



**Bryt**Energy

# OUR COLLECTIVE ROLE IN POWERING A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

EVENT SUMMARY REPORT JUNE 2025



# EVENT SUMMARY REPORT

As a supplier, we play a key role in the energy industry and want to use our influence to help businesses use electricity more intelligently and sustainably, as we know that the UK can't achieve a net zero energy system if we all work in silos. Part of the **Statkraft Group**, we were formed with the purpose of helping to lead Britain towards a **net zero, sustainable energy future** - having a positive impact on businesses, communities and the planet - and are passionate about helping businesses progress on their own sustainability journeys.

The energy industry has seen massive shifts recently, with emissions from the electricity supply sector falling by 15% last year<sup>1</sup>, and it's more important than ever that we continue this momentum. Our energy consultant partners will need to be well-equipped to help customers navigate the net zero energy transition and decarbonise their business through a holistic energy strategy. So we want to help convey the information that is needed by facilitating powerful conversations in the energy industry.

That's why we hosted an event in June 2025 for our energy consultant partners - **'Our Collective Role in Powering a Sustainable Energy Future'**. Hosted at **The Exchange** in Birmingham, this event brought together **key energy experts**, to discuss the changing energy landscape, and what this means for businesses. It was an inspiring and engaging day, with each of our speakers encouraging positive change by exploring how far the UK has advanced in the energy transition, whilst explaining what more needs to be done and the opportunities for businesses that will arise.

Throughout the day, **nine speakers** shared their insight across **three sessions**, with each followed by a panel discussion. This report summarises their findings and takeaways from the day, including some key things you need to know about the changing energy landscape.



<sup>1</sup><https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/mar/27/uk-carbon-emissions-fell-by-4-in-2024-official-figures-show>  
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# SESSION ONE: WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE A NET ZERO, SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE?

In recent years, the impacts of climate change have acted as a **catalyst for tremendous change** across the UK's energy industry – as seen within markets, infrastructure, the UK's fuel mix, Government policies, and consumer demand. Our Sales and Marketing Director, **David Taylor**, introduced the day's first session by emphasising that the energy industry must respond to this rapid change with **increased ambition, innovation and speed**; rising to face the challenges and taking hold of the opportunities of the energy transition. **It's the right thing to do**, no matter the challenges, and provides opportunities for those who get involved.

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*The people in this room engage with, influence and support a huge proportion of the energy consumption in the UK. You work with some of the biggest, most influential customers, and you're often involved in the planning, setting and execution of their energy and carbon strategies. There's a need for innovation, technology deployment, and behaviour change across sectors, companies and individuals, and none of this can be achieved without consumers thinking and acting differently about how energy is considered and used in a low-carbon, renewable energy system.*

**David Taylor, Sales and Marketing Director at Bryt Energy**



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Our first session explored three key areas of change within the energy industry: the energy market, infrastructure, and Government policy.

## CHANGES WITHIN THE MARKET AND WHAT THIS MEANS FOR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

**Duncan Dale, Vice President of Customers Facing Business at Statkraft**, provided a global context to the energy transition, discussing the **major changes we are seeing in the energy market**, and the business opportunities these changes can create.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There has been a significant shift towards renewable energy
- Energy has become a much more global, interconnected market
- These have created positive opportunities for consumers
- The net zero energy transition is inevitable

The global market has been seeing some **significant increases in renewables** in recent years. For example, China is the world's biggest greenhouse gas emitter, accounting for **32%** of the world's emissions<sup>2</sup>. However, last year they also created almost **64%** of new renewable energy generation globally<sup>3</sup>, and they currently hold **30%** of global renewable energy capacity<sup>4</sup>. This dichotomy demonstrates the fact that anyone, and any nation, can **pivot towards renewable energy**, to make positive change.

Despite political discourse on climate change, Duncan highlighted that the low cost of producing renewable energy means that it will ultimately dominate over other forms of generation.

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*Money speaks louder than words; renewable energy is the lowest cost form of generation, and so it will ultimately win.*

**Duncan Dale, Vice President of Customers Facing Business at Statkraft**

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In recent years, the energy market has evolved into one that is a much more global, interconnected market, with the exporting of power sources such as **Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)** influencing countries' electricity globally. The USA is now the biggest exporter of LNG and China has grown to be the biggest importer; Europe acts as the global LNG balancing market as cargoes divert from and to it based on what happens elsewhere.

Duncan also highlighted how heavily influenced the UK market is by Europe, with **40%** of the energy prices in the UK now set by prices in mainland Europe.

Duncan emphasised that pace is needed in the energy transition, but macro forces have the potential of slowing down progress.



*The energy transition can't be stopped, but it can be delayed.*

**Duncan Dale, Vice President of Customers Facing Business at Statkraft**



The current changes in the energy market present many opportunities for consumers looking to embrace the energy transition. Renewable auction prices across Europe are gradually decreasing, which means that acquiring **Corporate Power Purchase Agreements (CPPAs)** may become easier for businesses with time, because prices could become more comparable to standard supply contracts.

Green hydrogen was also highlighted as a key area of potential, with its rise deemed as essential and inevitable, despite a relatively slow start. The technology is emerging as a pioneering solution for **decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors of industry**, especially gas, and is promising for

the UK's emission reduction targets. The **Low-Carbon Hydrogen Standard (LCHS)**, created by the UK Government's hydrogen subsidy schemes, establishes a clear criteria for the power supplied to make low carbon hydrogen, with mechanisms in place to ensure its carbon content remains below the defined threshold. Duncan explained that, in the future, suppliers could offer LCHS power with a guaranteed maximum carbon intensity, verified at hourly granularity, to help balance renewable energy procurement with the grid in real time - "It is a much better method of linking consumption to zero carbon production and it has 'teeth'."



*In conclusion, the energy transition is inevitable because renewable energy is the lowest cost form of energy; the power markets are now globally connected in a way they have never been before; there are so many opportunities for energy consultants and consumers to go after; and the Low-Carbon Hydrogen Standard is emerging as a positive mechanism for facilitating the development of the UK's low-carbon hydrogen market.*

**Duncan Dale, Vice President of Customers Facing Business at Statkraft**



## CHANGES WITHIN INFRASTRUCTURE

National Grid's UK Sustainability Manager, Steve Thompson, provided an overview of current and future changes in the UK's grid infrastructure, showcasing the progress that has been made in decarbonising the transmission network and the steps that still need to be taken.



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The grid has made significant progress in decarbonisation
- Everyone must contribute and play their part in further decarbonising the grid
- Infrastructure needs to expand and be upgraded

Positively, Steve first emphasised the strides that have been taken in decarbonising the grid. In 2010, the UK had a carbon intensity of **457g CO<sub>2</sub> per KW hour**<sup>5</sup>, but this has fallen to **125g last year**<sup>6</sup>.

This is due to an **increase in renewable generation**, as well as a decrease in fossil fuels – especially in coal power, which was officially **phased out** at the end of September 2024.

Of course, there is still much to do if we are to meet the **UK's Clean Power 2030 Action Plan**<sup>7</sup>. Steve states that the biggest challenge we face in accomplishing this target is **delivering all necessary moving parts simultaneously**.







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*It's clear to see that the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan is really ambitious. What this ambition does is give us focus in the energy sector and sets out our challenges clearly, but it requires everyone to play their part perfectly.*

**Steve Thompson, UK Sustainability Manager at National Grid**



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To help meet this target, the ‘**Great Grid Upgrade**’ will significantly expand and upgrade the grid infrastructure and transmission network, with the development of **twelve onshore and five offshore transmission projects**. This will allow more renewable energy to flow to consumers and reinforce the stability of the grid, but Steve highlights that planning reform is essential to streamline the decision-making process involved.

(GWP) **23,500 times greater than CO<sub>2</sub><sup>8</sup>**, it is one of the most potent greenhouse gases. In the short-term, the construction of this infrastructure may increase the National Grid’s carbon footprint, but it is hoped to **significantly bring down the carbon footprint of energy consumers** across the country in the long term, helping to eventually achieve a ‘clean’ energy system.

**TWICE AS MUCH INFRASTRUCTURE MUST BE BUILT IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, COMPARED TO THAT WHICH WAS BUILT IN THE LAST DECADE**

Steve concluded his talk by discussing the National Grid’s own sustainability plans. As the decarbonisation of the grid has significant impacts on the carbon footprint of other energy consumers, the action they take has **major implications for other businesses’ sustainability journeys, so businesses will need to consider this impact within their own carbon footprint**.

Significantly, National Grid are making progress in exploring alternatives to **Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)** to use in the transmission network and are developing their **first gas-insulated SF<sub>6</sub>-free substation of the network**. SF<sub>6</sub> can leak in small volumes, and, as it has a global warming potential

## CHANGES WITHIN POLICY AND THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Rachel Cary, Head of Industrial Strategy at Energy UK, explored the recent **changes within UK Government policy and the political landscape**, and how businesses can respond to these changes.



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The current Government has made power sector decarbonisation a clear focus
- We’re facing two key challenges: the price of energy, and network connections
- Further changes in Government policy are required

Rachel began her talk by explaining that the current UK Government **has made power sector decarbonisation a clear focus**, and there has already been significant progress made and a plan for the future. For example, the **Great British Energy Bill** has now been passed in Parliament, and restrictions for **the development of onshore wind farms** have also been lifted.

In terms of implementing the Government’s strategy for the decarbonisation of the energy sector, two key challenges were highlighted: **the price of energy, and network connections**. Energy prices were seen as a key issue by respondents to the **Invest 2035** consultation, with **non-commodity costs**, including network charges, being a major issue for businesses. Network connections also still present issues for consumers, regarding cost and speed of distribution.

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*It was really nice to see, as someone who has been working in energy and climate their whole career, the new Government’s focus on power sector decarbonisation, because sometimes governments struggle to find what they can feasibly do, particularly in a constrained fiscal climate.*

**Rachel Cary, Head of Industrial Strategy at Energy UK**

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## UK BUSINESSES PAY FIVE TIMES WHAT US BUSINESSES PAY FOR ENERGY

Rachel listed some ways that the cost of electricity can be limited:

- Energy efficiency best practice measures can help businesses reduce electricity costs.
- Improving procurement practises and increasing the uptake of CPPAs can reduce instability in electricity prices.
- Policy costs rebalancing, shifting legacy policy costs from electricity to gas bills or general taxation, can reduce electricity prices for all, quickly.

- The use of more low-cost generation, such as from renewable sources and not gas generation, will likely result in lower electricity prices. However, this will take time to have an impact.
- Increasing Demand-Side Response (DSR) will allow businesses to take advantage of using electricity at times where the cost of electricity is lower, but it will be more difficult for some businesses to shift their processes than others.
- Reforms to network charges, with some users being exempt from these costs, are currently being considered.

Nevertheless, Rachel points out, increasing renewable generation requires **further changes in Government policy**, such as policy costs rebalancing, support for low-carbon heat, and clear regulation.

<sup>8</sup> <https://ghgprotocol.org/calculation-tools-and-guidance>





## PANEL SESSION ONE:

Following the three speakers' discussions about the various changes we're seeing and will continue to see in the energy industry, our first panel session largely focused on **responses to this change**; what consumers and energy consultants **can and should do**, and what incentives can be put in place to **encourage action**.



There were **three key points** that emerged during the discussion:

- Businesses and energy consultants have key roles within the energy transition
- It's important to incentivise and motivate consumers to support flexibility for the grid
- Trade-offs may be required to reach a decarbonised grid by 2030

## THE ROLE OF BUSINESSES AND ENERGY CONSULTANTS IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION

Duncan emphasised the opportunities for corporates to sign long-term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with a wind or solar farm, with energy consultants working to support businesses in managing the credit risk involved.

Steve noted that **consumers have the most important role to play**, and that they need to be able to **think about electricity differently** in order to engage with demand flexibility and low-carbon technologies. This can be challenging, and **energy consultants play a vital role** in incentivising this shift in mindset.

Rachel discussed how important it is that businesses **develop long-term, holistic energy strategies**: "Businesses can think about their **current and future plans** and build a roadmap for themselves, looking across their existing assets and constructing plans for investing in: energy efficiency, energy controls and other formats of low carbon and smart technology, such as solar, heat pumps, storage and EV charging assets. Ensuring that different parts of the business **are talking to each other**, thinking about opportunities to trade and optimise their assets, is really important."

## INCENTIVISING CUSTOMERS TO ENGAGE IN FLEXIBILITY IN A RENEWABLE SYSTEM

Rachel noted that, with the cost of batteries going down and the value of flexibility markets going up, consumers are likely to **naturally become more engaged with flexibility**.

It is a **long-term change**, she emphasised, as it involves **large-scale behaviour change**, but it can be assisted by energy consultants and suppliers making businesses aware of the available **opportunities for flexibility**.

Steve highlighted the importance of **financial incentives**, as even those most aware and engaged in the energy transition may still require incentives to fully engage with flexibility.

**FLEXIBILITY REFERS TO THE ABILITY TO REACT TO THE NEEDS OF THE ELECTRICITY GRID, ADJUSTING DEMAND TO BALANCE SUPPLY**

## THE HARD DECISIONS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED TO MEET A DECARBONISED GRID BY 2030

Steve began by presenting the idea that **there will always be a trade-off for energy solutions**, as it's very unlikely that any solution will have no environmental impact at all. However, **legislation can help mitigate these risks**, ensuring that efforts are made to improve the natural environment while infrastructure is upgraded.

Rachel added that the most important thing is to **streamline the process of getting planning permission for new energy generation projects to help decarbonise the grid**, but this doesn't mean moving away from **high standards**. Instead, the aim is to refine standards and **make the process quicker and more well-resourced**. Duncan then highlighted an example of a **'good trade-off' - blending hydrogen into the existing transmission system**, as the hydrogen market is not designed efficiently and requires better infrastructure.

As hydrogen will be critical in decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors, utilising **existing infrastructure to assist in accelerating the adoption of hydrogen** is a positive trade-off, Duncan argues.

**WE ASKED THE ROOM HOW IMPORTANT SUSTAINABILITY IS WITHIN BUSINESSES' ENERGY STRATEGIES, AND HERE WERE THE RESULTS:**

Not important at all

0%

Somewhat important

45%

Very important

55%





## SESSION TWO: WHAT DOES AN EVOLVING ENERGY LANDSCAPE MEAN FOR THE FUTURE OF RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY?

Businesses face increasing pressure from investors and customers to **align with various carbon frameworks**. As the energy landscape evolves, these frameworks are following suit, **adapting to continue the drive towards net zero**.

Our Head of I&C Sales, **Kerry Locke**, introduced the second session by explaining that, as framework criteria becomes more complex, businesses are reaching out with **new questions about their energy procurement**.



*Whilst the growing complexity of carbon reporting is encouraging some consumers to dive deeper into their energy procurement, it may also be pushing others further away, and energy consultants play an important role in providing the knowledge to help customers navigate this changing landscape.*

**Kerry Locke, Head of I&C Sales at Bryt Energy**



Our second session covered the role and challenges of these frameworks, whilst also exploring their future evolution.

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE FUTURE OF CARBON REPORTING FOR ELECTRICITY

Kicking off the second session, **Independent Consultant at Cymbolic**, Mike Shirley, took us through the **future of carbon reporting** for electricity, as standards continue to evolve and reporting frameworks adapt to the changing energy landscape.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Key carbon reporting frameworks are changing
- Renewable energy will need to be generated and consumed in closer proximity
- Consultants and consumers need to plan now to be prepared for the future

Mike outlined that the **carbon reporting frameworks** that many businesses use are built on the **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol**, and this is changing. He explained that the **RE100** and **Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)** are responding to global market sentiment, and that these frameworks are influencing businesses' energy procurement actions and **driving further decarbonisation of the grid**.

Finally, Mike questioned how certifications of renewable energy supply will **have an impact and distinguish themselves** when the UK achieves a **fully decarbonised grid**. However, with reviews ongoing, it is an evolving conversation, and consultants and customers should expect **significant change** in the future of carbon reporting.

However, he noted that there are challenges around the approach currently used to evidence renewable energy within these frameworks. Whilst **Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs)** are currently the **only available mechanism for reporting renewable electricity supply**, concerns exist regarding the impact of REGO-backed supply if generation and consumption are not aligned and, therefore, whether they support further decarbonisation of the grid.







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All of this is premised on the government's commitment to a decarbonised grid by 2030. Companies need to know that the power that they buy today is making a difference and taking the UK towards that goal. How does carbon reporting drive real impact to support this energy transition?

Mike Shirley, Independent Consultant at Cymbolic.

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## THE TRENDS OF BUSINESS ENERGY PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

Robert Buckley, Head of Strategic Accounts at Cornwall Insight, explored the trends in business energy procurement and supply - especially regarding the changing role and value of REGO certificates.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Businesses are willing to pay more for a renewable electricity supply
- There are key challenges in navigating renewable energy procurement
- REGOs are a particular focus regarding questions and change

Robert shared that the need to shape intermittent renewables and REGO costs may potentially add additional costs to businesses' contracts, but many businesses are still **willing to pay more for renewable energy**, due to long-term environmental and financial benefits.

However, the ongoing role of REGOs within the energy industry, which has been seen as **the standard for renewable energy contracts**, is being increasingly **questioned**.

Robert suggested that, going forwards, their function as a mechanism for reporting may not be suitable for driving more renewable electricity onto the grid.

Robert highlighted that, whilst REGOs do help in **creating transparency**, they **do not directly drive an increase** in renewables on the grid ('additionality'), and their prices have been **volatile** following 2023.

## CHOOSING RENEWABLES TO SUIT AN ENERGY STRATEGY

Alongside these discussions, we heard an example of a customer's decarbonisation journey from Pip Squire, Head of Sustainability at Ark Data Centres.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Energy and connectivity are key priorities for data centres
- Data centres are located where their customers need to use the data
- There are multiple drivers to source continuous renewable electricity

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Without energy, connectivity and fibre, a data centre doesn't exist.

Pip Squire, Head of Sustainability at Ark Data Centres

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**Energy and connectivity** are key to data centres, and Pip noted that the **biggest challenges** they face include **connection delays** and the **cost of electricity** in the UK. He also noted **challenges over matching with intermittent renewable energy sources** when providing services to customers who cannot be flexible with their energy usage.

Data centres are **energy and sustainability-conscious** and a major driver for this is the **significant demand from their customers for continuous zero carbon, renewable electricity**.

Government contracts also **require a Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP)**, which outlines how they will reach net zero in a certain amount of time, and **many investors offer sustainability-linked loans**, incentivising data centres to buy 100% renewable electricity. Another key driver in their approach to electricity procurement is the fact that data centres are also part of **sector pacts**, committing them to renewable electricity and net zero targets. Pip shared how, for Ark Data, this has required them to explore new zero carbon options, alongside renewables.





## PANEL SESSION TWO:

Following discussion about the future of renewable energy reporting, our panellists used their session to **expand on the opportunities and solutions this future may bring** for consumers and energy consultants. They emphasised that reporting is moving into a **period of complexity**, and consumers will need to understand how they are contributing to decarbonisation. During this, energy consultants will have a vital role in helping consumers navigate the evolving reporting landscape.



Three major points of discussion emerged:

- There are opportunities within the future of energy reporting
- Solutions need to be suitable for price-sensitive businesses
- There are challenges in ensuring reporting mechanisms are fit for the future

## OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE FUTURE OF ENERGY REPORTING

Robert highlighted the fact that, as customers become increasingly interested in the provenance and authenticity of their renewable energy, there will likely be an emerging opportunity for energy consultants and suppliers to help customers better understand the detail in reporting mechanisms. Pip echoed Robert's thoughts, emphasising the importance of communicating to businesses about the fact that purchasing REGOs means purchasing renewable energy by

the amount of volume used, rather than according to the amount of energy generated.

Mike reiterated: "There will be changes in how best practice frameworks use procurement to support the decarbonisation of the grid, and this change will move relatively quickly. This communication challenge is massive, and this message needs to be consistent, as it will fundamentally change what has previously been the status quo."

## FUTURE PROCUREMENT STRATEGIES FOR PRICE-SENSITIVE BUSINESSES

Following on from earlier comments on the cost of electricity in the UK, the panel then discussed how the procurement strategies of businesses who are **more price-sensitive** may evolve in this changing reporting landscape. Robert emphasised the need for energy procurement solutions to be **accessible to small and medium businesses**, and brought up a possible **future evolution of 'basket' CPPAs**. Furthermore, Mike highlighted the importance of **developing energy procurement methods that are accessible for a broad market**, and are **future-proof** for a decarbonised grid.



## ENSURING ENERGY REPORTING FRAMEWORKS FIT FOR THE FUTURE

Looking more broadly, Robert pointed out that **there is no 'magic bullet' solution** for ensuring that electricity supply reporting works perfectly with the UK's increasingly decarbonised grid. Pip highlighted the fact that the UK's energy strategies are reliant on the market, rather than the Government, which impacts plans for reform. This is because long-term investments in reporting schemes could take longer than Governments are in office for, which makes it **challenging for them to make the investments** required.







## SESSION THREE: WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FLEXIBILITY AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION?

The final session of the day explored the **emerging opportunities** presented by flexibility and technology. Our Head of Energy Transition, Stuart Taylor, introduced the session by reminding us that the energy transition is creating a landscape in which we all must **think about energy usage differently**, considering energy as a strategic asset. For those who are willing to engage with **low-carbon technology** and support the grid through **demand flexibility**, new opportunities to flex, store and generate energy will be an essential component of their energy strategies. In unlocking these opportunities, businesses can also contribute to and support a more sustainable, resilient grid.



*Flexibility and low-carbon technology are two forces that are not only reshaping our energy systems, but are also unlocking new value for businesses and the grid.*

*Stuart Taylor, Head of Energy Transition at Bryt Energy*



## THE NEED FOR DEMAND FLEXIBILITY TO SUPPORT OUR FUTURE SYSTEM

National Energy System Operator's (NESO) Engagement Lead, James Kerr, explained the essential need for demand flexibility to help balance a grid that's powered by renewables, without major infrastructure changes.



NESO  
power responsive

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- NESO have created balancing services to encourage flexibility measures
- More renewable generation and flexibility is needed
- We all need to be more engaged with our energy consumption

James began his talk by introducing the role of NESO in ensuring that Great Britain's energy supply meets demand, so that the country has the energy it needs, 24/7.

NESO also provides advice to the UK Government about meeting net zero.

We all have a responsibility to help keep supply and demand balanced, supporting the grid by encouraging **Demand Side Flexibility (DSF)**, whether that's through our own businesses or through our customers. To encourage consumers to provide flexibility to the grid, NESO created the **Demand Flexibility Service (DFS)**, and have been reducing barriers to participating in the **Balancing Mechanism (BM)**.

**THE UK HAS PROGRESSED FROM UNDER 3% OF OUR ELECTRICITY GENERATION COMING FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES IN 2000<sup>9</sup>, TO 50.8% IN 2024<sup>10</sup>**

The UK has taken **massive strides in moving towards a net zero future**, with fewer fossil fuels on the transmission and distribution systems, and more **renewable energy sources**. This is great news, but as James points out, there's still a **huge amount that we can all do** to support a grid that is powered by more intermittent renewable energy sources.

**WE NEED FIVE TIMES MORE DEMAND FLEXIBILITY BY 2030 TO ACHIEVE THE GOVERNMENT'S CLEAN POWER ACTION PLAN - BETWEEN 10-12 GIGAWATTS (GW)**





## THE ROLE OF LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGY IN A NET ZERO SYSTEM

Jon Ferris, Head of Flexibility at LCP Delta, explored the role that low-carbon technology - such as solar panels, heat pumps, and batteries - can play in helping to balance the grid, whilst also offering businesses opportunities to save money and access new revenue streams.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- We can take lessons from other countries' uptake of low-carbon technologies
- Increased education and collaboration are key
- There are unique opportunities available for businesses through these technologies

With the energy system evolving and low-carbon technology assisting in decarbonisation efforts, Jon highlighted the fact that **there are lessons that we can take from other countries**. Much of Europe has already grabbed the opportunity of **reducing demand from the grid** through industrial batteries, electronic boilers and solar PV, while Jon highlights that the UK is lagging behind **and must catch up in order to remain competitive**. Jon emphasised the potential of the **electrification of fleets** in presenting opportunities to help balance the grid.

To encourage more flexibility and the uptake of low-carbon technologies at an industrial level, Jon shared that increasing the education of consumers, industrial users, and energy consultants will be key. Alongside this greater understanding, collaboration with suppliers is needed to adapt and develop products to meet businesses' changing needs.



*The nature of the risk is changing, but there are real opportunities for industry to get value from the system, and it's going to take forward-thinking energy consultants and energy suppliers to drive consumers towards these opportunities.*

*Jon Ferris, Head of Flexibility at LCP Delta*



## LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGIES WITHIN A HOLISTIC ENERGY STRATEGY

Our final speaker of the day, Rob Moore, Chief Business Development Officer at Connected Energy, explained how low-carbon technologies can fit within a holistic energy strategy, using them in tandem to maximise the value that organisations can receive.



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There are business benefits to adopting low-carbon technologies
- Low-carbon technologies work best when complementing each other
- We need to think about energy procurement in a different way

Low-carbon technologies, such as batteries and solar panels, provide opportunities for businesses, such as through offsetting rising energy costs, providing security of pricing, and helping to reach sustainability targets.

Rob shared some **key considerations** for installing low-carbon technologies onto businesses' sites. He emphasised that every industrial and commercial (I&C) site will vary, so **batteries will contribute differently to each**. For example, batteries will work more efficiently **alongside local generation**, such as on-site PV, as batteries can store excess solar generation, to be used when the weather is less sunny or grid prices are higher.

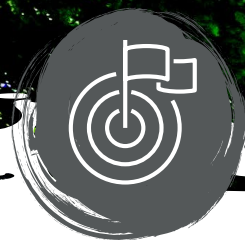
As a result, **each site should be modelled** to evaluate the potential of all assets, and this should be considered as part of an overall holistic energy strategy.

Rob shared further insights on this: "Batteries generally double the amount of solar PV that it is cost-effective to install and will increase energy usage that is generated by a site's own low-carbon assets by 50%, with the rest of the increase in generation given to the grid."

Flexible, unbundled (purchasing REGOs and energy separately) electricity contracts as part of this wider holistic view can help businesses understand how consumption can impact the energy costs.

Whilst some businesses may be hesitant about the risks involved in this type of contract, Rob emphasised that it is essential that we change the way that we think about energy procurement and see the opportunities available by becoming more engaged.





## PANEL SESSION THREE:

After discussing the role of demand response and low-carbon technologies in a future powered by renewables, our third panel session focused on the urgency of uptake, and the role we all have in driving momentum. Throughout the panel, the speakers encouraged energy consultants and suppliers to have conversations with customers, as early as possible, about low-carbon technologies and flexibility, to highlight the opportunities available.



Three major points of discussion emerged:

- The UK needs to increase uptake of low-carbon technologies
- It is crucial for consumers to align their demand with generation
- There is a collective responsibility in educating consumers

## ADDRESSING THE UK'S ENGAGEMENT WITH LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGIES

The panel first acknowledged that the **UK is lagging behind Europe** in terms of low-carbon technology adoption, which is mostly down to **competitiveness regarding price**, according to Jon. As there has been a major push for solar across Europe, large amounts of intermittent solar energy has meant that electricity prices have become more volatile, which has caused **greater uptake of batteries** to balance this volatility.

James highlighted the importance of developing a **clear understanding of our roles** in supporting the adoption of low-carbon technology in order to close this gap; understanding what we need to do and can do, as individuals, and how we can support others in their understanding.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF ENCOURAGING DEMAND FLEXIBILITY

The panel then discussed using the grid that we have in the **best and most efficient way**, to align our consumption with generation. This is crucial, James emphasised, because **the more they are aligned, the more money billpayers can save**. A constrained grid costs money to balance, and this also increases carbon intensity as additional power plants are turned off or on.

Jon echoed this: "If you're not doing it, you're paying someone else to do it. If you're not participating in flexibility, you're paying to build more grid infrastructure, more generation, and to curtail generation that is already built."



## OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF EDUCATING STAKEHOLDERS

Given that there is potentially a lack of understanding from customers about the opportunities and value of flexibility, the next question discussed where the responsibility for educating customers lies. Rob noted that equipment suppliers are able to work with energy suppliers, and those who work with modelling software, to develop customers' understanding about how batteries and on-site generation assets can help businesses earn and save money, and that it is in equipment suppliers' interest to do so.

James pointed out that there is a **collective responsibility to educate consumers**. He noted that the right people to talk to customers about this are the people who are already talking to them; those who **influence consumers** and those who they seek knowledge from. Jon called for those who interact with consumers to provide a consistent message about low-carbon technology: **there is an opportunity to save money and support the grid** through low-carbon technologies, although this is not an obligation.

“

*See this as the exciting opportunity it is, and ask questions to suppliers about how low-carbon technologies can be included in energy strategies, to provide flexibility and save money.*

**Rob Moore, Chief Business Development Officer at Connected Energy**

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# COMMUNICATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Whilst our nine speakers were sharing their expertise, we also wanted to explore other ways to communicate the action required for decarbonisation.

We called upon climate **comedian Stuart Goldsmith** to bring some levity to a positive and productive day. Stuart brought the collective, large-scale action we had been discussing

throughout the day back to the individual, acknowledging the ways in which most of us are doing our part, in small ways, to reduce our impact on the planet.

Throughout the day, **Scriberia** summarised the discussion in a brilliant visual summary. It was inspiring to see topics encapsulated in such a creative format, and seeing the end result provided such an exciting close to the day. You can see the artwork below:



## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS FROM DAVID TAYLOR

"There were a few messages that came out loud and clear from the day:

Energy is complex – it always has been, and probably always will be. With the energy transition, that complexity will probably only grow.

Change is constant. Anyone who has been in the energy industry for any amount of time will have seen that change already, and we need to be able to embrace it. We've heard today that **pivoting is possible**. Countries can pivot, industries can pivot, and so can customers, when they are given the opportunity to do so.

**Interconnection** is another prominent theme. The energy market around the world is interconnected, especially with LNG now able to travel globally. Grid infrastructure is also interconnected – not just in the UK, but across Europe and the world. Everything we do – as customers, energy consultants, energy suppliers, and transition partners – is interconnected through the aims that we are all collectively working to achieve.

We face some really big near-term challenges, with ambitious national targets to reach in renewable energy and low-carbon technology. **Carbon frameworks for reporting** and Government structures **will be changing** in the future, and Distribution System Operators (DSOs) are engaging with the market increasingly, which will add greater complexity.

Change adds uncertainty, and often, as human beings, this uncertainty will delay action - but **we don't have the time to delay**. Trade-offs are not only inevitable, but required, and we need to focus on that which is ready and needed to make progress happen. Government and policy have a role to play, as it always does, when it comes to long-term decisions on climate, energy security and fuel poverty.

Nevertheless, money talks louder than words, and opportunities to reduce costs and generate revenue through renewable solutions exist. Incentivisation works to encourage positive behaviour, and the **economics of sustainability** in the long term is compelling.

My key takeaway from the day is that we all have a role to play. We can all be **'good grid citizens'**, and we all have an important voice to initiate change. Opportunities exist to make a difference and add value, and often this value is financial, but increasingly, we need value that adds to society."



**David Taylor, Sales and Marketing Director at Bryt Energy**





# THANK YOU

Thank you to our brilliant speakers for taking their time to share their valuable insight, and thank you to everyone who attended – we hope that you took as much from the day as we did, and that you will continue to push these conversations in new directions in the future. If you'd like to learn more about opportunities in the net zero energy transition, you can find [more here](#).

If you'd like to learn more about any of the topics discussed here, you can get in touch with our team of experts, [here](#).

## BrytEnergy

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