

WEEKLY REPORT



MMGY
Weekly Report for UK & Ireland
14 November 2025

ECONOMIC, POLITICAL & SOCIAL UPDATE

UK economic growth slows to 0.1% in final figures before Budget

The UK economy saw 'slower-than-expected growth' of just 0.1% in the three months to September, official figures show. Liz McKeown, director of economic statistics for the Office for National Statistics (ONS), released a statement highlighting that the cyberattack on Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) at the end of August had a significant impact on GDP growth. Overall, UK car production fell by 27% in September, to just over 51,000 vehicles, the lowest output for that month since 1952. The attack is estimated to have cost the economy £1.9bn, affecting 5,000 businesses, with the ONS suggesting the sector is unlikely to fully recover until January 2026.

Source: [BBC](#)

Peers to mount fresh offensive to halt assisted dying bill in the UK

Peers in the House of Lords are preparing a renewed effort to block the assisted dying bill on Friday by tabling nearly 1,000 amendments. More than half of the 942 amendments have been submitted by just seven peers in what appears to be a coordinated attempt to delay the legislation through procedural tactics and potential filibuster. The bill faces opposition in the Lords, who argue it is unsafe and not part of the government's manifesto commitments. However, 65 other peers, including former party leaders Neil Kinnock and Ruth Davidson, have warned that obstructing the bill would be "anti-democratic", urging colleagues to refine the legislation rather than derail it.

Source: [The Guardian](#)

Labour to begin talks on entry fee for EU carbon scheme

The UK government is set to begin negotiations to link the UK to the EU's carbon trading regime, around six months after both sides agreed to open talks. Labour urges that the deal would protect firms from new EU taxes and boost growth by reducing trade friction. However, the required financial contributions and partial alignment with EU rules have drawn criticism from Conservatives and Reform UK, who claim it 'undermines' Brexit.

Source: [BBC News](#)

TRADE UPDATE

US Airlines Scramble to Recover After Longest Government Shutdown in History Ends

US airlines are working swiftly to restore full flight schedules ahead of the busy Thanksgiving travel period following the end of a record 43-day US government shutdown. The shutdown, which caused severe disruption across 40 major airports, led to over 20,000 flight delays and cancellations, with staffing shortages among air traffic controllers and TSA agents. A temporary funding resolution has now been passed, keeping government operations running until 30 January 2026. The US Travel Association estimated \$6 billion in lost travel spend, criticising the shutdown's impact on travellers and federal workers. Airlines including American, Delta, and United expressed gratitude for aviation staff who worked without pay and are now gradually resuming operations. However, lingering delays are expected as normal services resume. Industry leaders are urging Congress to enact long-term reforms to prevent future shutdowns that jeopardise critical travel infrastructure.

Source: [Travel Weekly](#)

Saudi Arabia Launches Inaugural Global TOURISE Platform To Shape Future Of Travel

Saudi Arabia has officially launched TOURISE, a bold new global tourism platform and summit, inaugurated by H.E. Ahmed Al Khateeb, Minister of Tourism. Held in Riyadh from 11–13 November 2025, immediately after the 50th UN Tourism General Assembly, TOURISE aims to redefine the future of global tourism through cross-sector collaboration and innovation. Positioned as more than just an event, TOURISE is a long-term platform for action, tackling critical global tourism challenges including digital transformation, sustainable investment, infrastructure, skills development and accessible travel. Key themes include AI in tourism, frictionless borders, destination design, and resilience amid economic and environmental shifts. The event brings together a prestigious speaker line-up including leaders from Expedia, Accor, Kayak, Heathrow Airport, WTTC, Amadeus, and Dubai Airports, showcasing unprecedented cross-industry dialogue. The summit also introduces the first TOURISE Awards, honouring destinations that meet the evolving expectations of modern travellers. TOURISE will continue year-round as a global platform supported by the Saudi Ministry of Tourism, catalysing innovation and partnerships to unlock tourism's full potential.

Source: [Gulf Business](#)

Marriott Named In Top 5 World's Best Workplaces

Marriott International has been recognised as one of the Top 5 World's Best Workplaces by Great Place to Work® and Fortune magazine, reflecting the company's enduring "people-first" culture. CEO Anthony Capuano credited the accolade to Marriott's 800,000+ global associates and its strong core values. Programs like Elevate, which supports frontline staff in progressing to management roles, have shown significant impact, with participants 5x more likely to be promoted. This global recognition underlines Marriott's commitment to nurturing talent, empowering teams, and being a "force for good" across communities worldwide.

Source: [Breaking Travel News](#)

AIRLINE UPDATE

EasyJet- easyJet has marked its 30th anniversary by recreating its first ever flight from London Luton to Glasgow, this time crewed entirely by staff also turning 30. The commemorative flight was joined by Captain Fred Rivett, who flew the original service in 1995. Since launching with fares “for the price of a pair of jeans”, easyJet has grown into the UK’s largest airline, with fares now cheaper in real terms than at launch. CEO Kenton Jarvis highlighted the airline’s role in democratising travel. A study commissioned for the occasion revealed that easyJet has shaped British travel habits, with more than half of 18–35-year-olds taking their first overseas holiday with the carrier, and 83% of respondents saying they now travel further afield thanks to affordable fares.

Source: [UK Aviation News](#)

Qantas- Qantas has confirmed that its first Airbus A350-1000ULR, the key aircraft for its long-awaited Project Sunrise, has entered final assembly at Airbus’ Toulouse facility. The ultra-long-range jet, designed to operate direct London–Sydney and New York–Sydney routes, features enhanced fuel capacity, structural optimisations, and a range of up to 10,000 nautical miles. Once assembled, the aircraft will undergo engine fitting and test instrumentation ahead of a 2026 flight test programme. Delivery is expected later that year, bringing Qantas closer to launching some of the world’s longest non-stop flights.

Source: [UK Aviation News](#)

Turkish Airlines - Turkish Airlines carried 27.2 million passengers in Q3 2025 – its highest third-quarter total ever, marking 18 consecutive quarters of growth. Revenues rose 4.9% YoY to \$7 bn, with \$1.1 bn in operational profit. The airline now operates 506 aircraft, with orders placed for up to 225 new Boeing jets as part of its fleet expansion toward 2033 targets. A minority stake in Air Europa was also secured to boost Türkiye–Spain connectivity. Passenger capacity has climbed 43% above pre-pandemic levels, reinforcing the airline’s position as a global leader with strong sustainable growth momentum.

Source: [UK Aviation News](#)

TOUR OPERATORS, TRAVEL AGENCIES & OTA UPDATE

Dnata - Dnata Travel Group has announced plans to close its B2C brands Travel Republic and Netflights, following a strategic review of its UK-based travel businesses. A formal consultation process has begun with affected staff, with the company stating that no final decisions will be made until this concludes. Dnata confirmed that all existing customer bookings will be honoured, and operations at its B2B brand Gold Medal and retailer Travelbag remain unaffected. The proposed closures reflect dnata's aim to streamline its portfolio in line with long-term objectives and shifting market dynamics.

Source: [Travel Weekly](#)

Audley Travel - Audley Travel is undergoing an internal shift and has announced that chief marketing officer Daniel Robb will step down at the end of January 2026, after six years with the company. His departure will coincide with a restructure of the executive board, including the creation of a new chief customer officer (CCO) role. Camille Beaufile, currently global marketing director at Fever-Tree, will take up the position from 19 January. CEO Nick Longman praised Robb's contributions and welcomed Beaufile, citing her 20+ years of experience with global brands including Airbnb, Netflix, Diageo, and P&G, as key to driving the next phase of Audley's global growth.

Source: [Travel Weekly](#)

Exodus - Exodus Adventure Travels has unveiled a new premium touring range called The Signature Collection, designed to meet rising demand for immersive and culturally rich experiences. The launch includes 12 itineraries, expanding to 35 by December, with the first departures set for early 2026. Each trip features five core elements: Signature Experiences, Stays, Days, Guides, and Legacy. Managing director Sally Cowdry described the higher price point as a valuable trade opportunity, targeting travellers who prioritise authenticity over traditional luxury. Itineraries will include unique stays such as overnighting in a working monastery in Japan. The collection is expected to represent 10% of Exodus' product portfolio, but contribute a significantly higher share of revenue. A launch webinar for agents is set for 27 November.

Source: [Travel Weekly](#)

MEDIA & SOCIAL UPDATE

TikTok Partners With iHeartRadio to Help Creators Branch Into Audio

TikTok and iHeartMedia have launched a partnership aimed to help TikTok creators expand their content into audio formats, including podcasts, radio, and live events. The collaboration aims to provide creators with new opportunities for creative expression and monetisation, enabling them to build a broader multimedia presence and reach wider audiences amid the growing popularity of podcasts.

Source: [Social Media Today](#)

LinkedIn Launches Integrations To Help Boost Events

With a rise in live event feeds, LinkedIn is introducing new tools to help users broadcast and promote events to a wider audience. Event ads reportedly increase viewership by an average of 31%. The platform now integrates with event management tools ON24 and Cvent, allowing users to manage webinars, launch events and run event ads directly on LinkedIn.

Source: [Social Media Today](#)

Key Media Movers and Shakers:

Georgia Wier, Red Online: Previously a writer for *HELLO!*, Georgia has been appointed deputy multiplatform editor at *Red Online* in a short-term maternity cover contract running until March 2026. Georgia will cover lifestyle, entertainment, fashion and beauty content across the site's digital channels.

MICE UPDATE

UKEvents calls on Chancellor to back events industry in Autumn budget

UKEvents has called on the Chancellor to support the UK's events sector ahead of the 2025 Autumn Budget. In its budget submission, *UKEVENTS: The Opportunity for Growth*, the industry body argues that Treasury action could unlock £14–18bn in additional trade and consumer activity each year, create up to 100,000 jobs and deliver significant increases in tax revenue. The UK events industry currently generates £61.5 billion in direct consumer spending and drives over £200 billion in trade, research, and innovation annually, and supports around 700,000 jobs nationwide. To strengthen this contribution, UKEvents is urging HM Treasury to extend reliefs for new and regional event productions, expand VisitBritain's Business Events Growth Programme, reform business rates, stabilise VAT for venues and suppliers, and explore National Insurance reliefs for event-driven industries.

Source: [Conference News](#)

LIGHTER NOTE

Frankie the flamingo wins her freedom after flying to France from Cornwall. See more [here](#).