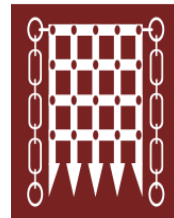


**Westminster Business Forum and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:
Next steps for the UK battery sector - manufacturing capacity, investment and supply chains**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 8th December 2026

*****Taking place online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Research and innovation in the UK battery sector - considerations for commercialisation, scale-up and emerging markets**
Dr Valentina Gentili, Battery Innovation Programme Director, Innovate UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Scaling gigafactories and domestic battery manufacturing - investment, competitiveness and delivery**
response to recommendations from the UK Gigafactory Commission's Britain's Battery Future report | progress on the £380m Government grant for the Ayras gigafactory | availability of manufacturing-ready sites, including grid, water and transport infrastructure | planning and permitting requirements and coordination between government, investors and local delivery partners | attracting global battery manufacturers and automotive OEMs, including the competitiveness of the UK investment offer | implications of DRIVE35 for battery manufacturing investment and automotive demand | access to public and private finance for gigafactory and supply-chain investment | investor confidence and policy certainty | progress towards commercial-scale domestic battery manufacturing | priorities for the next generation of UK gigafactory projects
Senior representative, manufacturing
Senior representative, local delivery
Senior representative, investment
Senior representative, infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **The future of UK electric vehicle manufacturing - demand, the ZEV mandate and UK-EU trade**
Senior representative, automotive industry
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.15 **Supporting competitive lower-carbon battery manufacturing - energy costs and efficiency**
Senior representative, environment
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Priorities for resilient UK supply chains - materials, processing and circularity**
implementation priorities for the Vision 2035 Critical Minerals Strategy | developing domestic cathode and anode material production | securing resilient international supply arrangements | battery reuse and second-life applications | scaling recycling, black-mass processing and advanced recovery technologies | delivery of the Circular Economy Growth Plan | workforce and skills priorities across the battery value chain | strengthening the UK's economic resilience and resource security | requirements for supply chain mapping, provenance and traceability from raw materials through processing and battery manufacture | improving feedstock availability and the economics of recovery | coordination between manufacturers, producers, treatment operators and recyclers
Senior representative, circular economy
Senior representative, critical minerals
Senior representative, skills
Senior representative, regulation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for the battery sector**
Raja Hanna, Head, Batteries, Finance and Innovative Technologies, Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Forum Projects closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Thomas Howard, Westminster Forum Projects