



Department for
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Bill Esterson MP
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Your ref: ZA80520

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Dear Bill,

I am writing to inform you of the publication today of the **Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy** and updated voluntary **Community Benefits Guidance for Onshore Wind** in England. Onshore wind is one of the fastest and cheapest sources of power to build and is vital to maximise Britain's energy independence, protect bill payers, support high skilled jobs and tackle the climate crisis.

Making Britain a clean energy superpower is one of the Government's five missions. The Clean Power Action Plan, published in December 2024, set a target for 27-29GW of onshore wind by 2030. Today's publications are a significant step forward in delivering the 2030 Mission.

The Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy is the Government's first ever dedicated strategy for onshore wind, committing to **42 bold commitments** to tackle the issues facing the industry. This includes barriers related to planning, networks, aviation and defence, supply chains and financing, and actions to capitalise on the benefits for local communities, and **support up to 45,000 jobs by 2030**. Several new actions will ensure the planning system is ready for the first English projects to come through the pipeline since the removal of the de facto ban, which severely limited deployment.

Updated voluntary Community Benefits Guidance for Onshore Wind in England will ensure communities directly participate and benefit from our 2030 goals. The guidance sets expectations that developers pay community benefits of £5,000 per megawatt of installed capacity per year for the operational lifetime of the project. If we deliver 29GW of onshore wind by 2030 we could **unlock around £70m** of additional private investment into our rural towns and villages every year.

I have also made a Written Ministerial Statement today setting out a summary of both documents. Scaling up onshore wind generation will be critical to the success of the Government's clean energy mission. These publications will give a vital boost to both industries, help reduce our dependence on volatile fossil fuels and improve our energy security.

Best wishes,

Michael Shanks MP
Minister for Energy