

## Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for solar power in the UK

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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



WESTMINSTER ENERGY  
ENVIRONMENT &  
TRANSPORT FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Solar power in the UK - the Solar Taskforce's recommendations and next steps**  
**Chris Hewett**, Chief Executive, Solar Energy UK; and Joint Chair, Solar Taskforce, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Assessing delivery of the UK Solar Roadmap**  
*priorities for implementation | planning reform and integration with local land use plans | resourcing and statutory timelines for planning departments | balancing land use with biodiversity and food security | clarity on Best and Most Versatile land and site prioritisation | rooftop, brownfield and balcony deployment | community energy and engagement | expectations for community benefits and local participation*  
**Poppy Maltby**, Head, Local Energy, Regen  
**Alex Minhinick**, Partner, Burges Salmon  
**Emma Bridge**, Chief Executive, Community Energy England  
**Jackie Copley**, Campaigns Lead, Campaign to Protect Rural England  
Senior representative, infrastructure  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Regulatory priorities and coordination for accelerated solar deployment**  
**Dr Sugandha Srivastav**, Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer, British Academy; and Senior Research Fellow, Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 **Ethical sourcing, domestic innovation, and supply chain resilience in UK solar manufacturing**  
**Andrew Moore**, Founder and CEO, UKSOL
- 11.15 **Enablers for scaling up solar delivery**  
*investment frameworks and supporting market confidence | implications of CfD terms and auction design | procurement and delivery models | role of GBE and coordination with the public estate | strengthening domestic manufacturing and innovation | import policy, ethical sourcing and supply chain resilience | workforce availability, accreditation and training pathways | ensuring delivery capacity across regions*  
**Mark Wakeford**, Chair, National Federation of Builders; and Member, Global Solar Council  
**Dr Laura Miranda**, Chief Communications and Sustainability Officer, Oxford PV  
**Maria Dutton**, Consumer Finance Lead, Green Finance Institute
- 11.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Preparing the grid for increased solar deployment**  
*transition to the First Ready, First Connected model | sequencing and prioritising projects | regional capacity constraints and grid connection timelines | coordination across Ofgem, ESO, transmission and distribution operators | investment pipeline and network resilience planning | flexible grid connections and queue management | integration of storage and flexibility to manage curtailment | alignment between grid readiness and planning progression*  
**Ed Birkett**, New Projects Director, Low Carbon  
**Su Neves e Brooks**, Head, Connections Strategy and Reform, National Grid  
Senior speaker confirmed from SSEN  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for solar energy in the UK**  
**Daniel Cox**, Deputy Director, Renewable Electricity Strategy, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum