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RAC launches manifesto to ensure biggest issues for motorists don't get parked

The RAC has written to all the major UK political party leaders urging them to remember the key issues that matter most to private and business road users when drafting their party manifestos ahead of the General Election on 8 June.

The [RAC's Motoring Manifesto](#) details the six top issues which motorists have identified* as among their biggest concerns covering roads policy, motoring taxation and driving in the UK. The majority are already being addressed to some extent by the outgoing Government but the RAC is concerned that they could be diluted or parked for good in the rush to draw up party election manifestos.

The RAC's six-point plan calls for:

- A promise not to raise **fuel duty** or **Insurance PremiumTax** for the duration of the next Parliament
- An **air quality plan** that is both fair to motorists and delivers much-needed improvement to those areas with the poorest air quality
- Continued investment in England's **strategic road network – motorways and major A-roads** – beyond 2020, funded by Vehicle Excise Duty
- Publication of a long-term investment plan and ring-fenced funding to bring our **local roads** up to a state that is fit for purpose
- Action to reduce spurious whiplash claims and a reform of the personal injury Discount Rates to bring the rising cost of **insurance premiums** back under control
- A commitment to introduce better regulation of the largely

unregulated **private parking sector**

RAC chief executive officer Dave Hobday said: “The next five weeks are going to be frantic as the parties finalise and communicate their policies and debate the merits of a hard or soft Brexit whilst thousands of candidates are on the campaign trail. We want to ensure that in the midst of all the rhetoric, the key issues for UK motorists are not discarded or forgotten – hence us publishing our 2017 *Motoring Manifesto*.

“There is clearly much at stake and many issues to debate but there has been some good progress in recent years in addressing some of the most important issues for both private motorists and businesses. We want to ensure that these advances aren’t lost and that we have a clear commitment from the next government to maintain and increase investment in our roads infrastructure, tackle air quality and unjust parking practices, and encourage drivers to take-up of ultra-low emission vehicles.

“We believe it is also vital with motoring taxation at record levels that there should be a commitment not to increase fuel duty or Insurance Premium Tax for the duration of the next Parliament, as these hit motorists hard and could stifle economic growth.”

“Politicians would do well to listen to the UK’s 38 million motorists, who each year contribute around £40bn to the Exchequer. For them driving and using our roads is an integral and essential part of their lives and also those who rely on road transport even if they are not motorists themselves.”

The value of motoring and road transport to the economy cannot be underestimated. The link between jobs and road transport is indisputable with 75% of journeys to work across the UK undertaken by bus or car and 76% of all freight moved by road. In addition, 77% of motorists tell us that they would find it very difficult to adjust their lifestyle to being without a car.

Notes to Editors

* The RAC’s [Report on Motoring](#) is an annual study, now in its 28th year, which identifies the key concerns of UK motorists.

About the RAC

With more than eight million members, the RAC is one of the UK's most progressive motoring organisations, providing services for both private and business motorists. Whether it's roadside assistance, insurance, buying a used car, vehicle inspections and checks, legal services or up-to-the-minute traffic and travel information – the RAC offers a solution for all motoring needs. The RAC is committed to making motoring easier, safer, more affordable and more enjoyable for drivers and road users.

The RAC is the motorist's champion and campaigns to support the interests of its members and UK motorists at a national level, including advancing levels of road safety, supporting the needs of young drivers and voicing concerns about the increasing cost of motoring. The RAC's annual [Report on Motoring](#) – first published in 1989 – provides a clear insight into the concerns and issues facing today's motorists.

For the very latest news on UK fuel prices, check [RAC Fuel Watch](#) or follow [#racfuelwatch on Twitter](#). This is a comprehensive guide to the latest UK unleaded petrol and diesel prices – both at the wholesale level and at the pump. RAC Fuel Watch analyses how prices changed through the previous month and compares the most recent prices with those from three, six and 12 months before.

Key facts:

- RAC patrols fix four out of five vehicles at the roadside and on average within 30 minutes
- RAC vans carry more than 500 parts and tools to get members' vehicles going again
- 92% of members would recommend RAC Rescue to their friends and family

Contacts



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