

# BMW

## United Kingdom

### Corporate Communications



Media Information

12 June, 2026

#### **Summer News in Brief from BMW Group UK.**

- Autocar name Neue Klasse architecture as 'Mundy Award for Engineering' winner, with MINI JCW winning 'Future Classic' Award at 2026 Autocar Awards.
- BMW iX3 wins 'Youtube Directors Award' at Autotrader Drivers' Choice Awards 2026.
- Triple success for BMW at 2026 What Car? Tow Car Awards.
- BMW takes home four trophies at EcoCar Electrified Top 50 Awards 2026.
- Best Coupe and Family Car wins for BMW at Auto Express' 2026 Driver Power survey.

BMW Group UK is celebrating a strong start to the summer awards season, after receiving recognition from a range of leading automotive titles. Highlights include recent successes for BMW and MINI, at the 2026 Autocar Awards, Autotrader Drivers' Choice Awards, What Car? Tow Car Awards, Auto Express Driver Power 2026 and the EcoCar Electrified Top 50 Awards.

#### **Autocar name Neue Klasse architecture as 'Mundy Award for Engineering' winner, with MINI JCW winning 'Future Classic' Award at 2026 Autocar Awards.**

Earlier this week, BMW Group secured two coveted accolades at the annual Autocar Awards. All-new Neue Klasse architecture has received the prestigious Mundy Award for Engineering at the 2026 Autocar Awards. The Mundy Award is a highly regarding award that recognises standout engineering feats within the automotive industry for their exceptional technical contributions and innovation. The Neue Klasse architecture underlines the future BMW model portfolio, with BMW iX3, BMW 7 Series & BMW i3 already announced, and up to 40 new or updated models launching in the coming two years. Speaking on the origins, Mike Reichelt, the Head of Neue Klasse, stated that "we went all in and pushed every technology to the boundaries to lead BMW into the future. Ultimately it feels like a BMW, but a completely modern one and a new interpretation of what a BMW should be. And that's the biggest compliment we can get". The Neue Klasse architecture marks the first time a 'product' has been received this prize, rather than an individual person, since the Autocar's inaugural awards ceremony in 2017. Speaking on the win, judges commented that the first of the Neue Klasse models – the BMW iX3 – "is amongst the finest electric cars yet".

MINI was also victorious on the night, as Autocar named the MINI John Cooper Works (JCW) as the winner of their Future Classic Award for 2026. The MINI JCW was praised for its "compelling hot hatchback charm and trademark desirability", as it was benchmarked on its driving dynamics and significance in the current automotive market.

BMW Group Company

Postal Address  
BMW (UK) Ltd.  
Summit One  
Summit Avenue  
Farnborough  
GU14 0FB

Telephone  
01252 920000

Internet  
[www.bmw.co.uk](http://www.bmw.co.uk)

# BMW

## United Kingdom

### Corporate Communications

Media Information

Date 12 June, 2026

Subject **Summer News in Brief from BMW Group UK.**

Page 2

#### **BMW iX3 wins 'Youtube Director Award' at Autotrader Drivers' Choice Awards 2026.**

At the ninth annual Autotrader Drivers' Choice Awards, the BMW iX3 was revealed as the winner of this year's Youtube Director Award. This award is presented to a vehicle launched during the past 12 months that has stood out above the competition after being tested by Autotrader's Youtube Director, Rory Reid.

Speaking on the accolade, Rory commented, "The BMW iX3 stands out as a genuinely complete electric car. It combines a strong real-world range with everyday practicality, a high-quality, intuitive interior, and a driving experience that still feels distinctively BMW." To conclude, Rory states, "[the iX3 is] one of the most convincing all-round EVs on sale today".

#### **Triple success for BMW at 2026 What Car? Tow Car Awards.**

The annual What Car? Tow Car Awards help drivers choose a car that performs well both when towing and during everyday driving. Since its introduction in 2007, these awards assist buyers when it comes to towing capabilities across a range of weight classes. This year, the BMW 530e Touring was selected as the overall winner, claiming the headline award, as well as class winner for 'best car for caravans over 1,700kg'. Speaking on the triumph, judges praised the BMW 530e Touring for its "extreme stability", "excellent fuel economy", and "luxurious and roomy" interior. What Car? Editor, Steve Huntingford concluded by stating, "we tested many impressive cars this year, but none is better than the overall champion, the BMW 530e Touring. It makes an exceptional tow car".

Meanwhile, the all-new BMW iX3 was awarded 'best electric car for caravans over 1,400kg'. What Car? commented, "Electric tow cars are improving at an impressive rate. There's no better example than the BMW iX3". As reigning What Car? Car of the Year, the BMW iX3 impressed judges by being a "powerful and stable tow car", and What Car? Editor, Steve Huntingford, emphasised that the BMW iX3 is the "new standard-setter for electric tow cars".

#### **BMW takes home four trophies at EcoCar Electrified Top 50 Awards 2026.**

BMW was recently awarded four category wins at the EcoCar Electrified Top 50 Awards 2026. Now in its fifth year as a standalone awards event, the Top 50 celebrate the very

# BMW

## United Kingdom

### Corporate Communications

#### Media Information

Date 12 June, 2026

Subject **Summer News in Brief from BMW Group UK.**

Page 3

best electric, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, mild hybrid and hydrogen vehicles on sale in the UK. The 2026 awards saw BMW triumph, with four models placing within the top 31.

The all-new BMW iX3 was crowned 'Best Electric Executive SUV', as judges praised its "class leading" electric range, "premium interior", and "BMW's characteristic driving dynamics".

Meanwhile, for the fifth consecutive year, the BMW iX was selected as "Best Electric Luxury SUV". Judges commented, "A recent facelift has only improved what was already one of the finest electric vehicles on sale". Impressed by the model's "lounge-like interior", "state of the art" display screen, and usable performance, Diesel & Eco Car Editor, Ian Robertson, stated that the BMW iX is "one of his favourite cars on sale right now".

The BMW 5 Series and BMW i5 were named as "Best Plug-in Hybrid Executive Car" & "Best Electric Executive Car" respectively. Judges described these cars as "exceptional all-rounders that combine refinement, driver engagement and practicality in a thoroughly convincing package. Touring estate versions only enhance its appeal".

#### **Best Coupe and Family Car wins for BMW at Auto Express' 2026 Driver Power survey.**

The annual Auto Express Driver Power survey asks thousands of new car buyers to share their thoughts on the current automotive market and their real-world experiences during vehicle ownership. The results provide a good insight into what new car owners actually think of the cars they purchased and drive every day, helping fellow motorists choose their next vehicles. This year, BMW performed across a number of classes. The BMW 2 Series was named as 'Best Coupe', with buyers highlighting interior quality, driving pleasure and engine sounds as reasons to recommend. Particular praise was given to the infotainment system, with extra points noted for the 'user-friendly controls and smartphone connectivity.

Meanwhile the BMW 1 Series was triumphant in 'Best Family Car' category with highlights including infotainment technology, interior styling and reliability. Notable impressions being that the BMW 1 Series scored highest in the survey for front seat comfort with 93.2% of customers rating this highly. The two above BMW models both placed within the top 6 of the 50 surveyed models.

# BMW

## United Kingdom

### Corporate Communications

Media Information

Date 12 June, 2026

Subject **Summer News in Brief from BMW Group UK.**

Page 4

**Ends**

#### **The BMW Group**

With its four brands, BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial services. The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2025, the BMW Group sold 2.46 million passenger vehicles and more than 202,500 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2025 was € 10.2 billion on revenues amounting to € 133,5 billion. As of 31 December 2025, the BMW Group had a workforce of 154,540 employees.

The economic success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. Sustainability is a key element of the BMW Group's corporate strategy and covers all products – from the supply chain through production to the end of their useful life.

[www.bmwgroup.com](http://www.bmwgroup.com)

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/bmw-group/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/bmwgroup>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/bmwgroup>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bmwgroup>

#### **For further information please contact:**

Sam Buckingham  
Press Officer, MINI  
Tel: 07815 362 262  
[Samuel.Buckingham@mini.co.uk](mailto:Samuel.Buckingham@mini.co.uk)

Tom Evans  
Senior Press Officer, BMW  
Tel: 07815 371 705

# BMW

## United Kingdom

### Corporate Communications

#### Media Information

Date 12 June, 2026  
Subject **Summer News in Brief from BMW Group UK.**  
Page 5

Email: [Tom.Evans@bmw.co.uk](mailto:Tom.Evans@bmw.co.uk)

James Morrison  
Head of Product Communications  
Tel: 07815 372 646  
Email: [James.Morrison@bmw.co.uk](mailto:James.Morrison@bmw.co.uk)

Christina Burnham-Hepe  
Corporate Communications Director  
Tel: 07815 371 206  
Email: [Christina.Burnham-Hepe@bmw.co.uk](mailto:Christina.Burnham-Hepe@bmw.co.uk)