

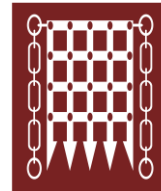
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Priorities for water security and resilience in England and Wales

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 12th January 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 **Assessing water security in the UK - preparedness, climate risks and long-term resource pressures**
Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Chair, Adaptation Committee, Climate Change Committee
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Implementing the National Framework for Water Resources 2025 - priorities for securing future supplies**
Richard Thompson, Deputy Director, Water Resources, Environment Agency
- 9.40 **Future water security policy - managing scarcity, strengthening resilience and balancing competing demands**
implications of the CCC's Fourth Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk | approaches to improving drought preparedness and emergency planning | drought prioritisation, restrictions and continuity during periods of water stress | assessing projections for drought, extreme heat and water stress | impact on public supply, agriculture, industry and energy generation | competing requirements for households, food production, energy, housing and economic growth alongside environmental needs | support for vulnerable and high-dependency users and preparedness for businesses and essential services | abstraction flexibility and priorities for agricultural water storage | the role of regional water resource groups in long-term planning and coordination | balancing water security objectives with environmental protection and river health
Mark Lloyd, CEO, The Rivers Trust
Matt Wheeldon, Sustainable Solutions Director, Wessex Water
Senior representative, water resources group
Senior representative, local authority
- 10.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Regulatory transition, water resource planning and strategic investment - priorities for resilient, sustainable and affordable supplies**
Paul Hickey, Senior Director, RAPID and Environmental Planning, Ofwat
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 **Practicalities for improving water efficiency and safeguarding drinking water - priorities for households, businesses and agriculture**
role of demand management and reduction | statutory and interim targets for reducing water use and leakage | implementing water efficiency design and retrofitting buildings | mandatory water efficiency labelling and future building standards | consumer engagement and behaviour change | barriers and opportunities to achieving water efficiency gains across industry, energy generation and agriculture | smart technologies, metering and data-driven approaches | approaches to reducing leakage and preventing water loss across networks | water reuse, recycling and rainwater harvesting | balancing affordability, sustainability and resilience | nature-based solutions and catchment approaches to resilience
Chris Gooderham, Environment Director, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board
Senior representative, water industry
Senior representative, consumers
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Infrastructure delivery, investment and system resilience - priorities for secure water supplies**
delivery of AMP8 investment programmes and implications of the CMA's redeterminations | balancing investment with affordability and public confidence | asset health, maintenance and reducing single points of failure | delivery of new supply infrastructure, including reservoirs, transfers and recycling schemes | consenting, construction capacity, supply chains and skills | role of infrastructure planning in supporting housing and economic growth | aligning infrastructure planning with future demand | resilience to flooding, contamination and other physical disruption | cybersecurity and resilience of operational technology | critical supplier and third-party dependencies, contingency planning and recovery | implications of regulatory reform and emerging policy on stronger public control for investment and accountability | innovation, digitalisation and asset management strategies
Leonie Dubois, Delivery Director, Consents and Place, Thames Water
Senior representative, investment
Senior representative, infrastructure
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.40 **Next steps for water sector reform and long-term resource planning - regulatory transition, infrastructure and resilience**
Martin Woolhead, Deputy Director, Water Infrastructure Delivery, 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