

From the office of the CEO
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1st June 2023

The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minister House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Dear Secretary of State,

Clarity over micro-mobility regulation

I am writing on behalf of techUK members to seek clarification on the government's plans to regulate micro-mobility and deliver sustainable transport solutions in the UK.

The measures to implement a regulatory framework for micro-mobility, covering both personal mobility and freight, were initially tabled as part of the Transport Bill in May 2022¹, however there is growing concern within the sector that this is no longer a government priority.

We urge the Department to bring forward legislation as part of a wider future of transport package in the next parliamentary session. This will enable a flexible national framework, capable of regulating emerging transport technologies, which we see as essential for the safe deployment of innovative transport solutions.

Our members need regulatory certainty to scale use-cases that help take cars and vans off the road. Beyond e-Scooters regulation would allow light, zero-emission vehicles (LZEV) and devices to be used in decarbonising logistics, especially the last-mile which is often the most carbon intensive part of the supply chain.

The UK is the only country in Europe not to have regulated the use of micro-mobility. The government's Future Transport Zone trials have been an important first step, but we are now rapidly losing pace as the EU has already taken steps to legalise e-Scooters, and is drafting bloc-wide cargo bike regulations to come into effect from next year. A split-regulatory model between the UK and EU will hinder the ability of manufacturers and operators to scale, resulting in many UK operations winding down or ceasing altogether.

The above factors have contributed to the position where UK vehicle developers have a global market share of less than 1%² and e-Scooter operators have no clarity on their operating model beyond the end of the current trial period in November 2024.

There is an opportunity to provide a nationwide framework to maximise the innovation potential of new, sustainable vehicle types in the UK. This is critical to embedding flexibility that will enable future solutions to enter the market and realise the economic opportunities of

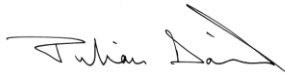
innovation. A 2022 micro-mobility market report put the industry's global market value at about £37 billion in 2020, with expectations to reach over £169 billion by 2030³.

We are confident you share our desire to harness technology to make the UK's towns and cities healthier, less congested, and more accessible. As a technology community, we are passionate about being part of a mobility mix which allows accessibility for all, combining technology and active travel to provide solutions that deliver improved environmental standards, support better health outcomes and bolster productivity UK wide.

Taking forward this legislation as part of a wider future of transport package in the next parliamentary session will help ensure we can do just that, while cementing the UK's reputation as a world-leader in sustainable transport.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely



Julian David
CEO

c.c. The Rt Hon Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
 The Rt Hon Chloe Smith, Secretary of State for Technology
 The Rt Hon Jesse Norman, Minister of State for Transport