Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Next steps for water infrastructure in England and Wales

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 18th November 2025

Taking Place Online

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

9.05 The future for water infrastructure in England and Wales - priorities for reform, regulation, coordination, and resilience

Senior representative, policy

Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 Consumer and environmental protection - enhancing public trust

Karen Gibbs, Senior Leader, Environment, Consumer Council for Water

9.45 <u>Assessing priorities for reform - regulation, governance, and resilience standards</u>

recommendations from the Independent Water Commission | reform of regulatory bodies and structures | supervisory approaches and transparency in performance reporting | achieving water company accountability | implementing national resilience standards | mandating for public health | rebuilding public trust | criteria and governance of a National Water Strategy | managing transition to a new regulator | strengthening coordination between Ofwat, the Environment Agency, and the Drinking Water Inspectorate | integrating improved asset health data into long-term planning

Giles Bristow, CEO, Surfers Against Sewage

Liz Sharp, Professor of Water and Planning, School of Geography and Planning, University of Sheffield

Senior representative, water sector

Senior representative, infrastructure management

10.05 Questions and comments from the floor

10.30 Strategic considerations for planning, performance, and oversight

Anita Shah, Regulation Director, National Audit Office

10.45 Securing long-term investment and improving financial resilience in the water sector

investment challenges and funding gaps | funding streams for Asset Management Period 8 | assessing proposals for Competition and Markets Authority redeterminations of Price Review 2024 | attracting private capital | leveraging the 10-Year Infrastructure Strategy and Spending Review commitments | Mansion House Accord and National Wealth Fund support | reporting, assurance and improving investor confidence | clarity in regulatory signals to support investment

Dr Lisa Gahan, Director of Economics, Pennon Group

Senior representative, financial consultancy

10.55 Questions and comments from the floor

11.20 Chair's closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

11.25 Break

11.35 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

11.40 Sector priorities for water infrastructure planning, development, and renewal

Senior representative, water sector

Questions and comments from the floor

12.05 <u>Infrastructure delivery - major capital projects, asset management implementation, and managing risks</u>

deliverability, cost, and alignment with environmental and resilience standards | workforce capacity | supply chain requirements | supporting infrastructure ambitions amid heightened scrutiny and investor pressures | addressing gaps in condition monitoring and data sharing | utilising digital tools and predictive maintenance | supporting innovation in asset renewal and operations | incorporating climate risk and drought preparedness | implementation of regional planning bodies, and coordination between regional plans and national strategies | integrating supply infrastructure into housing and development policy | addressing deterioration of ageing infrastructure | aligning workforce skills development with delivery of Asset Management Period 8

Daniel Johns, Managing Director, Water Resources East

Steve Salvin, CEO, Aiimi

Senior representative, water sector

Senior representative, infrastructure

Senior representative, skills

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 Adapting to a changing climate - water resource management, resilience, and future planning

Senior representative, policy

Questions and comments from the floor

13.25 Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum

