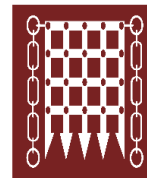


**Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:
Next steps for hydrogen in the UK - policy, regulation, markets, and delivery**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 8th October 2026

*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Key policy considerations for hydrogen in the UK**
Paul Henderson, Deputy Director, Hydrogen Strategy, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Assessing hydrogen's role in the UK's net zero pathway - sustainability, value for money and public confidence**
hydrogen in energy system decarbonisation, resilience, storage and flexibility | assessing demand for hydrogen and priority areas for deployment, including hard-to-electrify sectors | efficiency, affordability and value for money | hydrogen production pathways - emissions, feasibility and fossil fuel use considerations | hydrogen's role alongside electrification and carbon removals | lifecycle emissions, methane leakage, water and land use implications | public confidence, transparency and environmental accountability | implications of international policy developments for UK competitiveness
Dr Adam Hawkes, Professor, Energy Systems, Imperial College London
Brett Ryan, Policy Director, Hydrogen UK
Stuart Dossett, Senior Policy Adviser, Green Alliance
Martin Doherty, Director, Energy Transition, Encirc
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Commercial and environmental priorities for hydrogen development in the UK**
Oliver Aldridge, Commercial and Power Manager, Protium
- 10.25 **Approaches to attracting investment and supporting project viability**
providing long-term certainty to support private investment | delivery frameworks, revenue certainty and demand signals | allocation of liabilities between government and industry participants | cost of capital, revenue support mechanisms and reducing cost pressures for production | implications of HAR2 outcomes and priorities for HAR3 design, eligibility, contracting windows and delivery milestones | lessons from delayed projects, demonstration schemes and pilot programmes | implications for final investment decisions and project pipelines | transport, storage and demand-side business models, including Hydrogen to Power and support for offtakers
Hugo Lidbetter, Partner, Osborne Clarke
Joshua Smith, Director, Banking and Investments, National Wealth Fund
James Collins, Head, Corporate Affairs, ITM Power
- 10.40 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.20 **Policy and planning priorities for hydrogen networks**
Jeremy Brutus, Head, Hydrogen and Gas Policy, NESO
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Integrating hydrogen into the UK gas network**
John Wilson, Head, Hydrogen, National Gas
- 11.55 **Infrastructure delivery - planning, workforce and supply chains**
developing hydrogen production, transport and storage infrastructure at scale | integration with existing gas and electricity systems | strategic network planning, pipeline development and shared industrial cluster infrastructure | planning and consenting timelines, grid connection delays and network access considerations | future approaches to hydrogen blending | domestic manufacturing capability and supply chain resilience | workforce requirements, upskilling and regional economic development | co-ordination between developers, network operators and public authorities | community engagement and local impacts
Henry James, Net Zero Portfolio Manager, Industrial Clusters, Wales & West Utilities
Justine Fosh, CEO, Cogent Skills
Duncan Birtwistle, Chair, HyNet Alliance for Progressive Energy, HyNet
Lara Peterson, Technical Director, Infrastructure Planning, WSP
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **The future of hydrogen in the UK**
Jane Toogood, Co-Chair, UK Hydrogen Delivery Council
Dr Emma Guthrie, CEO, Hydrogen Energy Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.10 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum