

## **Autumn Statement 2022** **Key Points for Rail Forum Members**

### **Rail and Infrastructure Specific**

- Confirmation that East West Rail, 'core' Northern Powerhouse Rail and HS2 to Manchester will go ahead. There were no further details on exactly what 'core' Northern Powerhouse Rail includes or on timescales.
- The list of projects identified for acceleration in the September 2022 Growth Plan have been dropped; instead, the Autumn Statement says "the government will seek to accelerate delivery of projects across its infrastructure portfolio..."
- Commitment to £600bn of infrastructure investment over the next 5 years (this includes for example rail, nuclear power and digital infrastructure).
- Confirmation that the second round of the Levelling Up Fund will allocate at least £1.7 billion to priority local infrastructure projects.

### **Business**

- Confirmation that corporation tax will increase to 25% (from April 2023) for those companies with greater than £250,000 profit.
- Annual investment allowance increased to £1m from 1 April 2023.
- Refocus of the Investment Zones programme to catalyse a limited number of high potential clusters. Existing expressions of interest will not be taken forward.
- Review of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme for business (with the outcome to be announced by December 2022) and a more targeted approach put in place from April 2023.
- From April 2023 National Minimum Wage increased to £10.18 an hour (21-22 year olds); £7.49 an hour (18-20 year olds); £5.28 an hour (16-17 year olds).
- From April 2023 Apprentice rates increased to £5.18 an hour.
- From April 2023 National Living Wage increased to £10.42 for those aged 23 and over.
- Tariffs removed on over 100 products – full details should be published shortly.
- Company car tax rates set until April 2028.
- Extension of the 100% First Year Allowance for electric vehicle charge points to 31 March 2025 for corporation tax purposes and 5 April 2025 for income tax purposes.
- From 1 April 2023, business rate bills in England will be updated to reflect changes in property values since the last revaluation in 2017. This is accompanied by a number of packages of support.

### **Individual and Other**

- Additional rate of income tax will be paid on earnings above £125,140 (currently £150,000).
- Other Income tax and national insurance thresholds frozen until April 2028.
- Dividend and capital gains exempt allowances will be reduced in 2023 (to £1000 and £6000 respectively) and again in 2024 (to £500 and £3000).
- Local authorities in England will have greater flexibility to increase council tax.
- Electric cars, vans and motorcycles will be subject to vehicle excise duty from April 2025.