



Safety must be a key priority

Feb 06, 2019 15:15 GMT

## Thatcham Research Welcomes News of Government Driverless Car Ambitions, but ‘Safety Must Come First’

Following news today of the Department for Transport’s intention to support fully Driverless car trials on public roads by the end of the year, Thatcham Research, a leading player in the safety dynamics of Automated Driving offers its response.

Director of Research, Matthew Avery comments, “We support the Government’s ambition to position the UK at the vanguard of technology

development. We also welcome the advent of fully Automated cars and the many benefits to mobility and car safety they will bring. However, the desire to accelerate the implementation of these technologies while keeping all road users safe is a delicate balancing act. Safety must be a key priority, and this must not be compromised to achieve a leadership position.

“We look forward to the opportunity to engage in the Government’s consultation on The Automated Driving Code of Practice.”

Follow the link for further detail on what defines an Automated vehicle:

<https://news.thatcham.org/pressreleases/insurers-set-out-criteria-for-what-drivers-should-expect-from-vehicles-described-as-automated-2251926>

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Thatcham Research is the independent voice of automotive safety, security & repair, advising motorists, insurers and vehicle manufacturers to help reduce accident frequency, severity and costs and to realise the vision of ‘Safer cars, fewer crashes’, while driving standards in vehicle security.

As well as its world leading crash and track research, Thatcham Research develops repair methods amongst a number of other products and services within the collision repair industry for insurers, motor manufacturers, equipment manufacturers and suppliers.

In addition, Thatcham Research has administered the Association of British Insurer’s (ABI) Group Rating system for the past 50 years. Group Rating is an advisory system intended to provide insurers with the relative risk of private cars and light commercial vehicles.

A founder member of the international Research Council for Automobile Repairs (RCAR), Thatcham Research has also been a member of the European New Car Assessment Programme (Euro NCAP) since 2004.

## Contacts



### **James Smith**

Press Contact  
Head Of Communications  
comms@thatcham.org  
01635 293101  
07990 706146



### **Tom Flisher**

Press Contact  
PR Manager  
comms@thatcham.org  
01635868855  
07876 755615



### **Kate Bailey**

Press Contact  
Communications Executive  
PR & Communication  
comms@thatcham.org  
+44 7384 830 461



### **Francesca Turton**

Press Contact  
PR Executive  
PR & Communication  
comms@thatcham.org  
+44 7943 848 528