Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference
Next steps for onshore wind in England
Timing: Morning, Monday, 22nd February 2027
*****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 **Implementation of the *Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy* - progress so far and next steps for onshore wind in England**
Matthieu Hue, CEO, EDF Energy; and Joint Chair, Onshore Wind Council
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **Planning reform, consenting and progressing onshore wind projects**
revisions to the NPPF | suitable areas, local plan policies and development management processes | NSIP routes and consenting pathways | local authority capacity | emerging experience of applications and decisions | development costs and uncertainty | prospects for larger projects | aviation constraints and CAP 764
Senior representative, planning
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, energy developer
Questions and comments from the floor

10.10 **Implementing connection reform - progress and priorities for the reformed queue**
Senior representative, operator

10.20 **Grid access for onshore wind - connection offers, network constraints and system costs**
NESO Gate 2 to Whole Queue reform | experience of revised connection offers and dates | CfD AR8 connection eligibility requirements | transmission constraints and distribution network capacity | project viability, financing and planning milestones | regional capacity allocation | network reinforcement and coordination with developers | constraint costs and network charges
Senior representative, grid
Senior representative, distribution network operator
Senior representative, onshore wind developer

10.35 Questions and comments from the floor

11.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

11.00 Break

11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

11.15 **Industry priorities for onshore wind in England - project development, sector growth and *Clean Power 2030***
James Robottom, Head, Policy, RenewableUK

11.25 **Investment, supply chains and workforce capacity - commercial conditions, routes to market and existing wind farms**
CfD AR8 results and implications for investment | routes to market, corporate PPAs and project viability | Clean Industry Bonus for AR9 | turbine and electrical equipment supply | supply chain capability and UK manufacturing | repowering, refurbishment and life extension | engineering, planning and construction skills | recruitment, training and cross-sector mobility
Senior representative, investment
Senior representative, supply chain
Senior representative, skills

11.40 Questions and comments from the floor

12.00 **Spatial planning, environmental impacts, community interests and engagement**
SSEP and local plans | landscape, visual and cumulative impacts | biodiversity and environmental assessment | local engagement and differing community views | community benefit arrangements and proposals for a mandatory scheme | shared ownership and community energy models | landowner arrangements and rural land use | implications for the location of generation and electricity infrastructure
Senior representative, environment
Senior representative, community energy
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor

12.45 **The role of onshore wind in renewable electricity strategy - priorities for policy**
Emma Roberts, Head, Onshore Wind, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
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