APPG Future UK Freight & Logistics
Assessment of UK's Current Freight & Logistics System

November 2022

APPG Objectives

- To assess the current status of the Logistics & Freight sector with regards to capacity, flexibility and resilience, both nationally and regionally to support the UK's growth ambitions now and in the future

- To uncover barriers within the system

- To identify opportunities and determine how to optimise existing infrastructure requirements

- Identify what new infrastructure maybe required

- To support the work of government and to hold them to account

The Approach

- To produce a series of reports that will better enhance the understanding of the United Kingdom's key freight corridors and their resilience. These will be based in UK freight corridors already identified by Government

- Conducting this work over a series of reports (3 initially) would be the most optimum way to demonstrate added value and ease of understanding

- This will allow more time for each report to be researched and written, and allow the APPG to take evidence from key stakeholders, both national and regional, which will help inform the next report

- The focus at this stage should be on resilience at this stage to generate the maximum interest to stakeholders

- Running a series of reports will enable an early impact and allow for a regular programme of activity, sustaining momentum, profile and interest (including events to support report publications)

Report 1 – Cross Modal Freight Network Resilience

- The first report to be a summary on where we are today on Freight & Logistics Network Resilience and will pose key questions such as:
  - What is freight and logistics?
  - How do we measure its success and future?
  - What do we mean by resilience?
- To include an assessment using metrics such as movements, modalities, journey times or average delays. We will be guided by available data
- Using this data to provide a scoring of each of the freight corridors. The report will summarise the current landscape of the UK Freight Network and how it scores on resilience
- Our aim is to produce relatively short reports of around 10 pages

Report 2 – Freight Network Challenges

- The second report will provide a deeper assessment of the key freight corridors, including looking at factors that impact the metrics outlined in the first report. This will help reveal the key challenges facing the freight network

- The challenges can be quite broad ranging, but we will look to align them with areas identified within the Future of Freight Plan. Some areas discussed:
  - Existing Infrastructure (e.g., road, rail, maritime, air, (incl. border infrastructure))
  - The Planning System
  - Skills and Labour
  - Availability of Net Zero Infrastructure
  - Data and Technology & Innovation

- This report will seek evidence from a broad range of stakeholders, covering the various transport modes, focusing on both regional, national and international challenges

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Report 3 – Freight Sector Opportunities

- The third report will build upon the previous two. Whilst the first two reports focus on the current landscape, the third will look to the future, with recommendations of how the freight network can be improved and implemented

- This will require evidence gathering and recommendations from stakeholders

- Going forward, an annual scorecard can be established, allowing parliament to hold the government to account on how it is performing in relation to the report and in implementing its own Future of Freight plan

Stakeholders

- Stakeholders are to be identified covering the following modes and regions

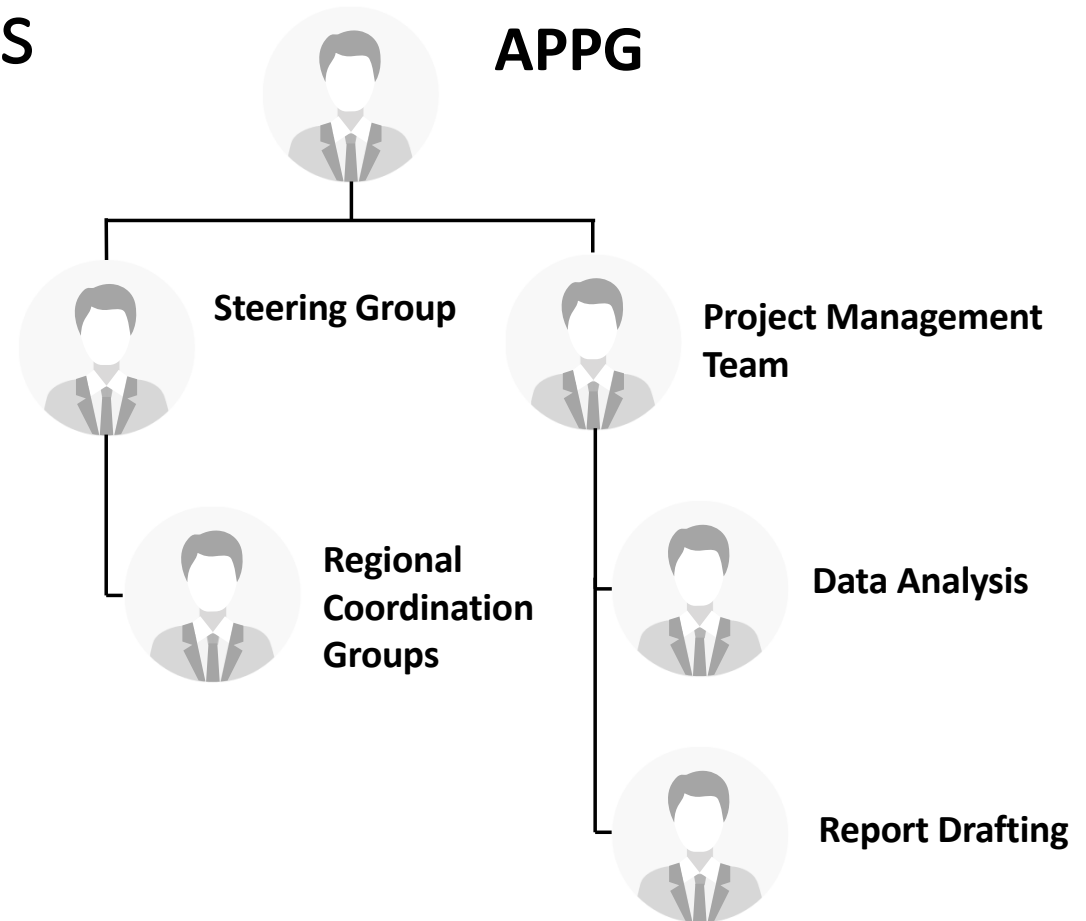| Country and Region	Air	Maritime	Rail	Road	Land
England – North					
England – Midlands					
England – East					
England – South West					
England – South East					
England – London					
Northern Ireland					
Scotland					
Wales					

Next steps

- **Literature review:** To locate & collate latest versions of government and wider stakeholder reports on the freight network. These reports will establish the current understanding of the strategic freight network. Assess current status of sector based on evidence gathered

- **Refining and finalising scope of reports:** This will involve engagement with various subject matter experts and will require agreement on both quantitative and qualitative metrics covering areas such as those highlighted on slide 5

- **Data collection:** We would look to engage with a university or universities to work on data collection on a pro bono basis. It is possible that some consultancies might also support this work. In some circumstances it will be important to have a neutral and trusted party to access commercially sensitive information

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** We would seek to identify relevant stakeholders in each identified region to contribute to the evidence gathering

Structure / Review Process

- Each report will follow a similar approach to the following
  - Project team data gathering
  - National / Regional hypothesises developed
  - Initial draft report developed
  - Hypothesis tested with regional groups
  - Second draft developed
  - Reviewed by Steering Committee
  - Published

APPG

Steering Group

Project Management Team

Regional Coordination Groups

Data Analysis

Report Drafting

Indicative Timeline

Jan-23

Alignment Kick-Off

Finalising scope of reports including metrics, stakeholders and structure

Data - Gathering

Baseline data collection and evidence gathering

Apr-23

May-23

Report 1

Cross Modal Freight Network Resilience

Data gathering, drafting, publication and launch event

Report 2

Freight Network Challenges

Data gathering, drafting, publication and launch event

Jul-23

Report 3

Freight Sector Opportunities

Data gathering, drafting, publication and launch event

Oct-23