Significant Shorts on September 1st

1. *The Times* leads with new grants being offered by the government to help increase sales of electric cars. It says motorists could save up to £3,750, with the biggest discounts applying to British-made vehicles.
2. Pastry chefs in France say they've made the longest ever strawberry cake. It took 20 chefs one week, 4,000 eggs and a truckload of sugar to complete the 1.2 tonne cake, which they say measured at just shy of 400 feet long.
3. The National Trust is cutting at least 550 jobs, or about 6% of its workforce. The charity says its wage bill has risen by £10m since the Chancellor increased the national living wage and employers' national insurance contributions in last year's budget.
4. Britain's fastest supercomputer has just been turned on at a ceremony in Bristol. The Isambard AI is 100,000 times faster than a home computer. The government will decide who gets to use the phenomenal power of this computer, which could, for the first time, train a UK-specific large-language model or discover new medicines or cancer indications in scans. This is the first step in a plan to increase what is called the sovereign compute power, the capacity of government computers by 20-fold.
5. Now for a look at the morning papers and the government's plans to allow 16 and 17-year-olds to vote in the next general election is the main story for a number of them. *The Telegraph* quotes the leader of Reform UK Nigel Farage as saying that the move is an attempt to rig the political system. The paper also warns that it could backfire for Labour if the Greens, or a new hard-left political party led by Jeremy Corbyn, were to pick up momentum.
6. In a major medical breakthrough, doctors say eight babies have been born in the UK using genetic material from three people. It's the first proof that the pioneering technique can prevent incurable diseases being passed from mother to child.
7. A work of art featuring an overripe banana that was about to be sold for £90,000 has been eaten by another artist. The work by the Italian artist Maurizio Catalan was being displayed at an art fair in Miami in Florida when it was devoured.
8. President Trump has been left red-faced, according to the Daily Star's front page. The paper says Donald Trump praised the president of Liberia, Joseph Buakai, for speaking English well despite it being his country's official language.
9. Italian police have arrested a farmer accused of syphoning water from an aqueduct feeding the fountains and landscape gardens of the former royal palace of Casetta near Naples. Staff had complained of water shortages at the UNESCO World Heritage site. Police claim the suspect rigged up a pipe nearly 150 metres long to tap the aqueduct and supply water to his crops.
10. The Kiss Cam is a feature of many an American concert or sports game. A camera pans across the audience, picking out couples to show on enormous screens to the delight of the crowd. However, one couple at a Coldplay concert in Massachusetts, it turned into a moment of mortification, which quickly went viral on social media. Andy Byron, the chief executive of a software development business, and Kristen Cabot, the company's head of human resources, were watching the band at a stadium near Boston. Mr Byron was standing behind Miss Cabot, his arms laced around her, her hands clutching his. …. The technology firm boss, who's been at the centre of global attention since he was seen with a woman who was not his wife at a Coldplay concert, has resigned.