

# Site of UK's first fusion energy plant selected

News story

West Burton power station site in Nottinghamshire has been selected as the home for the UK's prototype fusion energy plant.



Today (3 October 2022), the government announced that the West Burton power station site in Nottinghamshire has been selected as the home for 'STEP' (Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production), the UK's prototype fusion energy plant which aims to be built by 2040.

Fusion is based on the same physical reactions that power the sun and stars, and is the process by which 2 light atomic nuclei combine while releasing large amounts of energy. This technology has significant potential to deliver safe, sustainable, low carbon energy for future generations.

The government-backed STEP programme will create thousands of highly skilled jobs during construction and operations, as well as attracting other high tech industries to the region, and furthering the development of science and technology capabilities nationally.

The ambitious programme will also commit immediately to the development of apprenticeship schemes in the region, building on the success of the UK Atomic Energy Authority's (UKAEA) Oxfordshire Advanced Skills centre in Culham. Conversations with local providers and employers have already begun, with schemes to start as soon as possible.

The UK government is providing £220 million of funding for the first phase of STEP, which will see the UK Atomic Energy Authority produce a concept design by 2024.

Published 3 October 2022

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## UK summons Iranian Chargé d’Affaires following worsening crackdowns on protests

Press release

The Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office has summoned Iran’s Chargé d’Affaires in the UK over the Iranian authorities worsening crackdown on protests.



The Foreign Secretary instructed the FCDO to summon Mehdi Hosseini Matin, Iran’s most senior diplomat in the UK, over the Iranian authorities’ violent crackdown on protests following the death of Mahsa Amini.

Foreign Secretary James Cleverly said:

The violence levelled at protestors in Iran by the security forces is truly shocking.

Today we have made our view clear to the Iranian authorities – instead of blaming external actors for the unrest, they should take responsibility for their actions and listen to the concerns of their people.

We will continue to work with our partners to hold the Iranian authorities to account for their flagrant human rights violations.

Vijay Rangarajan, Director General for the Middle East, held the meeting with Matin and reiterated the UK’s call for a full and transparent investigation into death of Mahsa Amini.

He urged the Iranian authorities to respect the right to peaceful assembly, exercise restraint and release unfairly detained protesters, and outlined the

UK's concern at reports of live ammunition being used at Sharif University.

Published 3 October 2022

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## Over eight million households to receive second Cost of Living Payment from 8 November

Aberavon 11,600 12,100 Aberconwy 7,100 6,800 Aberdeen North 13,300 9,300  
Aberdeen South 7,700 5,800 Airdrie and Shotts 13,400 13,300 Aldershot 10,500  
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Mid Kent 9,700 8,500 Feltham and Heston 21,200 9,700 Fermanagh and South Tyrone 16,400 16,400 Filton and Bradley Stoke 8,200 7,500 Finchley and Golders Green 15,700 7,700 Folkestone and Hythe 14,600 13,900 Forest of Dean 8,800 8,300 Foyle 24,900 23,000 Fylde 8,500 9,100 Gainsborough 10,500 10,300 Garston and Halewood 17,200 15,100 Gateshead 17,000 12,200 Gedling 10,400 9,200 Gillingham and Rainham 11,900 9,000 Glasgow Central 18,500 11,400 Glasgow East 20,900 17,200 Glasgow North 10,600 7,600 Glasgow North East 20,300 15,500 Glasgow North West 16,100 12,400 Glasgow South 13,800 11,100 Glasgow South West 18,900 15,000 Glenrothes 14,600 12,400 Gloucester 15,200 11,100 Gordon 6,300 6,200 Gosport 10,200 8,700 Gower 8,200 10,000 Grantham and Stamford 10,900 9,400 Gravesham 12,700 9,400 Great Grimsby 16,200 10,200 Great Yarmouth 16,600 12,800 Greenwich and Woolwich 19,600 9,000 Guildford 6,800 5,800 Hackney North and Stoke Newington 25,900 11,100 Hackney South and Shoreditch 24,200 11,400 Halesowen and Rowley Regis 12,100 9,400 Halifax 17,600 10,700 Haltemprice and Howden 5,700 6,500 Halton 15,200 13,300 Hammersmith 19,000 8,500 Hampstead and Kilburn 17,200 8,400 Harborough 8,600 8,200 Harlow 12,900 8,300 Harrogate and Knaresborough 8,200 7,300 Harrow East 12,800 7,300 Harrow West 14,100 7,000 Hartlepool 17,500 14,000 Harwich and North Essex 8,400 9,000 Hastings and Rye 18,600 13,000 Havant 11,800 9,700 Hayes and Harlington 18,700 8,800 Hazel Grove 7,900 8,100 Hemel Hempstead 11,200 8,200 Hemsworth 13,700 13,100 Hendon 19,800 9,300 Henley 5,500 5,400 Hereford and South Herefordshire 10,200 8,900 Hertford and Stortford 8,000 6,400 Hertsmere 10,000 7,500 Hexham 5,500 6,200 Heywood and Middleton 17,000 12,400 High Peak 8,700 8,200 Hitchin and Harpenden 6,000 5,700 Holborn and St Pancras 21,700 11,900 Hornchurch and Upminster 11,000 8,500 Hornsey and Wood Green 17,200 8,000 Horsham 7,300 6,800 Houghton and Sunderland South 14,900 13,500 Hove 12,600 8,300 Huddersfield 15,900 9,900 Huntingdon 9,300 8,100 Hyndburn 15,700 11,200 Ilford North 13,000 7,500 Ilford South 22,800 8,900 Inverclyde 13,300 12,400 Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey 11,000 9,800 Ipswich 16,100 10,600 Isle of Wight 18,300 17,300 Islington North 18,700 10,000 Islington South and Finsbury 17,900 10,300 Islwyn 10,500 11,600 Jarrow 12,600 10,900 Keighley 12,500 8,800 Kenilworth and Southam 5,300 5,300 Kensington 14,100 7,400 Kettering 10,800 8,800 Kilmarnock and Loudoun 14,400 12,300 Kingston and Surbiton 11,100 6,900 Kingston upon Hull East 16,200 10,900 Kingston upon Hull North 17,000 9,700 Kingston upon Hull West and Hessle 17,100 9,900 Kingswood 7,700 7,600 Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath 14,700 11,600 Knowsley 23,000 18,300 Lagan Valley 12,400 14,100 Lanark and Hamilton East 13,400 13,400 Lancaster and Fleetwood 10,400 9,200 Leeds Central 26,600 11,900 Leeds East 19,700 10,500 Leeds North East 11,100 7,400 Leeds North West 6,600 5,400 Leeds West 16,500 9,400 Leicester East 21,100 10,400 Leicester South 20,100 9,700 Leicester West 20,000 10,400 Leigh 13,900 11,800 Lewes 8,800 8,400 Lewisham East 17,400 8,700 Lewisham West and Penge 17,200 8,200 Lewisham, Deptford 20,100 8,300 Leyton and Wanstead 15,300 6,800 Lichfield 7,700 7,900 Lincoln 15,100 10,800 Linlithgow and East Falkirk 14,500 13,400 Liverpool, Riverside 20,800 13,900 Liverpool, Walton 23,800 17,700 Liverpool, Wavertree 17,100 11,700 Liverpool, West Derby 19,900 15,900 Livingston 14,100 13,400 Llanelli 12,500 13,400 Loughborough 10,000 7,700 Louth and Horncastle 12,600 13,600 Ludlow 7,700 7,600 Luton North 14,500 8,500 Luton South 19,700 8,900 Macclesfield 7,700 7,600 Maidenhead 6,600 5,300 Maidstone and The Weald 10,800 7,900 Makerfield 11,300 11,200 Maldon 7,100 6,800 Manchester Central 27,500 13,900 Manchester, Gorton 24,100 11,100

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Pinner 7,400 6,300 Runnymede and Weybridge 7,400 6,400 Rushcliffe 6,300 6,800

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Worcestershire 8,400 8,400 Westminster North 18,600 10,000 Westmorland and  
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Wythenshawe and Sale East 19,200 13,400 Yeovil 11,500 9,800 Ynys Môn 9,000  
8,200 York Central 10,300 6,900 York Outer 5,300 6,200

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## [£60 million fund to boost investment and access to sport and culture in the West Midlands](#)

News story

Birmingham 2022 funding has been secured to continue the legacy of the Games by driving inward investment and boosting access to sport and culture in the region



The UK government will invest around £60 million of underspend from the Birmingham 2022 budget in the West Midlands to enhance the legacy of the brilliant Commonwealth Games hosted earlier this year. The fund will aim to increase access to sport and culture, boost the West Midlands's reputation as a world-class host for major events and drive inward investment and tourism.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will work with the West Midlands Combined Authority and Birmingham City Council to capitalise on the success of the Games and help more people engage with sport



and culture in the region.

The funding will also be allocated to boost inward business investment and tourism and help drive further economic growth in the West Midlands.

The Commonwealth Games was backed by £778 million of public funding, providing the West Midlands with a refurbished athletics stadium in Perry Barr and a brand-new aquatics centre in Smethwick. Alongside these world-class venues, the £60 million investment will support the region's ambition to host future major events.

This investment builds on existing legacy programmes already being rolled out. In partnership with DCMS, Sport England will continue to boost access to sport through a Birmingham 2022 kit giveaway. 16,000 items from basketballs to bibs will be gifted to West Midlands community groups in the coming months.

Birmingham 2022 was the fairest, greenest and fastest Commonwealth Games ever, delivered in four and a half years, rather than the seven that normally happens for a Games, and committed to a carbon neutral legacy. As well as having the biggest ever para-sport programme, the Games also awarded women with more medals than men. Birmingham 2022's 11 days of sport was complemented by a 6-month cultural festival and the first ever Games-accredited business and tourism programme.

Birmingham 2022 was the best-selling Commonwealth Games to be held in the UK with over 1.5 million tickets sold, and the most watched Games on the BBC's digital platforms with 57.1 million streams.

Published 3 October 2022

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## [Opening of the Legal Year](#)

News story

Susanna McGibbon, Treasury Solicitor attended the service at Westminster Abbey



Today marked the Opening of the Legal Year with a Service at Westminster Abbey, conducted by the Dean of Westminster.

The ancient tradition dates to the Middle Ages and the religious practice of judges praying for guidance at the start of the legal term. The modern service, which dates to 1897 includes hymns, anthems and a lesson read by the Lord Chancellor, who holds a reception breakfast following the ceremony at the Houses of Parliament. The Lord Chancellor is an ancient office of state, and the office holder heads the Ministry of Justice as the Secretary of State for Justice.

Over 700 guests are invited, including senior members of the judiciary, King's Counsel, overseas judges, and the Law Officers of the Crown.

Susanna McGibbon attended the ceremony in her role as Treasury Solicitor, Permanent Secretary of the Government Legal Department and His Majesty's Procurator General. Susanna reflects:

"I was honoured to attend the Service to mark the Opening of the Legal Year at Westminster Abbey today. It was an opportunity to meet colleagues from across the legal profession and to reflect on the legal year ahead of us."

Published 3 October 2022