volumes were highly consistent with those reported in February at the end of the last rolling 12 month period. The significant variation between volumes in 2021 and 2020 is driven mainly by fluctuations in trade in 2020.

9 th June 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Consultation on primary legislative changes to reform railways</p> <p>The DfT has launched a public consultation on the primary legislative changes required to deliver structural reform of railways. This follows publication of the Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail in May 2021 and the announcement in the Queen's Speech on 10 May 2022 to introduce a Transport Bill to Parliament which will modernise rail services, put passengers and freight customers first and deliver the best of the public and private sectors. The consultation closes on the 4 August 2022.</p>	Rail
8 th June 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - Ofsted-style' inspections and unlimited fines for failing social landlords</p> <p>The Regulator of Social Housing will have stronger powers to issue unlimited fines, enter properties with only 48 hours' notice and make emergency repairs under the Social Housing Regulation Bill introduced to Parliament on the 8 June 2022. In a major reset of power between tenants and landlords, residents will be able to demand information and rate their landlord as part of new satisfaction measures. The Bill will form a key part of the government's mission to level up across the country and deliver on the people's priorities.</p>	Building Regulation
24 th May 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Voyage to net zero in maritime underway as UK confirms £12 million for zero emission technologies</p> <p>Zero emission ferries and vessels are one step closer to being a reality, as Maritime Minister Robert Courts confirms £12 million funding to accelerate the research and development of zero emission maritime technologies.</p>	Maritime and the Environment
23 rd May 2022	<p>Department for Transport, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Self-driving buses, shuttles and delivery vans could soon hit UK roads thanks to £40 million government-funded competition</p> <p>A new £40 million competition to kick-start commercial self-driving services, such as delivery vehicles and passenger shuttles, has been launched by Lord Grimstone, Minister for Investment. The 'Commercialising Connected and Automated Mobility' competition will provide grants to help roll out commercial use self-driving vehicles across the UK from 2025.</p>	Autonomous Road Vehicles

16 th May 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - Building safety: remediation and funding - government response to the Select Committee reports</p> <p>The government have published their response to the Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities Select Committee's reports published on 26 April 2021 and 7 March 2022 following its inquiries into cladding remediation, and building safety remediation and funding in England.</p>	Housing
14 th May 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Funding worth £200 million announced for new walking and cycling schemes across England.</p> <p>£200 million of funding for new walking and cycling schemes has been announced. The funding is part of the £2 billion for cycling and walking announced by the Prime Minister in 2020. Active Travel England has been established to hold the budget and ensure that schemes are delivered to the standards set out in 2020. Funding includes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £161 million, which include new footways, cycle lanes and pedestrian crossings across 46 local authorities. ▪ £1.5 million for “mini-Holland” feasibility studies, to assess how the areas could be as pedestrian and cycle-friendly as their Dutch city equivalents. ▪ £35 million to improve the quality, safety and accessibility of the National Cycle Network. 	Travel
9 th May 2022	<p>Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Lowest paid workers to be given flexibility to top up their pay under government reforms</p> <p>Britain's lowest paid workers will be given the flexibility to boost their income through extra work, under new plans set out by the government this week. The proposals will widen the ban on exclusivity clauses, which restrict staff from working for multiple employers, to contracts where the guaranteed weekly income is on or below the Lower Earnings Limit of £123 a week.</p>	Working, Jobs and Pensions
9 th May 2022	<p>Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport - Cultural venues to receive £128 million to improve access to arts and culture</p> <p>Cultural venues including museums, galleries and public libraries are to benefit from up to £128 million of funding to help improve accessibility to the arts and safeguard their futures. Organisations are now being encouraged to submit expressions of interest to receive support.</p> <p>The Cultural Investment Fund covers the following three streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A £30.8 million Cultural Development Fund 	Arts and Culture

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A £20.5 million Libraries Improvement Fund • A £60.3 million Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND) 	
9 th May 2022	<p>Ministry of Defence - More than £2 billion to boost UK submarine programme</p> <p>Defence contracts worth more than £2 billion have been awarded to BAE Systems and Rolls-Royce to begin the third major phase of the future submarine nuclear deterrent programme – Dreadnought.</p>	Military equipment, logistics and technology
30 th April 2022	<p>Department for Transport - New trial to banish loud engines and exhausts on Britain’s noisiest streets</p>	Road Traffic
25 th April 2022	<p>Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Digital waste tracking service</p>	Waste Management
13 th April 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) launched with £2.6 billion in funding</p> <p>Communities across the United Kingdom will benefit from £2.6 billion of funding to help spread opportunity and level up the country. The funding replaces previous EU funding from the European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund. The fund also includes a new £559 million adult numeracy programme for the UK, Multiply, which is an early priority for the UKSPF. The UKSPF prospectus can be found here.</p>	UK Economic Growth
13 th April 2022	<p>Department for Education - Multiplying maths skills for adults</p>	Adult and Community Learning
13 th April 2022	<p>Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Fisheries and Seafood Scheme Re-Launches</p>	Marine
13 th April 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - Agreement with major developers to fund building safety repairs</p>	Fire prevention and rescue
11 th April 2022	<p>Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Government announces new measures on fly-tipping</p>	Waste management
11 th April 2022	<p>Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - household waste recycling centres: DIY waste disposal charges and booking systems</p>	Waste and Recycling
11 th April 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - Technical consultation on street naming</p>	Local Government

8th April 2022	<p>Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Government unveils investment for energy technologies of the future</p> <p>The government has launched a wide-ranging £375 million package of support for innovative energy technologies that will power British homes and businesses for decades to come and further strengthen the nation's energy security.</p> <p>This includes £240 million to support the production of hydrogen as a clean, low-cost energy technology, £2.5 million of funding to develop next-generation nuclear technology and a further £5 million towards research into carbon capture.</p>	Energy Infrastructure
7th April 2022	<p>Cabinet Office - National Underground Asset Register public consultation launched</p>	N/A
4th April 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy Local Enterprise Partnerships: Integration guidance</p> <p>A joint letter from the Minister for Levelling Up, The Union and Constitution and the Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Labour Markets has been issued to LEP chairs and Chief Executives, Combined Authority Mayors and Local Authority Chief Executives and Leaders. This letter provides further guidance on the process for integrating the functions and role of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) into local democratic institutions, following the policy announcement made in the Levelling Up White Paper.</p>	Local Enterprise Partnerships and Enterprise Zones
1st April 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Government protects vital Dawlish coastal rail route with a further £32 million</p>	Local Transport Funding
30th March 2022	<p>Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Extra protections for seafarers as government introduces new maritime laws</p>	Careers in Transport
29th March 2022	<p>Department for Transport - £2.5 million package announced to help disabled people travel more confidently</p>	Help on Public Transport
25th March 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Tenfold expansion in chargepoints by 2030 as government drives EV revolution</p>	Low emissions and electric vehicles
24th March 2022	<p>HM Revenues and Customs - HMRC calls on businesses to get ready to move to customs IT platform over the summer</p>	Brexit
24th March 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities - Over 500 new life-enhancing Changing Places toilets to be built across England (New)</p>	Disabled People

	The Chancellor confirmed in his Spring Statement over £23.5 million has been allocated to 191 councils across England to install life-enhancing Changing Places toilets in public places and tourist attractions, dramatically increasing accessibility in areas where users want them most. Plymouth City Council has been allocated £80k for 2 proposed toilets.	
10 th March 2022	Ministry of Defence - New Shipbuilding vision launched	Defence and armed forces
10 th March 2022	Department for Transport - Bikeability receives £20 million government investment to improve access to cycle training	Cycling and Walking

Relevant legislation introduced in this parliamentary session

Queen's Speech 2022

The Queen's Speech, marking the State Opening of Parliament, announced.

The [Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill](#) has already been introduced to Parliament. Further information can be found [here](#). The Bill is wide ranging and includes provisions to establish a new form of Combined Authority to oversee County Devolution Deals, as well as setting out significant planning reforms. The reforms include giving more weight to Local Plans, giving more say to local residents on planning applications through 'street votes', introducing a new infrastructure levy system, making changes to compulsory purchase powers, and setting out proposals for land auctions.

Procurement Bill

- Enshrining in law the objectives of public procurement including: delivering value for money, maximising public benefit, treating suppliers equally and without discrimination, and acting, and being seen to act, with integrity.
- Requiring buyers to have regard to the Government's strategic priorities for public procurement as set out in the National Procurement Policy Statement.
- Introducing arrangements for how contracting authorities can buy at pace if necessary to protect life or health, public order or safety.
- Introducing new exclusion rules and giving buyers the tools they need to properly take account of a bidder's past performance.
- Reforming the Single Source Contract Regulations to ensure the Government continue to pay fair prices on single source defence contracts while providing value for money.

Brexit Freedoms Bill

- Creating new powers to strengthen the ability to amend, repeal or replace the large amounts of retained EU law by reducing the need to always use primary legislation to do so.
- Removing the supremacy of retained EU law as it still applies in the UK.
- Clarifying the status of retained EU law in UK domestic law.

Energy Security Bill

- Introducing business models for Carbon Capture Usage and Storage transport and storage, low carbon hydrogen and industrial carbon capture.
- Appointing Ofgem as the new regulator for heat networks.
- Extending the energy price cap.

- Establishing a new Future System Operator, providing strategic oversight across electricity and gas systems.
- Facilitating the safe, and cost-effective clean-up of the UK's legacy nuclear sites, ensuring the UK is a responsible nuclear state.

Transport Bill

- Transferring contracting powers for passenger services to Great British Railways.
- Introduce new laws that safely enable self-driving and remotely operated vehicles and vessels and support the roll-out of electric vehicle charge points.

UK Infrastructure Bank Bill

- Establishing the bank in law with clear objectives to support regional and local economic growth and deliver net zero.
- Providing the Bank with the necessary powers to lend directly to local authorities and the Northern Ireland Executive, enabling the Bank to play a key role in delivering public sector infrastructure projects.

Government Bills from the last Parliament which have now received Royal Assent

- National Insurance Contributions Act 2022 – RA 14th March
A Bill to make provision in relation to national insurance contributions.

- Professional Qualifications Act 2022- RA 28th April

The Professional Qualifications Bill creates a new framework for the recognition of professional qualifications and experience gained overseas and takes steps to reform regulators' practices. It will revoke and replace the interim system for professional qualifications that derives from the UK's membership of the EU.

- Subsidy Control Act 2022- RA 28th April

A Bill to make provision regulating the giving of subsidies out of public resources; and for connected purposes.