



Department
for Transport

From the Secretary of State
Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP

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Simon Hoare MP
Chair of the Public Administration and
Constitutional Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

23 February 2026

Dear Simon,

I am writing to inform the Committee that the Department for Transport intends to publish its four Common Frameworks in their finalised form. These frameworks relate to:

- Rail Technical Standards
- Commercial Transport Operator Licensing
- Driver Licensing
- Motor Insurance

The Common Framework programme was set up following the UK's exit from the European Union to ensure a common approach is taken where powers have returned from the EU which intersect with policy areas of devolved competence. This publication marks a key milestone in the Department's commitment to transparency and collaboration across the UK's transport policy landscape.

The Department for Transport provisionally published its four frameworks in September 2021, following scrutiny by the Common Frameworks Scrutiny Committee. Since then, my officials have worked closely with counterparts in the Northern Ireland Executive to update and finalise the frameworks. These updates reflect the Committee's earlier feedback and take into account the restoration of the Northern Ireland Executive and the establishment of the Windsor Framework.

The Department's finalised Common Frameworks will be published on GOV.UK and I am placing a copy of the frameworks along with this letter in the libraries of both Houses on 26 February 2026.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should the Committee require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Heidi Alexander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heidi" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Alexander".

Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT