

# Defined

Insurance Newsletter January 2022



**Ascend Transportation**

Business Insurance Solutions

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## Big issues facing the UK haulage industry in 2022

Covid and Brexit will continue to affect the industry in 2022, but there are other questions in the UK haulage industry that will unravel as the year goes on.

**Newly trained HGV drivers** – will they be in it for the long haul?

Given all of these problems are some way from being solved, it is questionable how long new HGV drivers will stay in the industry. If some of the newly-trained truckers decide to abandon their career change early, the driver shortage could become headline news again.

**HGV parking facilities and rest areas** – will we see any evidence of development?

Public awareness of the HGV driver shortage, fuelled by extensive media reporting, has led to an acknowledgement from the government that HGV driver facilities badly need ramping up.

In late-autumn, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps announced that £50 million of Treasury funds would be used to improve and expand the country's HGV parking areas and rest stops. This looks good on paper, but truckers and hauliers will be keen to see some concrete evidence of the money actually making a difference at ground level.

**Clear air and low emission zones** – will we see more?

In 2021, both Bath and Birmingham introduced clear air zones which charge HGVs that don't meet the low-emission requirements.

Next year sees Bradford and Manchester join the list. The former has been delayed until spring, with the latter beginning as planned on May 30th. Funding has been made available for hauliers to upgrade their vehicles for free access to Manchester's Clean Air Zone.

For more information read the full blog [here](#)



## Brexit causing more distribution delays in 2022

Some lorries bringing goods from the EU to the UK have been stuck at the border for four days, as logistics bosses blamed disruption on "terrible" new Brexit red tape.

Truck drivers have reported queuing for up to eight hours trying to get through customs controls at the French port of Calais, causing delays in deliveries as firms struggle with the new rules that came into force at the start of January.

Customs experts said problems were partly down to the government's new IT system, which means all imports from the EU must be processed using the Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS) managed by HMRC. Many drivers have been unable to get their reference codes accepted.

But firms are also struggling with complex new customs declarations and rules-of-origin forms they have been required to complete on goods imported from the EU since 1 January this year.

Jon Swallow, who runs the logistics company Jordan Freight, has said that he has had two trucks containing automobile parts stuck at customs controls at Felixstowe for the past four days, despite getting over the border into the UK.

The driver was able to leave the port, but the goods have been stuck there since Friday. "We just don't know what the problem is – It's crazy," said Mr Swallow. "We've been told by HMRC that they are just too busy to deal with it. These delays are very frustrating and costly for companies."

For more information on how brexit is affecting the transport industry [here](#)

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# Why you need a transport insurance specialist

Whatever the size of your haulage operation, you'll have clients relying on your services and your ability to deliver. If your vehicles are out of action, you're not earning. When challenges arise, haulage insurance protects your operation liabilities and assets.

## Keep your wheels turning

In the event of a fire, theft or accident, you will have access to much-needed funds and advice to keep you operational.

## Connect with partner insurers

With leading insurers and an award-winning broker on your side, you can feel confident your business is covered.

## Expert advice and insight

Access to the latest training, information and legislation advice from insurance, risk management and health & safety specialists.

## How our haulage and logistics insurance experts help

You need to keep your business running, regardless of the challenges thrown your way – from a tight deadline to a vehicle off the road. Our haulage insurance experts can help. We have been meeting hauliers' insurance needs for over 30 years, so we understand your challenges.

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