

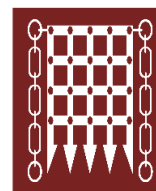
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

The future for water markets in England and Wales

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 13th October 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, Member, Environment and Climate Change Committee
- 9.05 **Priorities for regulating the water sector - delivery, performance and long-term planning**
Dr James Jenkins, Head, Sustainability and Natural Assets, Ofwat
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Price-setting and investment planning - considerations for fairness and network resilience**
Senior representative, regulation
- 9.40 **Market priorities for consumers - trust, transparency, affordability and engagement**
Grace Remington, Head, Household Policy, Consumer Council for Water
- 9.50 **Aligning economic regulation with performance objectives - reform, price-setting, investment and long-term delivery**
aligning economic regulation with environmental and service performance expectations | priorities for standards, rewards and penalties | implications of the Water (Special Measures) Act 2025 | PR24 and AMP8 redeterminations and delivery | strategies for attracting and deploying investment | assessing proposals in the Water White Paper | reforming the Price Review Cycle and moving towards 25-year planning horizons | maintaining asset health across the water system and enhancing infrastructure mapping | managing debt-to-equity ratios while delivering on infrastructure needs | looking ahead to the water Transition Plan and the forthcoming Clean Water Bill | managing regulatory transition | priorities for the new integrated regulator and Performance Improvement Regime | the role of a new Water Ombudsman | balancing investment and network resilience with service performance, environmental sustainability and affordability | potential options for introducing green bonds to water markets
Darren Rice, Director, Regulation, Anglian Water
Michael Barlow, Partner, Burges Salmon
Annabelle Ong, Director, Frontier Economics
Peter O'Flaherty, Managing Director, Asset Management, Equitix
- 10.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Regulatory transition - priorities for continuity, stability and sector reform for the new water regulator**
Dame Julia Black, Senior Adviser to the Environment Secretary on Water Reform Transition, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, Member, Environment and Climate Change Committee
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 **Market arrangements - entry, expansion, data sharing, digital infrastructure and competition**
supporting market expansion and new entrants | clarifying licensing and obligations for NAVs | NAV application processing times | strengthening the no-worse-off test | revisions to bulk charging for the water wholesale market | role of digital infrastructure in system monitoring and oversight | strategic data innovations, water efficiency and demand management | the role of data monitoring and AI analytics in the new performance regime | smart metering, tariff design and plans to phase-out falling block tariffs | market efficiency, flexibility and innovation
Keith Hutton, Group Regulation Director, BUUK Infrastructure
Tom Cochrane, Partner, CEPA
Senior representative, water company
Senior representative, innovation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 **Competition, flexibility and fairness in the business retail market**
market arrangements in the business retail market | refinement options for deemed tariffs, price caps and the Review of Retail Exit Codes | safeguards for consumers, especially SMEs | implementing MOSL's Business Plan 2025-2028 | new Market Performance Framework | smart data and tariff modernisation | settlement speed and accuracy | charging and compliance | National Metering Strategy, Strategic Data Programme and the launch of the Smart Meter Read Hub | reducing administrative burdens for switching | exit risk and proposals to introduce Supplier of Last Resort mechanism | facilitating data exchange and bilateral trading | centralisation of access to non-household consumption data
Dr Sarah McMath, CEO, MOSL
Professor Jacob Tompkins, Chief Technology Officer, The Water Retail Company
Neil Pendle, CEO, Waterscan
Senior representative, SME
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.45 **Future market design - policy priorities for the water sector**
Lucy Ryan, Director, Water System Reform, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
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