



Weekly Monitoring
2nd December
2022



Political Update

While the world's eyes are on the controversial World Cup, there is still dissent within Parliament. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak faces another rebellion, this time in response to his ban on new onshore windfarms – a rebellion which could receive support from the Labour Party giving it the potential to be quite damaging.

The wave of strikes continues to swell as ambulance staff have voted to engage in strike action over December – joining nurses and rail workers.

News

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announce measures to boost UK's energy independence

BEIS has announced further measures in their bid to help secure the UK's energy independence. These measures include the confirmation of the UK Government's decision to back the development of the nuclear project Sizewell C and the commitment to taking forward the Energy Bill.

Department for Transport launch consultation on effectiveness and efficiency of Civil Aviation Authority

DfT has opened a call for evidence which aims to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), as part of DfT's evidence-gathering for its review of the CAA. The consultation will provide an opportunity for anybody who uses the CAA or is affected by its work – including airlines, airports, pilots and passengers – to provide insight and evidence to inform the Government review.

The consultation will be open until 11:45pm on 22nd January 2023.

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announce £73 million for development of clean transport technologies

BEIS has announced £73 million in joint Government and industry funding to develop clean transport technology. The projects are expected to support 3,300 jobs and drive economic growth across the UK over the next decade. The projects awarded funding include hydrogen-powered HGVs and more efficient methods of manufacturing electric motors.

Parliament

House of Commons

Oral questions to BEIS on Small Business Support

Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Catherine West asked the Business Secretary "what steps his Department is taking to support small business growth."

Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business, Kevin Hollinrake replied:
"It is a delight to be part of a ministerial team of whom many members actually have a business background. We are for business because we are from business, and we know what it is like to lie awake at night worrying about how to pay the bills."

"The reversal of the national insurance rise will save small businesses an average of approximately £4,200 a year, alongside the cut to fuel duty for 12 months and the energy bill relief scheme. The British Business Bank supports small and medium-sized enterprises to access growth finance."

Oral questions to DCMS on Tourism Sector and Visitor Economy

Independent MP for Ealing Central and Acton, Dr Rupa Huq asked the Culture Secretary "what steps she is taking to support the tourism sector and visitor economy."

Minister for Sport, Tourism, and Civil Society, Stuart Andrew responded:
"The UK was one of the first countries to remove the barriers to both domestic and international visitors, and set out a post-covid tourism recovery plan in summer 2021. An inter-ministerial group for the visitor economy was formed this year, and will meet again in December to discuss cross-departmental policy priorities in support of this important sector. [...] many opportunities that we need to look at, including, particularly, the offer in the rest of the country for tourism from not just this country, but around the globe. One of my priorities is to get more people to come to London, of course, but then to visit other great counties such as Yorkshire"

Written questions to the Home Office on Counter-terrorism in Public Places

Former Home Secretary, Priti Patel asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, "what progress the Government has made on the introduction of the Protect Duty; and if she will make a statement."

Minister for Security, Tom Tugendhat replied:
"The first duty of the Government is to protect the public, and we are committed to improving the security of public places, to ensure the public can go about their lives freely and with confidence."

The commitment made to the 'Protect Duty' in the Queen's Speech and the 2019 manifesto remains, and we are working hard to bring forward this important piece of legislation as soon as possible."

Key dates

December 2022: Publication of Energy Bill Relief Scheme review outcome



Change is a challenging idea. We make it matter.

cavendishadvocacy.com