

About DESNZ

About the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) is the lead department delivering the Prime Minister's mission to make the UK a Clean Energy Superpower. That mission is divided into two pillars:

- Clean Power by 2030, and
- Accelerating to net zero.

DESNZ is responsible for delivering the security of energy supply, ensuring properly functioning energy markets, encouraging greater energy efficiency, and seizing the opportunities of net zero to lead the world in new green industries. The Department's priorities are to:

- enhance energy security;
- protect bill payers;
- create economic growth in the UK and generate and protect jobs; and
- reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information about DESNZ please visit the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero page on GOV.UK

About the Clean Power 2030 Advisory Commission

The Clean Power Advisory Commission, chaired by Chris Stark as Head of Clean Power 2030, occupies a unique role. It brings together a group of senior, independent experts to advise on delivery of the clean power 2030 limb of the mission, directly advising senior civil servants and Ministers on the decisions needed to make this goal a reality.

The Advisory Commission will fulfil this role by providing expert, robust, and high-quality advice and recommendations to inform policymaking, delivery, operational and strategic decisions across the department's remit on all areas of the Clean Power 2030 mission.

The Advisory Commission aims to bring together a wide-ranging and balanced group of experts, with diversity of backgrounds and experience, to support across the department's remit to deliver a decarbonised power system by 2030, with at least 95% of generation coming from clean power, in a way that is consistent with accelerating to net zero by 2050, maintaining security of supply and keeping costs affordable for businesses and consumers.

We are seeking applicants for 6-8 positions on the Clean Power Commission, with a range of expertise as set out below. Within that group, we are looking to appoint one position as a dedicated Consumer Led Flexibility Commissioner to provide leadership and drive delivery in particular of the Consumer Led Flexibility ambitions for Clean Power. More details of this role can be found in the [Clean Flexibility Roadmap](#).

Advisory Commission Objectives

The objectives of the Advisory Commission are to:

- **Understand and monitor** the pipeline of projects out to 2030.
- **Convene meetings** that host empowered decision-makers from across government and other key institutions to resolve problems and reach shared solutions, to minimise the cross-government procedural delays.
- The Commission can also **consider individual projects that are crucial to achieving the 2030 goal** and whether there are blockers to that project coming online on time.
- Support and challenge the Clean Power 2030 Unit within DESNZ to act as a centre of excellence by encouraging and curating open discussion amongst experts and innovators and acting as a space for open discussion, idea sharing and prototyping radical new ideas.

The Advisory Commission are supported in their objectives by the Clean Power 2030 Unit, established within DESNZ to support the Head of Clean Power 2030 in delivery of the 2030 limb of the clean energy superpower mission.

Role Description

This is a high-profile opportunity for eminent senior leaders, experts in their field to be at the heart of one of Government's five priority missions and be directly involved in informing key decisions made by DESNZ on its delivery. Members will be required to draw on their expertise and experience to advise the Head of Clean Power, Ministers and senior officials across a breadth of clean power policy and delivery issues. This will include working collaboratively to reach innovative, creative, and practical recommendations. The Head of Clean Power will have the option to convene meetings for specific areas of focus and/or task appropriate experts for timebound pieces of work as required. Therefore, Advisory Commissioners are required to be individuals who have the authority and standing that, once commissioned, could provide independent expertise and credible advice on specific topics.

Members are expected to:

- Support the development of robust advice to DESNZ, including examining the assumptions on which policy and delivery is formulated and engaging with Ministers, Head of Clean Power 2030 or Senior Officials to communicate advice on policy and delivery. The format of advice requested may include, but is not limited to, written advice, verbal advice, or feedback on papers, data, consultations or proposals. Commissioners will also act as sponsors for project work conducted by the Clean Power Unit, providing expertise and insights on key challenges for achieving the 2030 goal.
- Prepare for, attend and contribute to Advisory Commission meetings, with additional work conducted outside these meetings, including participating in sub-meetings (arranged as necessary) or in response to additional requests for support and advice (filtered by the Secretariat as required). In the case of the Commissioner focused on Flexibility, this additional work will involve chairing a specific flexibility delivery board (focused on consumer-led flexibility) and attending other, less frequent Clean Flexibility Roadmap governance.
- Act collaboratively and cooperatively with other Advisory Commission members to ensure that the Commission fulfils its responsibility to provide impartial, balanced, and evidence-informed advice to DESNZ. This may include drawing on individuals' networks to consider the wider context in which their expertise is employed and the impact that advice may have on wide-ranging stakeholders.
- Suggest future areas for Advisory Commission advice and proactively share ideas and knowledge where it could be considered to add value.
- Raise awareness of the importance of industry and analytical evidence within and beyond DESNZ to inform policy and delivery of the Clean Power 2030 mission.
- Interact with government transparently and openly, in an unbiased and independent manner.
- Act in accordance with the published Seven Principles of Public Life (the Nolan Principles) and the Code of Practice for Science Advisory Committees.

Person Specification

The department is seeking applicants with expertise in line with Government's Clean Power 2030 action plan and remit, which includes:

- **Electricity Networks:** The upgrade and expansion of GB electricity networks are a critical component of Clean Power 2030 delivery. We require someone with a deep understanding of electricity networks with the ability and expertise to constructively challenge DESNZ and partners on delivery
- **Engineering and developer expertise:** We require a deep understanding of, and expertise in, delivering clean power infrastructure on the ground, from distinct perspectives. Applicants should be able to provide challenge on real world delivery schedules and provide advice on how to remove barriers to delivering infrastructure in time for 2030.
- **Markets and Commercial expertise** that can be brought into discussions on future changes to electricity markets, as well as to specific issues such as Contracts for Difference design and implementation and other market mechanisms. We need deep expertise that can advise DESNZ on the commercial drivers that would influence the delivery of Clean Power by 2030, and on how the energy markets might react to departmental policies.
- **Expertise in the development of nature recovery infrastructure and clean power** developments and engagement with the nature community.
- **Forecasting and industry analysis expertise:** technical industry expertise that can support the DESNZ to drive and develop the underpinning data and assumptions that sit below our forecasts for Clean Power 2030.
- **Innovation / Research:** expertise in the latest research and innovation on relevant clean power subject matter areas.
- **Expertise in Flexibility, both industrial and consumer:** this is critical to support the DESNZ in the development of the 10-12 GW consumer-led flexibility capacity range in the Clean Power 2030 Action Plan, and also relevant for the 23-27GW of battery storage to be delivered. We would look for someone with deep understanding of, and ability to help us overcome, the market barriers to flexibility services. This criterion, as well as the markets and commercial expertise referenced above, is particularly relevant for the specific Flexibility Commissioner to be appointed.

Commissioners will be required to work effectively with, and command the confidence of, Ministers, the Head of Clean Power 2030, and senior stakeholders across the energy landscape. They will be expected to draw on their extensive experience and take a broad view of the current landscape to provide independent, strategic advice, support, constructive challenge and assurance to the department across its Clean Power 2030 remit.

The Department welcomes applications from both eminent senior leaders from a wide range of backgrounds. We are seeking to achieve a balance in the Advisory

Commission membership profile of gender, ethnicity, disability, life experience and career stage, alongside the technical criteria for membership.

Members will be appointed in their individual capacity the role of Commissioner and have a duty to act in the public interest. Members are not appointed as representatives of their profession, employer, or interest group. Members must always observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in relation to the advice they provide.

Diversity

We are committed to increasing the diversity of our Expert Committees and bringing in talent, regardless of its origins. We encourage applications from all regardless of ethnicity, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability characteristics currently underrepresented on our Expert Committees. Expert Committees are most effective when they reflect the diversity of views of the society they serve.

Arrangements for applicants with a disability: As a Disability Confident leader, we guarantee to interview anyone with a disability whose application meets the essential criteria for the post. More details on the criteria can be found in this pack. If you wish to apply through the Disability Confident scheme, you will need to tick that option on the Diversity Monitoring form you will submit alongside your application.

Adjustments: All applicants are entitled to request reasonable adjustments at any stage of the application process.

If you would like to discuss reasonable adjustments prior to submitting your application, please contact the Clean Power 2030 Advisory Commission Secretariat on: CP2030Secretariat@energysecurity.gov.uk

Criteria

The department is seeking senior leaders with expertise in all or part of the remit of the Clean Power Advisory Commission, as detailed above, whether from academia, industry, public sector, third sector, or international). Membership will reflect the need to respond to the department's current and future challenges and opportunities.

Applicants must have the personal stature and credibility to represent a body that advises Ministers and Senior Officials.

Essential criteria

In addition to the specific sector expertise, we expect all candidates to clearly demonstrate the following:

- Excellent understanding of the Clean Power 2030 mission
 - A proven track record of delivery of project-based work across public/private/voluntary sectors
 - Ability to build effective relationships with key stakeholders across the energy landscape, including Ministers
- **Lead criteria:** Proven credibility in senior leadership at national level, and an outstanding track record in thought, intellectual, and strategic leadership.
 - Strong interpersonal, communication, collaboration, and influencing skills, with the ability to command the respect and confidence of Ministers, Head of Clean Power 2030, Senior Officials, established networks across government, relevant stakeholders, and senior stakeholders across the energy landscape. This includes a strong ability to convey technical information accurately and clearly to non-technical audiences.
 - Be well connected to an established and broad network, have proven experience of representing a diverse set of views, and have sufficient authority and ability to mobilise other professionals across a range of specialisms to engage in subject-specific meetings as required.
 - An ability to operate with proficiency at the interface between disciplines, with significant breadth and depth of expertise that can be drawn upon to consider different perspectives, critically analyse and evaluate options in an impartial way, and develop evidence-informed advice on key issues.

Terms of appointment

Appointment term Members will be appointed for a term of 3 years, with the possibility of pre-appointment for a further term.

Any re-appointment is subject to satisfactory performance during the first term in the post and skillset required to deliver on the Clean Power 2030 mission. There is no automatic presumption of reappointment; each case should be considered on its own merits, considering several factors including, but not restricted to, the diversity of the current board and its balance of skills and experience. In most cases, the total time served in post will not exceed more than two terms or ten years in any one post.

Anticipated time commitment

Members are expected to commit approximately 24 days per annum to Advisory Commission business. This will include attending and preparing for quarterly plenary

meetings, time to input into Advisory Commission workstreams and outputs, and attending and preparing for additional ad-hoc meetings as required.

This figure is provided as a guide only to help members manage their time alongside other positions they hold. Given the nature of the work of the department, its changing priorities, and the availability, expertise, and interests of individual members, it is likely the actual work and time committed by each member will vary from month to month. The additional responsibilities of the flexibility-focused Commissioner will mean that this individual will be expected to commit to at least 12 additional days per annum.

We also ask members to be willing to participate in activities at short notice or during emergencies.

Remuneration arrangements

Members will be eligible to receive a quarterly honorarium in recognition of their commitment to the Advisory Commission.

The eligible honorarium payment is £500 per day for members. The quarterly honorarium payment will be calculated using the actual quarterly time commitments detailed above.

Reasonable travel and subsistence expenses will also be paid to those who incur costs whilst acting in their capacity as an Advisory Commission member. Reimbursement must only be claimed for reasonable travel and subsistence costs which are properly and necessarily incurred on official business, in line with the travel and subsistence policy and rates for the organisation to which you are applying. However these payments are taxable as earnings and will be subject to tax and national insurance, both of which will be deducted at source under PAYE before you are paid.

Location

Much of this role can be performed virtually, with the requirement to attend occasional plenary meetings in London or another DESNZ office.

Nature of Appointments

The Clean Power 2030 Advisory Commission has Expert Committee classification, and appointments to the Advisory Commission are unregulated Public Appointments. Appointments will be made by the Secretary of State and Head of Clean Power

2030, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. The post holder would be an officeholder and will not become a member of the Civil Service or be subject to the provisions of employment law.

This appointment does not attract any benefits under any Civil Service Pension Scheme. You will not be eligible for redundancy pay as you are not an employee. No other arrangements have been made for compensation upon the end of your term of appointment because an office holder who is appointed for a limited duration would have no expectation of serving beyond that period.

Applicants should have a right to work in the UK. We will not sponsor visas as part of this appointment process.

Availability

Successful applicants will be required to take up their appointments in October, following the successful completion of pre-appointment checks at required level in line with the Civil Service guidelines

How to apply

To apply, you will need to submit your application by no later than the 16th of September 2025. To submit your application, you are asked to submit the following documents:

- A completed cover letter that:
 - Indicates how your expertise, qualifications, or positions held are of direct relevance to the policy, technical, and analytical remits detailed in the advert, and indicates whether you are applying for the specific Flexibility Commissioner role.
 - Includes a short supporting statement (maximum 500 words) detailing how your personal skills, qualities and experience provide evidence of your suitability for the role, with reference to the criteria in the person specification of this advert.
 - Please also include a bullet list of any potential conflicts of interest on that letter.
 - A concise CV (maximum two sides A4, minimum 11 font) setting out your career history, with key responsibilities, professional qualifications, and achievements.

Please submit your application to cp2030secretariat@energysecurity.gov.uk.

Overview of the application process

This competition is based on a written application, followed by interviews (if candidates are successful at sift stage).

Those interested in this appointment are asked to submit your cover letter (including conflict of interest bullets) supporting statement, a CV before the closing date. After the competition closes, the panel will assess your application to select those demonstrating the best fit with the role by considering the evidence you have provided against the criteria set out in the 'person specification' section.

If you are shortlisted, you will be asked to attend a panel interview to have an in-depth discussion of your previous experience and professional competence. This could be in relation to any of the criteria set out in the vacancy description, including key responsibilities detailed in the role description and criteria listed in the person specification. **This interview will take place on 1st or 2nd October 2025 and can take place in person or online using MS Teams; candidates must ensure their availability on this date.** Interviews can take place in person or virtually, please note that we do not pay expenses for the purpose of attending an interview.

Prior to interview, you may have the opportunity for informal conversations with key individuals to improve your understanding of the organisation.

Full details of the assessment process will be made available to shortlisted candidates.

Ministers will be informed of appointments following completion of the recruitment competition. The timeline outlined in this advert indicates the date by which decisions are expected to be made, and all candidates will be advised of the outcome as soon as possible thereafter.

Please note: Due Diligence searches will be undertaken on shortlisted candidates and references may be taken up prior to interview.

Interview panel

- Chris Stark, Head of Clean Power 2030
- Ben Golding, Director Clean Power 2030
- Duncan Stone, Deputy Director, Electricity System Flexibility
- Emily Bourne, Director, Electricity Systems and Networks

Security Clearance

We may request for members to undertake additional Security Clearance in the future. Where this applies, discussions will be held with the Clean Power 2030 Secretariat.

Full guidance on National Security Vetting clearance levels can be found on the GOV.UK website [here](#)