

Statement:

*The RHA welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this important public meeting on the future of the Menai crossings.*

*Reliable and resilient transport links across the Menai Strait are essential for communities, businesses and the wider Welsh economy. For hauliers and coach operators from and across Ynys Môn, disruption on these routes is not a minor inconvenience. It creates real costs, delays, uncertainty and pressure for businesses that are already operating in a challenging environment.*

*We recognise the importance of safety and the need for existing restrictions, including weight limits on the Menai Suspension Bridge, to be respected. However, the repeated disruption affecting the Menai crossings also highlights a wider issue. North Wales needs a road network that is fit for purpose.*

*The RHA has consistently called for a review of Britannia Bridge closures and the weight limits on Menai Bridge, alongside progress towards the delivery of a third Menai crossing. We therefore welcome the recent commitment from the Welsh Government to look again at the resilience of the Menai crossings and to report back in the autumn.*

*That review must be meaningful, practical and informed by the needs of those who rely on these routes every day. It should consider both immediate measures to reduce disruption and longer-term infrastructure solutions that give businesses and communities confidence.*

*Wales depends heavily on its road network. For much of the country, there is little realistic alternative to roads for the movement of goods and people. And we look forward to continued constructive engagement with Members of the Senedd, the Welsh Government and local communities to ensure the Menai crossings are safe, resilient and able to support the long-term needs of North Wales.*