



28 September 2021

Welcome to the BEIS Bulletin from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Here's the latest news from BEIS:



Easing pressure on UK fuel pumps

In response to the recent surge in demand at petrol stations across the country, the [fuel industry has issued a statement](#) reassuring the public that there is an adequate supply of fuel and encouraging people to fill up their vehicles as normal.

The government has announced [measures to help ease pressures](#), including putting a pool of military drivers on standby to help with deliveries and extending certain HGV licences to keep drivers on the road.

Following a [meeting with fuel industry leaders](#) the Business and Energy Secretary has also agreed to temporarily exempt the fuel industry from competition rules to allow the industry to share information and prioritise fuel deliveries to the parts of the country that are most in need.

The fuel industry expects demand will return to its normal levels in the coming days as people return to their regular buying habits and pressure on the supply chain eases.



UK Gas Market Explained

There has recently been widespread media coverage of wholesale gas prices, and the effect this could have on household energy bills. The impact on certain areas of industry, and its ability to continue production, has also attracted attention. The new Energy Minister Greg Hands explains the situation in [this video](#).

To find out more, read our [UK gas supply explainer](#) and [the top 5 questions on energy prices answered](#).

Ofgem also has information for [business customers whose supplier goes bust](#).



Consultation on mandatory covid certification

The Department for Health and Social Care has published a proposal for the introduction of [mandatory covid certification](#) in certain settings where crowds mingle in close contact, including nightclubs and sports events. This is an opportunity to comment on the proposals and help to shape the final policy.

Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback through the link on the consultation page by 11 October, although DHSC would welcome comments sooner if possible in case there is a need to introduce certification at short notice.



New ministerial team at BEIS

Following the recent cabinet reshuffle, the Prime Minister has appointed three new ministers to BEIS:

- Greg Hands, Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change, with responsibility for carbon budgets, energy markets and green finance;
- George Freeman, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, with responsibility for life sciences, R&D, the Innovation Strategy, technology strategy and security, and

- Lee Rowley, Minister for Industry, with responsibility for levelling up, BEIS sectors and relations with the Devolved Administrations.

The full ministerial portfolios are on the [BEIS website](#) on GOV.UK.

Other news:

- [Offshore wind powers North-East jobs in a boost for UK supply chain](#)
 - [Government announces new UK Space Strategy](#)
 - [All tips to go to staff under government plans](#)
 - [Government announces plans to strengthen day one employment rights, including flexible working and new entitlements for unpaid carers](#)
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Useful links:

- [Latest BEIS news and announcements](#)
- [Covid response: read the autumn and winter plan](#)
- [See all coronavirus guidance on GOV.UK](#)
- [Use the Brexit checker to get a personalised list of actions for you, your business and your family](#)
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