

## **News story: Invitation to attend the Open Meetings of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)**

### **Invitation to attend the Open Meetings of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) and Veterinary Products Committee (VPC)**

The VMD and VPC will hold Open Meetings on Friday 28 September 2018 at the Animal and Plant Health Agency, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3NB. The VMD Open Meeting will begin at 10.30am followed by the VPC Open Meeting and close by 1pm. Admission is free but by ticket only.

The VMD will give presentations based on advance questions, followed by presentations by VPC members and then a 'question and answer' session.

You should send questions and requests for tickets to [openmeeting@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:openmeeting@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk) by Friday 31 August 2018. Please include the names of all attendees.

### **Invitation to attend VMD Pharmaceutical Industry Information Event**

The VMD will be holding an Information Event for the pharmaceutical industry on Wednesday 14th November 2018. We are currently developing the schedule for the day and are inviting your suggestions on areas you would like to see covered. Admission is free but by ticket only.

The event usually starts around 10am and finishes at 3pm. Timings will be confirmed once we have the final agenda.

You should send topic suggestions and register your interest by emailing Diane Taylor [d.taylor@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:d.taylor@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk) by Thursday 18th October 2018.

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## **Notice: Competition guidance: SBRI Perth Smart Energy Network project**

This is a Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI) competition. It is open to organisations of any type and size, from any sector. 100% funding is available to successful applicants.

Please read the [full competition scope](#) before you make your application.

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## **News story: Management of £400 million electric vehicles charge fund opens to bidders**

- The Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund will support businesses to build electric vehicle charge points across the country and boost jobs in the industry.
- The move will make it easier for the public to own an ultra-low emission car, helping to improve air quality and protect the environment.

Bidding has opened today for the management of the Government's £400m Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund, marking a significant milestone in the future roll out of electric vehicles across the UK.

The fund will enable businesses to access the finances they need to build more charging points, making it easier and more viable for the public to make the switcher to cleaner, ultra-low emission cars.

The bidding process follows the launch of the [Road to Zero Strategy](#) which sets out the government's long term plan to have at least half of new cars be ultra-low emission by 2030 and all new cars and vans be effectively zero emissions by 2040.

The Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Robert Jenrick, said:

"We want the UK to be a world leader when it comes to the number of electric cars on our roads. Uptake is increasing and we want the opportunity to own an electric vehicle to be available to all.

"But crucial to encouraging the take-up of these cars across the country is increasing people's access to charging points. We want to scale up at pace and ensure interoperability for ease of use.

"This fund is a vital step in our mission to change the way we travel, create new jobs and protect our environment for future generations.

"This builds on our ambitions set out in The Road to Zero to encourage new homes to be built with charging-points."

The Chancellor announced at Budget 2017 the new £400 million fund to increase the rollout of electric vehicle charging points and catalyse the available financing market. The fund is made up of £200 million of government investment, which is to be matched by another £200 million from the private sector.

The [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) published today sets out the Treasury's requirements and the necessary information for fund managers to submit a bid. The successful fund manager will be appointed to raise and manage this investment fund on behalf of the Treasury.

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## **Policy paper: Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund**

*Updated:* Update to text following closing date

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced at Budget 2017 that the government would, in partnership with the private sector, establish a new electric vehicle charging infrastructure investment fund.

The aim of the fund is to catalyse the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure that is required to support the electrification of vehicles, by providing greater access to finance on a commercial basis.

The deadline for the request for fund managers has closed. We are now in the process of carrying out the necessary due diligence and engaging with the relevant parties, ahead of selecting the preferred bidder(s). Further updates will be provided in due course.

### **Contact us**

All questions should be submitted to: [ciif@ipa.gov.uk](mailto:ciif@ipa.gov.uk)

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## **News story: Committee on Radioactive Waste Management visit to Sellafield**

The visit gave the committee the chance to observe progress on decommissioning progress first hand. Sellafield Ltd currently manages roughly 60% of the UK's waste inventory by volume and will be a key stakeholder for any potential UK Geological Disposal Facility.

The committee received updates on Sellafield Ltd projects and organisational structure. Committee members visited the site, observing ongoing decommissioning projects such as the First-Generation Magnox Storage Ponds (FGMSP), the Windscale Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (WAGR) boxes, and the

Highly Active Liquor Evaporation and Storage (HALES).

The Committee observed significant progress in decommissioning and remediation since their [last visit on 5 October 2017](#).