

Staffordshire Chambers' of Commerce – Transport forum

This forum is tasked with exchanging information on transport, infrastructure, automation and modernisation in transport, and road, sea, rail and aviation policy. Recent topics covered include M6 Smart Motorway project, HS2, automated vehicles, and electric vehicle charging points across Staffordshire. It also steers Chambers' representations on these matters and receives updates on national transport policy.

Date of meeting	Tuesday 25th November 2025
Venue	Stoke on Trent College
Number of attendees	8
Agenda topics	<p><u>Presentation on HS2.</u></p> <p>Update on progress of HS2. HS2 Ltd has launched a programme re-set which has scaled back the railway to a high-speed line between London and Birmingham. HS2 Ltd is not undertaking any 'new' work to progress with plans for a new railway north of Handsacre. HS2 Ltd remains fully committed to completing the 18-mile stretch north of Birmingham and some essential construction in this area will continue.</p> <p><u>Update from Avanti West Coast Partnership (AWCP)</u></p> <p>AWCP is working in partnership with a number of key stakeholders at Stafford Station, including Stafford Borough Council, Staffordshire County Council, Network Rail, West Midlands Rail Executive and Midlands Connect. These stakeholders are working to support the Stafford Gateway Development, which lies to the west of the station.</p> <p>The rate of Avanti train cancellations has dropped, following a period of impact caused by industrial action. The number of passenger journeys on AWCP has continued to grow and is almost back to pre-pandemic levels. The leisure market has seen noticeable growth, with more passengers travelling at weekends.</p>

	<p><u>Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)</u></p> <p>Update on the progress of Stoke on Trent City Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), which aims to reverse the decline in bus passenger numbers.</p> <p>All slides are available on Transport forum webpage</p>
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Date/time of next Transport forum: Tuesday 27th January 2026 from 9AM at Staffordshire Chambers' of Commerce or attend remotely through Teams

If you have any questions about our Transport forum, please contact:

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