

**22 November 2021**

### **Status of Arriva depot incident in Gelderland, the Netherlands**

On 28 October 2021, a large fire broke out in a depot of the transport company Arriva in Doetinchem, in the Dutch province of Gelderland. An investigation by local and regional safety authorities is underway to determine the cause of the fire. A diesel and a hydrogen fuel cell electric bus were in the maintenance building, which was destroyed in the fire. Firefighters and police reported that there were no casualties or injuries. "Unfortunately, the brand-new hydrogen bus has burned down," said an Arriva spokesperson. "But we think it's more important that everyone was safe and that no one was hurt."

The fuel cell electric bus was the first of 10 to be deployed in Gelderland as part of the FCH JU-funded JIVE project, which has already successfully deployed more than 100 hydrogen fuel cell buses in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and the UK.

At this stage, it is not known what started the fire. Although this type of incident is rare in fuel cell electric buses, a specialised committee is investigating it thoroughly to determine the root cause.

Arriva announced that the fire had not affected timetables and that vehicles were running normally.

The [European Hydrogen Safety Panel](#) (EHSP) stands ready to support the project partners when conducting the accident investigation and providing impartial expertise. Launched by the FCH JU in 2017, the EHSP assists the FCH JU at programme and project levels in assuring that hydrogen safety is adequately addressed and promotes hydrogen safety knowledge and culture in organisations engaged in hydrogen technologies.

Further developments will be reported in the coming weeks.



## About JIVE 1 and 2

The overall objective of the JIVE projects is to promote the commercialisation of fuel cell buses using vehicles and infrastructure on a large scale so that at the end of the project, fuel cell buses are commercially viable for bus operators and can be incorporated into their fleets without subsidies.

Objectives of the JIVE and JIVE 2 projects:

- Achieve the deployment of nearly 300 fuel cell buses across Europe.
- Foster joint procurement processes, encourage manufacturers to develop and refine their fuel cell bus offers, allowing cities to access economies of scale.
- Validate large scale fleets of fuel cell buses in operation and encourage further uptake.
- Showcase fuel cell buses as an environmentally friendly option for public transport authorities, offering the same operational flexibility as diesel buses but without the harmful tailpipe emissions.
- Deploy the largest hydrogen refuelling stations in Europe and operate them at near 100% reliability.
- Demonstrate routes to achieve low-cost renewable hydrogen.
- Share data and best practices to support the adoption of the technology and provide evidence of the suitability of fuel cell buses for a full roll-out.

The JIVE and JIVE2 projects have received funding from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking under grant agreements No 735582 and 779563. This Joint Undertaking receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, Hydrogen Europe, and Hydrogen Europe Research.

## About the FCH JU

The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) is a unique public-private partnership supporting research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) activities in fuel cell and hydrogen energy technologies in Europe. It aims to accelerate the market introduction of these technologies, realising their potential as an instrument in achieving a carbon-clean energy system.

Fuel cells, as an efficient conversion technology, and hydrogen, as a clean energy carrier, have a great potential to help fight carbon dioxide emissions, reduce dependence on hydrocarbons and contribute to economic growth. The objective of the FCH JU is to bring these benefits to Europeans through a concentrated effort from all sectors.

The three [members](#) of the FCH JU are the European Commission, fuel cell and hydrogen industries represented by Hydrogen Europe and the research community represented by Hydrogen Europe Research.

