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RAC reacts to LGA warning that heavier vehicles are likely to cause surge in pothole levels

RAC roads policy spokesman Nicholas Lyes said: “This will sadly come as no surprise for motorists who are used to hearing this type of bad news on a regular basis. They are all too aware of the dire state of our local roads and the level of underfunding.

“We welcome the call from the LGA for increased Government funding to address the national disgrace of potholes and we support the proposal to ring-fence a proportion of existing fuel duty revenue to fund sustained improvement over a long-term period. However, the suggestion that bigger lorries are a major factor in the surge of potholes is something of a red herring. The reality is an increase in freight traffic is a sign of a stronger economy and greater traffic volumes are inevitable.

“It begs the question - what is the alternative? A greater number of smaller lorries making more frequent journeys would have a similar detrimental effect on our roads as well as lead to increased congestion and pollution. We need a roads infrastructure that is fit for purpose and capable of sustaining a buoyant economy as well as supporting improved journey times for all motorists.

“The RAC’s Pothole Index has highlighted that the number of pothole-related breakdown faults has doubled over the last 10 years with peaks associated with extreme weather conditions. We need a long-term strategy for local roads similar to the road investment strategy for strategic roads and a commitment to carry out effectively both pothole repairs and preventative maintenance to stop them occurring in the first place.”

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using [myRAC](#) – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

Contacts



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