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Government scraps 'unaffordable' A27 Arundel bypass - RAC comment

Reacting to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's spending assessment, RAC head of policy Simon Williams said: "These budget cuts have created more questions than answers about exactly when we'll start to see the Government improve the condition of Britain's broken roads.

"The cancellation of the A27 Arundel bypass, from which Labour promised to allocate £320m for pothole repairs in its election manifesto, simply doesn't scratch the surface of the problem. We're still waiting to hear whether a much

larger sum, to the tune of £8.3bn from the cancelled northern leg of HS2, will be spent on local road maintenance over the next 11 years as promised by the previous Government. It's this long-term certainty of funding that local authorities so desperately need to plan long-term maintenance programmes, resurface their worst roads, and carry out preventative treatment that stops potholes forming in the first place.

"Following last week's news from the National Audit Office that the extent of the pothole problem isn't truly understood by Government, now is the time for change. The new Transport Secretary has a real opportunity to deliver lasting improvements to the quality of the nation's roads."

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. Please note: the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the RAC contacts page to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using \underline{myRAC} – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the RAC website.

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