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Two straight years of growth for new car market - RAC comment

Reacting to the <u>SMMT's new car market figures for July</u>, RAC head of policy Simon Williams said: "It's good news the new car market continues to grow. While sales of battery-electric EVs need to speed up from the current 18.5% share of all new cars sold to hit the mandate target of 22% this year, it's important to recognise the overall trajectory EVs are on. Back in the first seven months of 2019, only 14,000 battery-electric vehicles were sold compared to 194,431 so far this year.

"However, more needs to be done to ramp up private demand which is why we'd like to see the Government reintroduce a new version of the plug-in car grant targeted at the cheaper end of the new car market. Manufacturers will inevitably play their part as they will have to discount to hit the 22% sales target, which will lead to more people being tempted to make the move to electric. And if the new Government honours its manifesto commitment to bring forward the 2030 date for the sale of new combustion cars from 2035, then the rate of transition will speed up even more."

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 myRAC – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the <u>RAC website</u>.

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