

# Driving Forward Our National Network

Tackling congestion and improving the UK's trunk road and motorway network:  
What are the policy tools needed to achieve this?

21st January 2009, Bircham Dyson Bell, 50 Broadway, London



Official estimates predict the number of cars using the network will increase by 44% and car trips will increase by 24% by 2041 (RAC Foundation report). This conference asks what action is required to accommodate these increases and mitigate congestion, and how should our road policy be shaped?

With the current course for urban congestion charging and the prospects for other forms of funding unclear, explore the solutions – both short and longer term – with our leading line up of industry experts.

*'An opportunity to stand back, review the arguments and influence the debate on the future of one of the nation's most important and most neglected assets'* Professor Stephen Glaister CBE

**This conference offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the discussions shaping the road network for the next fifty years.**

Your chance to hear from a leading line up, including:

**Derek Turner** Director, Network Operations Highways Agency

**Professor Stephen Glaister** Director, RAC Foundation

**Stephen Joseph** Executive Director, Campaign for Better Transport

**Ian McCulloch** Partner, Bircham Dyson Bell

**Bill Emery** Chief Executive, Office of Rail Regulation (ORR)

**Dr Richard Wellings** Deputy Editorial Director, Institute of Economic Affairs

**Lewis Atter** Director of Corporate Finance, KPMG

Chair: **Brian Wadsworth** Former Director of Strategic Roads, Department for Transport

Hosted by:

Bircham Dyson Bell

**CBW**

Media Partner:

Endorsors:

The Guild of  
**BritishCoach**  
OPERATORS

**cpt**

**IHIE** | INSTITUTE OF HIGHWAY  
INCORPORATED ENGINEERS

The Chartered Institute of  
Logistics and Transport (UK)



**RAC**  
Foundation

Organised by:

**WATERFRONT**  
CONFERENCES

**freshwater**  
PR AND MARKETING

## Who should attend?

- DfT, DCLG, BERR, HM Treasury and Government Offices for the Regions
- Planning and Transportation departments of local authorities
- All companies who rely on the road network
- Passenger Transport Executives (PTEs)
- Coach operators
- Regional Assemblies and Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)
- Transport and Land-use planning consultants
- Planning and Transport lawyers
- Road Freight Industry
- Toll road operating companies
- Supply chain customers
- Project management companies
- Infrastructure maintenance companies and suppliers
- Vehicle manufacturers
- Engineering companies
- Construction companies
- Toll road operating companies
- Financial consultants
- Banks and financial institutions
- Academics
- Landowners
- Environmental groups

## Benefits of Attending:

- **Assess** the extent of the current problems regarding congestion, reliability and fuel taxation
- **Discuss** where next for roads policy – the short and longer-term solutions and the future for regional roads
- **Understand** how lessons derived from other regulated privatised industries, such as rail could be applied to models for roads
- **Influence** – voice concerns and contribute on what a fair deal for road users should look like

## Conference Calendar

*CILT Sustainable Business Transport Group present: A one-day master class for the freight industry*

**'An Inconvenient Truck': Saving Costs and Reducing Emissions**

26th February 2009, London

# Programme

08:45 Registration and coffee

09:30 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Brian Wadsworth** Former Director of Strategic Roads **Department for Transport (DfT)**

## Section 1 – Improving performance now

09:40 **The deal for road users – is it good enough?**

- How big is the congestion problem?
- The impact of unreliability
- Is some congestion avoidable?
- Motoring and fuel taxation: green or groan?
- How much could modal shift help?

**Professor Stephen Glaister CBE** Director **RAC Foundation**

10:00 **Immediate remedial measures**

- Improving the safety and environmental performance of the network
- What are the performance priorities for roads - do we measure the right things?
- Advanced signaling and queue management
- The role of technology – ITS
- The feasibility of opening up the hard shoulder
- How much extra capacity can such measures create?
- How could lane tolling work?
- Timescales for delivery

**Derek Turner** Director, Network Operations **Highways Agency**

10:20 **Questions and discussion**

10:40 **Morning coffee**

## Section 2 – Towards a sustainable future for our regional and national networks

11:00 **Is regional and devolved roads policy working?**

- The impact on roads policy of increasing devolution
- Is the RFA programme working? What happens when adjoining regions don't agree?
- Should regional budgets be earmarked for programmes? If not, what happens to road investment?
- How will managed motorways with rationed access affect regional and local road networks?
- Do we need to move towards regional traffic management?

**Speaker from Advantage West Midlands** (Invited)

11:20 **Achieving sustainability**

- Is policy heading in the right direction?
- How much further do we need to go?
- What are the policy tools; how much will it cost?
- Can we change user behaviour without pricing?

**Stephen Joseph** Executive Director **Campaign for Better Transport**

11:40 **The politics of road pricing**

- Is more extensive road pricing really needed, and by when?
- What would road pricing aim to do, how would it work?
- Is national road pricing a practical vision, or just a distraction?
- How could we reduce the political hurdles?
- What role should local or regional authorities play?
- Are there simpler and better alternatives (such as fuel duty)?

**Dr Richard Wellings** Deputy Editorial Director **Institute of Economic Affairs**

12:00 **The spy who loves you?**

- Should the Government follow us around?
- Data capture and protection issues – what safeguards do we need?
- Driver or keeper liability for tolls?
- Enforcing payment
- Could vehicle tracking data be used for wider enforcement purposes? Should it be?

**Ian McCulloch** Partner **Bircham Dyson Bell**

12:20 **Questions and discussion**

12:45 **Lunch**

## Section 3 – Looking to the future: a new model for roads?

14:00 **Enter the private sector?**

- Towards a new deal for road users
- Is there scope to link price to service?
- Do tolls have to be taxes?
- Building trust – reducing cultural barriers to change
- Who should manage our motorways – the pros and cons of the public and private sectors

**Brian Wadsworth** Former Director of Strategic Roads **DfT**

14:20 **What does the private sector want?**

- Is there an appetite for private sector involvement in the current economic climate?
- What conditions would facilitate private sector engagement?
- What should the public sector be willing to offer?
- Roads and competition: in the market or for the market?
- Financial versus economic optimisation – could a business model deliver?

**Lewis Atter** Director of Corporate Finance **KPMG**

14:40 **Are there lessons from the regulated industries?**

- The challenge of regulating a privatised industry
- Do consumers get a fair deal?
- Balancing shareholder interests against long term investment
- Can privatised utilities be popular?

**Bill Emery** Chief Executive **Office of Rail Regulation (ORR)**

15:00 **Panel debate**

**What action is needed to address the problems facing the UK's roads network?**

- How much extra capacity can measures such as hard shoulder running and lane tolling create?
- Is motorway widening no longer a feasible option?
- Will road users ever accept tolling?
- How could we measure delivery and hold the infrastructure provider to account?
- Does modal shift need to be made more of a priority e.g. through real increases in rail capacity
- What does the future hold for local roads and traffic management?

**Professor Stephen Glaister CBE** Director **RAC Foundation**  
**Lewis Atter** Director of Corporate Finance **KPMG**  
**Bill Emery** Chief Executive **ORR**  
**Ian McCulloch** Partner **Bircham Dyson Bell**

15:55 **Chairman's closing remarks**

16:00 **Afternoon tea followed by close of conference**

Book Now! [www.thewaterfront.co.uk](http://www.thewaterfront.co.uk)

# Registration Form

Driving Forward Our National Network  
Bircham Dyson Bell, 50 Broadway, London

## Delegate Fees

- Standard conference fee**  
£499 + VAT = £573.85
- Local authorities and Government bodies fee**  
£399 + VAT = £458.85
- Fee for registered charities and disability organisations**  
£199 + VAT = £228.85

Delegate fees include:

- Lunch and refreshments
- Conference summary (emailed on request)
- PowerPoint slides

## Delegate Details Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Title	First Name
Surname	
Job Title	
Company	
Address	
Postcode	Country
Booking Contact	Position
Tel	Fax
Email	

Joining instructions will be sent by email, please ensure an email address is supplied above.

## How To Pay Please Complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

- MasterCard     Visa     Visa Debit/Delta  
 UK Maestro     Solo     Visa Electron  
Please note we do not take American Express

Card number

Expiry Date     Security Code

(Additional 3 or 4 security digits on card strip)

Name on card

**Please find a cheque enclosed for £**  
made payable to The Waterfront Conference Company Ltd

**Bank Transfer**  
**If paying by bank transfer, please send your payment to:**  
National Westminster Bank plc, Newport South Wales Branch,  
High Street Newport, South Wales, NP20 1GG.  
**Account name:** The Waterfront Conference Company Ltd.  
**Account number:** 34740546. **Sort Code:** 56-00-59.

Accounts department contact person

Your reference  Date of payment

Email

Invoices will be sent by email and post, please ensure an email address is supplied above.

## How to Register

Online: [www.thewaterfront.co.uk](http://www.thewaterfront.co.uk)  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7787 1211  
Post: Waterfront Conference Company  
130-132 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TU

## Sponsorship Options

There are a number of opportunities available to raise your company's profile through this event, including:

- Exhibition stand
- Hosting of a refreshment break, lunch or dinner
- Insertion into delegate packs

For more information on these and other packages, please contact the Marketing Manager on +44 (0)20 7787 1210.

**Early Bird Discount** – £99 discount\* for all bookings received before 2009. Please see online registration forms for the discounts available.

\*discount applicable from the top two conference fees only

**Data Protection Act:** The data you provide will be held on a database in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998). Occasionally your details may be passed to sponsors and or endorsers who have supported Waterfront events at which you attended, and who wish to contact you for related purposes.

**Terms of payment:** Payment is required at the time of booking. A further late payment invoice of £50 (+VAT) will be issued to any delegate whose invoice remains outstanding by the conference date. Invoices may be raised by special arrangement by calling +44 (0)20 7787 1210. VAT receipts will be sent by post for all bookings.

**Cancellations and substitutions:** If for any reason you are unable to attend, cancellations received in writing by 7th January 2009 will be entitled to a full refund less 10% of the invoice total. There will be no refunds for cancellations after this date, for whatever reason, and any outstanding invoices must be paid in full. Substitutions can be made at any time at no additional cost.

Conference Code: 4543