

Scotland Policy Conferences keynote seminar:

Next steps for energy policy in Scotland

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 20th March 2025

Taking Place Online



SCOTLAND POLICY
CONFERENCES

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Brian Whittle MSP, Shadow Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and Co-Convenor, Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- 9.05 **Key developments and considerations for the future of Scottish energy policy**
Dr Antonios Katris, Research Fellow, Centre for Energy Policy, University of Strathclyde
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Priorities for aligning energy sector sustainability with regulatory frameworks, funding, and environmental objectives**
Senior representative, energy sector
- 9.35 **Assessing policy plans and implications for Scotland's energy sector, the environment and communities**
assessing latest energy developments | strategies for transition to net zero | issues and opportunities for key sectors, communities and the environment | considerations for collaborative policy development and implementation | impact of policy on renewable energy expansion, grid infrastructure and local communities | structuring environmental and biodiversity safeguards | coordination between Scottish and UK authorities
Lin Bunten, Chief Operating Officer, Regulation, Business, and Environment, Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Dr Fraser Stewart, Lead, Energy Justice and Just Transition, Regen
Senior representative, renewable energy
Senior representative, local government
- 10.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Opportunities for regulatory alignment and collaborative frameworks**
Senior representative, regulation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**
Brian Whittle MSP, Shadow Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform; Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party and Co-Convenor, Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- 10.55 Break
- 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Sarah Boyack MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform; Scottish Labour Party and Party Spokesperson on Energy, Just Transition and Net Zero
- 11.10 **Supporting the workforce in transition to a green economy**
Jim Brown, Partnership Director, Energy Skills Partnership
- 11.20 **Balancing environmental safeguards with energy ambitions**
Senior representative, marine biodiversity
- 11.30 **Priorities and key considerations for scaling up green energy innovation, development and implementation**
addressing regulatory delays, funding, and collaborative frameworks for infrastructure upgrades | supporting investor confidence | retraining and skills development priorities for the green economy | aligning energy ambitions with economic and societal priorities | providing equitable access and support in rural and disadvantaged areas | balancing biodiversity protection with renewable energy expansion | scaling hydrogen hubs and wider infrastructure development | innovation in green technology | building supply chain resilience
Tom Hughes, Assistant Director and Lead, Energy, National Infrastructure Commission
Laura Campbell, Partnership Manager, Local Energy Scotland
Maarten Krabbendam, Chief Geologist, Scotland, British Geological Survey
Eddie McAvinchey, Director, Banking and Investments, National Wealth Fund
Dr Nigel Holmes, CEO, Hydrogen Scotland
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for Scotland's energy policy development and implementation**
Madeleine Plater, Head of Energy Strategy and Markets Unit, Scottish Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Sarah Boyack MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform; Scottish Labour Party and Party Spokesperson on Energy, Just Transition and Net Zero
Sean Cudmore, Scotland Policy Conferences