



Thursday 27 November 2025 ~ Crowne Plaza Solihull, 61 Homer Rd, Solihull B91 3QD

10:30 - 11:00 Tea and Coffee - Networking

11:00 – 11:15 Welcome & Opening Remarks

11:15 - 12.00 **Zero Emission Coaches in Practice: Making It Work**

As the industry moves towards Net Zero, sustainability is no longer a niche concern - it's central to long-term viability. This session will explore how operators can actively take part in the transition by leveraging sustainability as a selling point, accessing funding, and adapting to evolving market and regulatory pressures.

- Chair: Nicholas Jessup, CPT
- Mark Watts, Wattsway
- Mark Hodgson, Coatham Coaches
- David Porter, Wrightbus

12:00 - 12.45 **Access for All: Demonstrating Operator Value in a Joined-Up Transport System**

Exploring the vital role coach operators play in delivering inclusive, sustainable and integrated transport networks. As national and local strategies increasingly focus on joined-up mobility, the discussion will examine opportunities to develop new markets whilst contributing to connectivity – particularly for rural communities and underserved areas – supporting broader social, environmental and economic aims.

- Chair: Alison Edwards, CPT
- Geoff Clarke, Aecom
- Andreas Schorling, Flixbus
- Alistair Kirkbride, Low Carbon Destinations

12:45 - 1.45 **Lunch**

1:45 - 2:30

Workforce Strategy – The Coach Workforce of Tomorrow

Take a forward-looking approach to the challenges and opportunities facing the coach sector as it builds a workforce fit for the future. With changing demographics, skills gaps and the need for greater diversity and inclusion, how can the industry attract, retain and support the next generation of talent?

- Chair: Keith McNally, CPT
- Laura Hadzik, WiBC
- Nathan Hadley, Prospect Coaches
- Sam Wharfe, C9 Recruitment

2:30 - 3:00

The International Perspective on Zero Emissions, Coach Access & the Workforce of Tomorrow

We've talked about the UK but what's happening on the international stage?

- David Conway, Coach Tourism and Transport Council of Ireland (CTTC)

3:00 - 3:30

DVSA: Supporting a safer industry in a changing world

This session will cover DVSA's role in ensuring vehicle compliance, with a strong emphasis on safety, sustainability, and future trends operators in the coach industry will need to navigate.

- Richard Hennessy, DVSA

3:30 - 3:45

Wrap-up

- Mark Hodgson, Coatham Coaches

3:45 - 4:00

CPT Close

Please note - sessions and timings are subject to change