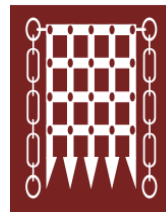


**Westminster Employment Forum and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for developing green skills and clean energy employment opportunities in England**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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



Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath**, former Minister of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024-2025)
- 9.05 **Developing green skills and clean energy employment opportunities in England - key issues for policy, funding, and implementation**  
**Giulia Marzetti**, Manager, Climate and Sustainability, Deloitte; and European Climate Pact Ambassador, European Commission
- 9.15 **Assessing the Clean Energy Jobs Plan - priorities for developing investment, infrastructure, and meeting industry needs**  
*alignment with the Modern Industrial Strategy and the 2025 Spending Review | priorities for funding and certainty for stakeholders | clean energy workforce planning and investment in training | integration with Local Skills Improvement Plans | coordinating national and local investment in facilities and provision | role of the Growth and Skills Levy in employer-led training | development of clean energy Technical Excellence Colleges | coordination between Skills England, the Office for Clean Energy Jobs, and devolved administrations | developing homegrown talent and reducing reliance on international recruitment | ensuring fair pay, conditions, and union engagement under the Plan | building consistent metrics and data-sharing frameworks to monitor delivery, quality, and regional outcomes*  
**Jon Ridley**, Principal, Newcastle College and Newcastle College University Centre  
**Mark Sommerfeld**, UK Director, CCSA  
**Chris Claydon MBE**, Chief Executive, JTL
- 9.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.00 **Identifying workforce priorities in the green economy**  
**Catherine Anderson**, Director, Environmental Consents, WSP  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath**, former Minister of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024-2025)
- 10.30 Break
- 10.40 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Elsa Woodworth Jones**, Westminster Forum Projects
- 10.45 **Priorities for improving job quality, inclusion, and transition in the green economy**  
**Charlotte Brumpton-Childs**, National Officer, Energy & Utilities Sector, GMB Union
- 10.55 **Next steps for progression pathways, workforce transitions, and widening participation**  
*developing progression routes for the clean energy workforce | targeted reskilling and upskilling, including support for transitions from oil and gas, and other legacy sectors | maintaining fair work standards and income stability | expanding the Energy Skills Passport to nuclear and electricity networks | promoting cross-sector mobility and technical recognition frameworks | improving diversity, inclusion, and access for underrepresented groups | strengthening schemes for veterans, ex-offenders, and unemployed adults | improving the use of workforce data to track uptake, completion, and progression | balancing homegrown pipeline development with international recruitment dependencies*  
**Dr Graeme Larsen**, Associate Dean, Sustainability, University of the Built Environment  
**Paul Bourgeois**, Strategy Director, Climate, Local Partnerships  
**Dr Adam Read**, Chief Sustainability and External Affairs Officer, SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK
- 11.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Devolution and the role of combined authorities in delivering green jobs**  
**Ross Lowrie**, Head, Clean Energy and Environment, North East Combined Authority
- 11.50 **Assessing regional strategies, employer engagement, and long-term planning**  
*integrating green skills priorities into local growth and skills plans | aligning LSIPs with regional energy-system planning and retrofit delivery capacity | coordination between devolved and national strategies, including alignment with the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill | embedding workforce and Fair Work Charter criteria in public grants and contracts | training provision to meet local labour market demand | addressing regional variation, scalability and collaboration through joint funding schemes | fostering innovation, digital capability, and SME participation in regional labour markets | developing consistent indicators for monitoring regional outcomes and performance*  
**Maria Gonella**, Managing Partner, Quantum Group  
**Polly Harrold**, Public Affairs Manager, Santander UK  
**Mark Nason**, Head, Professional Practice, Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for addressing local and national skills gaps in clean energy**  
**Hugo Jones**, Deputy Director, Office for Clean Energy Jobs
- 12.40 **Policy priorities for developing qualification pathways and the role of post-16 skills strategy in meeting workforce needs**  
**Jennifer Barr**, Head, Clean Energy and Life Sciences, Skills Group, Skills England
- 12.50 Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.10 **Chair's and Westminster Forum Projects closing remarks**  
**Elsa Woodworth Jones**, Westminster Forum Projects