

Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee – priorities for the sixth Senedd – September 2021

About Logistics UK

Logistics UK is one of Britain's largest business groups and the only one providing a voice for the entirety of the UK's logistics sector. Our role, on behalf of over 18,000 members, is to enhance the safety, efficiency and sustainability of freight movement throughout the supply chain, across all transport modes. Logistics UK members operate over 200,000 goods vehicles - almost half the UK fleet - and some one million liveried vans. In addition, they consign over 90 per cent of the freight moved by rail and over 70 per cent of sea and air freight.

Summary of Logistics UK View

- The skills challenge and labour shortages - From a devolved perspective, apprenticeships in Wales should be reviewed (the English system has introduced a C+E equivalent on 2 August). From a UK-wide perspective, the refusal to issue non-UK labour short-term seasonal visas should be reviewed. **Short and long term.**
- Roads review and infrastructure investment in general – the recent pause on any roads infrastructure spending and creation of a panel to look at all projects. Logistics UK has formally written to Lee Waters to ask for industry representation on this panel, given the importance of logistics to the Welsh economy, and our ability to offer a fully multi-modal approach to policy development. **Long term.**
- Welsh Transport Plan – the Welsh Government plan committed to 'mini deals', with one for logistics, so Logistics UK calls for the Senedd to keep an overview on the development of these plans. **Long term.**

The priorities contained in the box above represent the high-level priorities of the Welsh members of Logistics UK that we would wish the Senedd to look at in their work plan for the six Senedd.

There are a number of other policy areas that we are engaging with the Welsh Government and could also be considered by the Senedd Committee and these include:

- The rollout of the 20mph plan across urban areas in Wales
- The development of suitable infrastructure for commercial vehicle drivers to provide sufficient numbers of high-standard toilets and sanitation facilities along the roadside in Wales
- Inbound Brexit checks are soon to be introduced in terms of SPS, customs etc so the Senedd should look at the roll out of suitable infrastructure at the ports to ensure space is given for checks to take place and not create unnecessary delays in the flow of goods into Wales.