

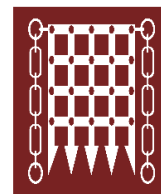
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Next steps for community energy in the UK

Timing: Morning, Friday, 16th October 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Community energy policy - Local Power Plan implementation, market reform and local participation**
Helen Seagrave, Head, Local Energy, Great British Energy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Market access, settlement reform and the future of community energy participation**
Matthew Billson, Chief Strategy Officer, Elexon
- 9.40 **Project development, investment and ownership models**
implementation of the Local Power Plan and allocation of funding | access to early-stage development finance and the balance between grants, loans and longer-term investment | the role of Great British Energy in project development, financing, technical support and delivery | strengthening the pipeline of community energy projects | attracting private and institutional investment alongside public funding | community shares, shared ownership and blended finance | establishing sustainable long-term income and managing commercial risk | governance, procurement and consumer protection | skills, expertise and organisational capacity | maintaining meaningful community involvement and control
Leila Tavendale, Head, Delivery Services, Locogen
Monika Paplaczky, Investment Director, Thrive Renewables
Iain Cockburn, Development Director, Brockwell Energy
Senior representative, community ownership
- 10.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Scaling community energy in the UK - progress, delivery and next steps**
Senior representative, community energy sector
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 **Local benefit, inclusion and support for community delivery**
approaches to reducing energy costs and tackling fuel poverty | community funds, support with energy costs, local investment and employment | enabling renters, vulnerable consumers and disadvantaged communities to share in the benefits of community energy | community ownership, shared ownership and public participation | visible local benefit and public confidence in energy infrastructure | measuring social, economic and energy outcomes beyond installed capacity | differences in communities' ability to develop projects | building local skills, expertise and organisational resilience | sharing knowledge, technical expertise and effective practice | roles for local authorities, regional partnerships and intermediary organisations
Helen Wright, Community Development Manager, BB Living
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, community energy project
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 **Regulatory considerations for community energy**
Francis Mosley, Head, Decentralised Energy Systems, Ofgem
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 **Planning, grid connections and energy system coordination**
Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 and NPPF reform | planning requirements and decision-making for community projects | grid connection reform, network capacity, delays and curtailment risks | collaboration between communities and network operators | community energy in Local Area Energy Plans, Regional Energy Spatial Plans and the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan | aligning national planning, network investment and delivery | roles for GBE, Ofgem, network operators, local authorities and community organisations | local skills and delivery capacity | community participation and environmental and biodiversity considerations | energy storage, flexibility and integrated local energy systems
Lynne McDonald, Head, Local Net Zero, UK Power Networks
Senior representative, local planning
Senior representative, strategic energy planning
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.45 **Delivering community energy at scale - priorities and next steps**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.10 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum