Strategic Energy Partnerships Workshop:

Could a Strategic Energy Partnership unlock your council's clean energy ambitions?

Make your energy ambitions a reality.

Thursday 21 January
10:00am-2pm
Birmingham

UK: IOO | MOTT MACDONALD

What is a Strategic Energy Partnership?

A Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP) is a long-term, structured partnership between a council and private-sector energy partners, by bringing together much needed investment otherwise not available to local government, with the accompanying expertise and delivery capacity. This enables the council to maintain public value for money and prioritise local needs in the process.

Bristol's SEP with Ameresco and Vattenfall is unlocking over £1 billion of investment into the city's energy system over 20 years, with the council retaining a 50% stake and a seat at the table on every decision. It is supporting the expansion of low-carbon heat, renewable energy, energy efficiency and other clean energy infrastructure across the city. Coventry's partnership with E.ON is supporting solar and heat pumps across community buildings, EV charging and energy efficiency improvements, alongside innovative projects such as thermal drone surveys of around 4,000 homes to identify heat loss and target energy efficiency improvements. In both cases, the partnership brings more than investment. It combines the council's local knowledge and priorities with the technical expertise and delivery capacity needed to accelerate clean energy projects beyond what council resources alone would allow.

Why it matters for your authority

Councils have influence over roughly 80% of the emissions in their area, but often lack the funding and in-house capacity to act on that influence at scale. A well-structured SEP can help change that, bringing together investment, expertise and delivery capacity while keeping public value, local priorities and accountability at the centre. The result: clean energy infrastructure delivered at pace, new opportunities for local green jobs and lower bills for residents.

What you will gain from the workshop

This workshop will bring together local and combined authorities to explore how Strategic Energy Partnerships can unlock investment, build delivery capacity and accelerate clean energy projects. Hear from councils and experts, explore SEP models and get answers to the questions that matter to your authority.

You'll leave with:

- A clearer understanding of different SEP models, including their benefits and trade-offs
- Practical guidance on what needs to be in place before starting a SEP, including readiness, resources and internal support
- Insight into the legal, procurement and process considerations involved in developing a SEP
- A better understanding of how to structure a strong tender and assess potential partners
- Lessons from councils that have developed SEPs
- An awareness of common barriers and how to overcome them
- Greater confidence in making the case for a SEP and taking the next steps

The audience

The workshop is designed for councillors and officers involved in shaping or delivering a Strategic Energy Partnership, including:

- Council Leaders and relevant Cabinet Members
- Directors of Place or Environment
- Energy teams
- Finance teams
- Legal and procurement teams

The location

Mott MacDonald, 10 Livery Street, Birmingham, B3 2NU

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

7 January 2026
Apply by 8 January
using this QR code

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Who we are

UK100

UK100 is the cross party local climate network, with 123 members across the UK. From cities to villages, we help communities across the UK create thriving places powered by clean energy — with fresh air to breathe, warm homes to live in, and a healthy natural environment.

We combine research and advocacy to build the case for the powers, funding and resources local government needs to make change happen, whilst providing training, peer learning, knowledge-sharing and networking opportunities to help our members learn from one another and deliver effective local climate action.

Mott MacDonald

Mott MacDonald is a global engineering, management and development consultancy supporting national and local governments to plan and deliver sustainable infrastructure and energy systems. With expertise spanning energy, transport, buildings, water and the environment, Mott MacDonald brings together technical, commercial and strategic expertise to help turn ambitious plans into practical action and support the delivery of long-term change.

For local and strategic authorities developing Strategic Energy Partnerships, Mott MacDonald brings experience of helping public-sector organisations shape their energy ambitions, develop effective partnerships and build the commercial and delivery models needed to turn local energy strategies into action.


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