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## MIDLANDS MATTERS - ISSUE 17



### Welcome to Issue 17 of Midlands Matters, our Partnership newsletter.

A few weeks ago, I, alongside Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government the Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, was delighted to announce the launch of the [Ten Point Plan for Green Growth in the Midlands Engine](#) - our shared vision, co-created by more than 300 partners, for a greener, cleaner and better future.

Since then, a copy of the Plan has been sent to all Midlands MPs and was championed two weeks ago in the House of Commons by Dr Luke Evans, MP for Hinkley & Bosworth, at the Government launch of its decarbonising transport plan, which is of huge significance to our region.

Home of the UK automotive industry, the Midlands is in the vanguard of low carbon transport

innovation, including battery electric vehicles and fuel cell technology. The Midlands also sees the highest amount of road freight in the UK, 45% of rail freight and 30% of lorry freight. In fact, our national leadership in freight and logistics, and the pioneering role we are playing in decarbonising heavy transport, was recognised only last week - with the announcement that we have secured Innovate UK funding for a hydrogen-fuel-cell freight demonstrator programme.

This funding award is a real sign of increasing confidence in the Midlands, and an opportunity to accelerate our ambitions to take a leading role in the shift to zero emission public, private and industrial vehicles.

Also this month, we are shining a spotlight on our region's dynamic manufacturing sector. The Midlands accounts for 22% of all England's exports and generates £239 billion for the UK economy. The majority of that comes from the manufacturing sector.

Our region was the original global manufacturing pioneer. And as our new 'Midlands Engine Makes' publication shows, we continue to lead the world through our innovative responses in the fields of advanced manufacturing, automotive, aerospace, MedTech, food and drink, 'green making' - and much more.

I must also mention the recent launch of our Observatory Intelligence Hub; a unique, pan regional tool that promises to put the power of data and research at the fingertips of Midlands Engine partners from right across our region.

And finally, as we enter the parliamentary recess, I would like to wish you all a relaxing and healthy summer.

With my best wishes,

Sir John Peace, Chairman, Midlands Engine

**MIDLANDS ENGINE LATEST**

## **Midlands bid wins Zero Emission Road Transport Competition**

An important milestone for Midlands Engine Partnership underlining region's strategic importance for freight and logistics, and national leadership in hydrogen innovation.

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## **Midlands Engine Intelligence Hub launched**

Unique digital tool will inform region's decision-making on key investments and policymaking.

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## **Midlands to play fundamental role in delivering Government transport decarbonisation plans**

### [Ten Point Plan for Green Growth in Midlands](#)

[Engine](#) prioritises need to decarbonise transport, including HGVs which cause 21% of road-based transport carbon emissions in Midlands, compared with 17% nationally.

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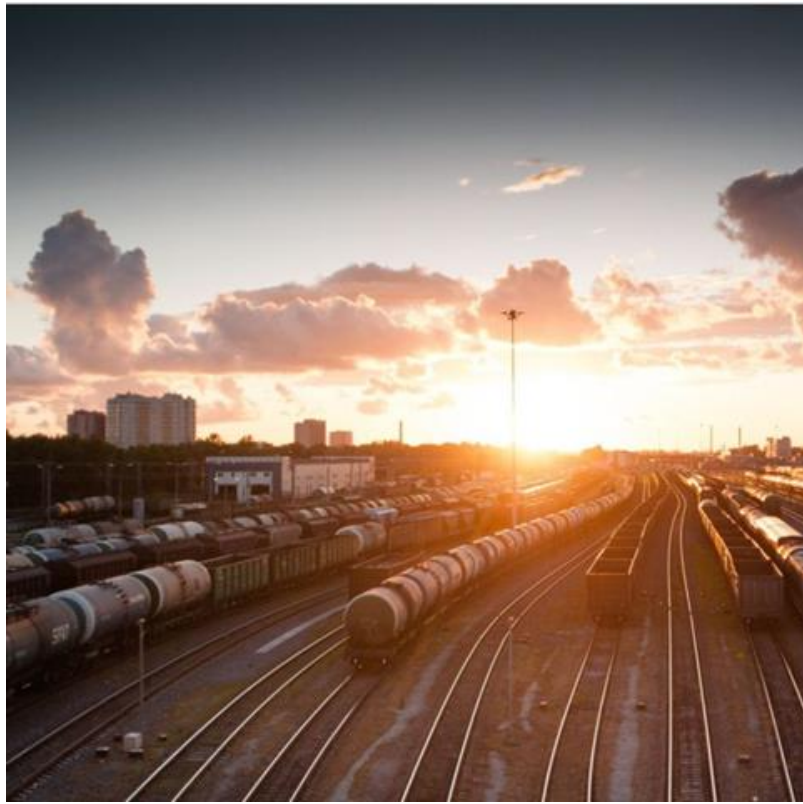


## **Keeping our supply chains competitive - major focus of latest Midlands Engine Observatory report**

Report outlines challenges and opportunities for Midlands supply chain resilience and global competitiveness.

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## Focus on... Manufacturing in the Midlands Engine

Generating £36 billion per year and responsible for 21% of all manufacturing in the UK, the Midlands manufacturing sector continues to lead the world in ingenuity and invention.

### READ IN DEPTH

"The Midlands Engine has long been a formidable powerhouse of manufacturing and today it's a sector which is perhaps more diverse and sophisticated than manufacturing anywhere in the UK."

*Rachael Greenwood, Executive Director, Midlands Engine*

"Since the Industrial Revolution, the Midlands has been a major driving force of the UK economy. This proud tradition of innovation will play a key part in Britain's global agenda and post-pandemic recovery."

*Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, and Midlands Engine Champion*



"Midlands manufacturing plays a wonderfully diverse and powerful part in UK industry. Nearly 600,000 people within our region work in our fabulous sector making things from pies to aerospace parts and everything in between."

*Charlotte Horobin, Regional Director Midlands and East, Make UK*



## **£18.2m investment puts Midlands on map for Advanced Ceramics**

Thousands of jobs set to be created after region's bid to become a world-leader in advanced ceramics receives cash boost.

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## **Birmingham Energy Innovation Centre opens at Tyseley Energy Park**

Facility will play key role as region delivers a greener, cleaner and better future.

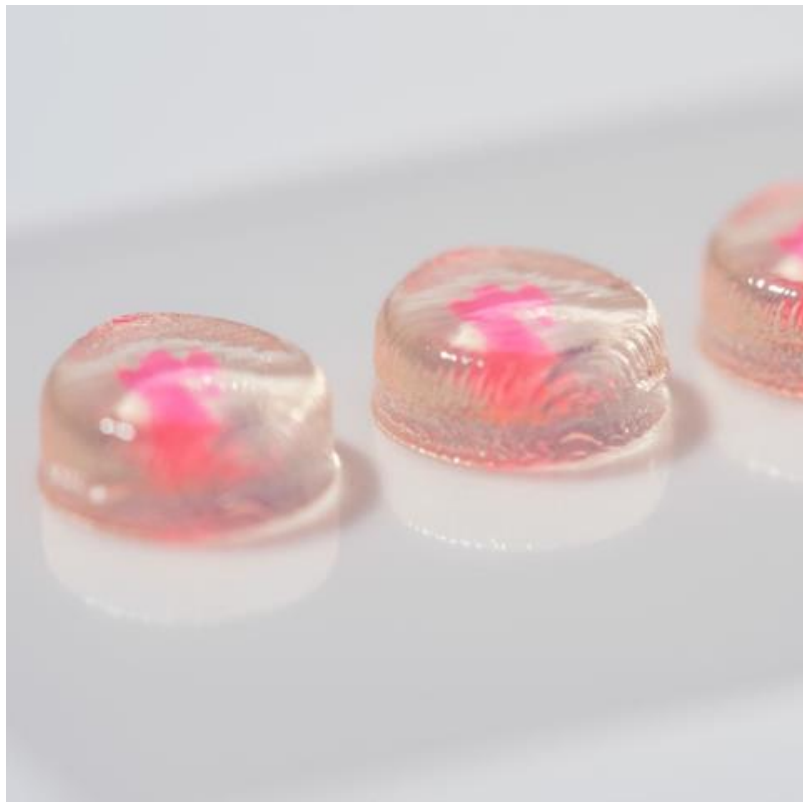
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## University researchers produce 3D-printed personalised pills

Team of researchers at University of Nottingham use state-of-the-art 3D print manufacturing methods to make personalised medicine a reality.

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## Keele Professor steps into senior health role for MI Health

Professor Pauline Walsh joins Midlands Innovation Health as Convenor, replacing Professor Sudhesh Kumar OBE.

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