



Young Energy
Professionals Forum
Connect • Develop • Inspire

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Young Energy Professionals Forum

Annual Report

2023



The Young Energy Professionals (YEP) Forum promotes and inspires the next generation of energy industry leaders, providing opportunities to connect, develop and recognise success.

We run insightful events and initiatives that cover the whole spectrum of the energy industry. Join the Forum to hear from industry leaders offering their insight on pressing issues, learn about how to progress your own career and meet like-minded people from across the energy sector.

The Forum is grateful to SSE Thermal for its continued support of our work. With their sponsorship, we look forward to welcoming you to a high-quality roster of in-person and virtual events over the coming year.



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 YEPForum@energy-uk.org.uk

Foreword

Phil McNally

Senior Advisor, Energy & Net Zero, 10 Downing Street
Chair of the YEP Forum 2022-2024

Sandy Kelly

Flexibility Lead, EDF (UK)
Vice Chair of the YEP Forum 2022 – present



We are proud to introduce the Energy UK Young Energy Professionals Forum Annual Report for 2023. The past year has seen the Forum go from strength to strength, with now over 2,300 members, and we can't wait to see what 2024 holds.

Now that we approach the end of our tenure as Chair and Vice-Chair, it is time to reflect on the achievements of the YEP Forum this past year.

As the transition to Net Zero intensifies, we decided to focus our set piece publication of 2023 on skills, with our Guide to Jobs in Energy. This resource offers a rich overview of the different type of jobs in the energy sector and where they are located. It provides deep insight into the day-to-day activities of life in the sector through a broad range of profiles of people working across all parts of the sector from offshore wind engineers through to desk-based data roles in the city.

In the midst of the cost-of-living crisis, we have been proud to support the Fuel Bank Foundation in its efforts to ensure that those in need receive financial and practical support during these difficult times. Building on the partnership with the Fuel Bank Foundation was one of the Forum's key objectives for 2023 and we are pleased to announce we have raised almost £2,000 through donations. The funds raised will go towards providing same-day financial support and assist the charity in providing proactive advice to families living without heat or power.

We also held our 9th annual YEP Awards in November. This year's event featured a rousing keynote speech from Chris Stark, CEO of the Climate Change Committee, who urged YEPs to avoid "being boring" as they challenge norms and look to make their mark on the Net Zero transition. As ever, this event was a fantastic way to showcase the impact of young professionals in the energy industry, with an exceptionally high standard of nominees – congratulations to all the winners and those shortlisted.

We are hugely proud of what we have been able to do over the past year and would like to thank Energy UK, members of the Steering Committee, and every YEP Forum member for making the Forum what it is today.

We are excited to see what the incoming Chair, Yumann Siddiq will achieve this year, working alongside the existing Vice-Chair, Sandy Kelly, and feel honoured to have provided leadership to the Forum at such a critical time.

The Steering Committee (SteerCo)

The YEP Forum Steering Committee is responsible for driving the Forum forward and supporting the Forum to meet its objectives. The Steering Committee leads the planning, promotion, and delivery of YEP events, communications, site visits and other initiatives with help from the YEP Ambassadors. It is made up of 13 passionate individuals from across the energy sector, with Energy UK providing the secretariat.

Our SteerCo members are*:



Phil McNally (Outgoing Chair)
10 Downing Street



Yumann Siddiq (Incoming Chair)
Smart Data Communications Company



Sandy Kelly (Vice-Chair)
EDF (UK)



Amarinda Bazeley (Outgoing SteerCo member)
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)



Amie Jones
Drax



Cissie Liu
Accenture



Connie Thorn
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)



Francesco Nobili
Charles River Associates



Jason Loveless
SSE Thermal



Lauren Brown
Hinkley Point C



Sanjanaa Achar
Equinor



Shammus Sultan
RWE



Stephen Roberts
FTI Consulting



Toni Heijbroek
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)



Darcy Collings
Energy UK



Ellie Rowlands
Energy UK



Oliver Swanston
Energy UK



Robert Birch
Energy UK

*Organisation correct at the time of publication

Our Objectives

- Connect
- Develop
- Inspire

In 2023, the mission and vision statement of the YEP Forum remained constant to “promote and inspire the next generation of energy industry leaders, providing opportunities to connect, develop and recognise success.”

The vision, informed by SteerCo discussion and a survey of Forum members, sets out the three key areas of unique value that the Forum has offered in the past and should build on in the future:

- **Creating networking opportunities,** bringing people together from across the energy sector
- **Developing** people’s breadth of knowledge and understanding of all parts of the sector
- **Inspiring** people to want to begin or continue working in the sector and strive to be future energy leaders



Our Goals

• Connect
• Develop
• Inspire

The goals for the YEP Forum in 2024 are:

1

Increase YEP Forum membership

Grow our membership on social media and Mailchimp in real terms across 2024

2

Increase involvement of members with 'active membership'

Ensure our members remain active and involved, measured by LinkedIn Engagement rate, event attendance and survey responses

3

Provide a greater range of development opportunities to members

Provide development opportunities for YEP members by encouraging their participation in panels, events and wider communications as well as increasing engagement with YEP Forum alumni

4

Ensure there is a broad range of events to facilitate our goals

Hold at least one event a month, with at least three of these events outside London

A look back at 2023: Our events

Events are an integral part of the YEP Forum's work and frequently said by members to be a favourite part of our offering. Over 2023 we held 18 events, increasing attendance by 150% above 2022, and 44% more than our target.

YEP Forum Quiz

On Thursday 19th January 2023, the YEP Forum kicked off the year with a quiz for members looking to test both their energy-related and general knowledge! A packed room of 60 meant the competition was fierce – with the winners awarded the coveted YEP Forum mug and bragging rights for the whole year.

- For those not victorious in the quiz, there was another opportunity to win a mug when Energy UK's Senior Analyst Mark Williams ran a bonus "Higher or Lower" round, full of energy stats.
- Feedback was very positive from the event, with members welcoming the opportunity to casually meet new people within the structure of the quiz. It has now become an annual staple, as is the awarding of the renowned YEP Forum mugs.



Informal Networking

On 16th February, the YEP Forum hosted its first post-pandemic informal networking session at The Cross in London. With no agenda or structured discussion, this was simply an opportunity to meet like-minded people from a wide range of backgrounds across the energy industry in a relaxed environment, free from the pressure of a work event.

In Conversation with Climate Tech

On 23rd February, the YEP Forum hosted a webinar to discuss how technology is changing climate and energy policy. Senior representatives from climate-related start-ups covering areas including carbon accounting, renewable power marketplaces and Net Zero EdTech, joined us to provide learnings and inspiration for YEPs and advice from their own careers. The panel was chaired by YEP Forum Chair Phil McNally and included:

- **Ellen Moeller**
Head of Europe, Watershed
- **Mat Ilic**
Co-founder and CEO, greenworkx
- **Nicola Waters**
COO, Electron

A recording of the discussion can be found on the [**YEP YouTube channel**](#).

YEP Forum and Accenture Present: International Women's Day Networking

Celebrating International Women's Day saw the YEPs attend the Accenture offices on March 22nd to hear from leading women in the energy sector. Speakers included:

- **Helen Barrow**
UK Net Zero Lead and UKI Power Generation and Infrastructure Lead, Accenture
- **Grace Kimberley**
Project Officer, POWERful women
- **Bridgit Hartland-Jones**
Chief Specialist, Ørsted.

Learning about their journeys, how they navigated their careers and overcame barriers served as an inspiring way to celebrate the strong women in the sector. We discussed a range of topics from the role of mentors to act as advocates in one's careers to the importance of having diverse role models. The networking session was a great way to make long-lasting connections across the industry.

Site Visit: National Grid ESO Control Room

Later in March (31st), the YEPs headed to Wokingham to visit National Grid ESO's Electricity National Control Centre and tour the Control Room. Over the course of the day, we heard from policy experts from across the ESO on a range of topics, from the balancing programme to offshore network design and the challenges facing system operators. We also heard first-hand what a day in the life of a Control Room engineer. Looks like as they work around the clock to make sure that the right amount of electricity gets to where it's needed, when it's needed.



YEP Forum x KPMG Leaders 2050: Closing the Skills Gap for Net Zero

In April, the YEP Forum collaborated with KPMG's Leaders 2050 and National Grid to deliver a "speed breakout" event. Members had the opportunity to discuss key skills-related subjects with senior leaders and consider how every profession within the industry can contribute to Net Zero.

We were welcomed to National Grid's Strand office by its Senior Public Affairs Manager, Scott Couldridge, whose keynote speech stressed the importance of having a diverse set of people – with their skills, experience, and interests – working in energy and propelling Britain towards a Net Zero future.

By cycling through 10-minute breakout groups with different leaders, members then had the chance to discuss a particular subject with the energy leader. Guiding questions for conversation included: "Why is your skill/profession important to delivering Net Zero?", "How can we ensure jobs in energy are accessible to under-represented groups and disadvantaged communities?" and "What are the key skills gaps that need to be filled to deliver Net Zero?".

With such a diverse range of leaders and members the ensuing conversations were vibrant, informed, and thought-provoking. Members really appreciated the opportunity to have a more interactive and personal conversation about energy – and their role in it both now and in the future – alongside not just peers, but energy leaders in roles they one day aspire to be in themselves.

We wish to thank KPMG and National Grid for the opportunity to collaborate with them, and to the energy leaders, each representing a different discipline in energy:

- **Policy: Rebecca Beresford**
Director of Net Zero Strategy & Policy, EDF (UK)
- **Engineering: Sholan Pillay**
Hydrogen and Power Process Engineer, RWE
- **Academia: Professor Jim Watson**
Director, UCL Institute of Sustainable Resources
- **Finance: Sam Ewuosho**
Associate Director, KPMG
- **Markets: Laura Hield-Ryder**
Chief of Staff, Arenko Group



Informal Networking

In May the YEP Forum hosted another informal social for members, this time at the Tank and Paddle in Bishopsgate, London. It was a chance for young professionals from across the industry to chat to likeminded individuals in a more casual setting, complete with opportunities to play shuffleboard!

Site Visit: Dogger Bank Operations and Maintenance Base

In June, the YEPs travelled from across the UK to Newcastle, specifically the Port of Tyne in South Shields to visit the Dogger Bank Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Base. This is where Dogger Bank Wind Farm, which when complete will be the biggest offshore wind farm in the world, is set to be operated. The wind farm is located more than 130km off the north-east coast of England and is being delivered by joint venture partners SSE Renewables, Equinor and Vårgrønn. Mark Halliday, Vice President of O&M, and Tom Nightingale, North East Stakeholder Manager (at the time), showed us how Dogger Bank is set to operate including showing us the control room where they can manage the operation of the wind farm with over 30,000 sensors.

We also visited the Port of Tyne and saw how it is transitioning from a predominately coal and shipping port, towards a Net Zero port.



Summer Parliamentary Reception

In June 2023, the YEP Forum held its first-ever Parliamentary Reception, hosted by PRASEG and sponsored by Octopus Energy. Held in the Churchill Room, we heard from leading voices across Parliament and industry on both UK and global progress toward Net Zero. All speakers noted the importance of active young professionals in the sector, and the challenges and opportunities to look forward to as we transition into leadership positions and reach the final decades of delivery. Speakers included:

- **Omnia El Omrani**
Youth Envoy to the President of the UN 27th Climate Change Conference (COP27)
- **Bim Afolami MP**
Chair of the Parliamentary Renewable and Sustainable Energy Group (PRASEG)
- **Clem Cowton**
Director of External Affairs, Octopus Energy
- **Robert Birch**
Senior Policy Executive, Energy UK



YEP Forum x PwC: What is the role of energy in decarbonising industry?



On 6th July, the YEP Forum and PwC hosted a panel discussion on industrial decarbonisation and the role of the energy sector in this transition. Topics included how to manage reducing emissions from hard-to-abate sectors and the role of government policy and regulations in driving the greening of industry. The panel was chaired by Amarinda Bazeley, Head of International Buildings and Industry at DESNZ and YEP Forum SteerCo member and included:

- **Tazik Rashid**
Director, PwC
- **Katherine Mountain**
Head of Net Zero Products, DESNZ
- **Laith Whitwham**
Senior Policy Officer, Aldersgate Group

The panel was followed by an audience Q&A session and in-person networking hosted by PwC.

YEP Forum 10 Year Anniversary: Deloitte



The YEP Forum turned 10 in July 2023! Since being founded in 2013, the YEP Forum has been hosting early-career professionals from across the energy industry for a wide range of events, from networking to site visits, and of course our annual Awards Ceremony. To celebrate this, the YEP Forum and Deloitte put on a networking event attended by over 120 people, featuring keynote speeches from Paul Spence, Director of Strategy and Corporate Affairs at EDF (UK), and Barbara Vest, Professor in Practice at the Durham Energy Institute. We also had an interactive panel session with current and former YEP Chairs, SteerCo members and supporters, including:

- **Tabish Khan**, Regulatory Affairs, Centrica
- **Juliette Sanders**, Director of Strategic Communications, Energy UK
- **Paul Lowbridge**, Head of Customer Management, Electricity Transmission Customer Connections, National Grid
- **Caroline Gundu**, Lead Business Analyst, EDF (UK)
- **Phil McNally**, Research Fellow in Electricity Markets, UCL

This was followed by an audience Q&A session and in-person networking hosted by Deloitte.

YEP Forum Site Visit: Rampion Offshore Wind Farm, Brighton

In August, the YEPs travelled to the UK's south coast, near Brighton, to visit RWE's Rampion Offshore Wind Farm. After boarding a boat to reach the site, the YEPs enjoyed a guided tour which provided an insight into the engineering behind the structures, highlighted their environmental benefits and contribution to reducing carbon emissions.

The tour enabled the YEPs to witness the interplay between nature and technology, as the turbines coexist with the marine environment. The experience offered a unique perspective on the challenges and triumphs of renewable energy initiatives as we transition towards cleaner, more sustainable energy sources. Moreover, the educational aspect of the tour provided valuable insights into the future of energy production and the role that offshore wind farms play in combating climate change.



YEP Forum x CRA: EV Charging - the Present and Future of a Growing Sector

As the electrification of transport advances, electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure must be deployed alongside the vehicles themselves to help support the mass adoption of this technology. At the same time, there is an increasingly diverse mix of EV drivers with differing charging preferences, meaning charging providers are challenged to satisfy these different charging needs. YEP Forum partnered with Charles River Associates (CRA) in September on a panel to discuss these challenges. Chaired by YEP Forum SteerCo member and Analyst at Charles River Associates, Francesco Nobili, speakers included:

- **Vicky Read**
Head of Public Affairs at Connected Kerb and Vice Chair of Charge UK
- **Yumann Siddiq**
EV Policy Manager, Energy UK
- **Akshat Gupta**
EV Infrastructure Partnerships and Propositions Manager, Volkswagen Group
- **Luca Gatto**
Managing Director of Transport Team, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

The panel discussed the state of the EV charging industry, touching upon major roadblocks to the sector's development going forward. The discussion centred on the role played by each stakeholder within the EV charging ecosystem, stressing the importance of coordination between different parties to enhance the electrification of road transport. Involving speakers from different parts of the EV charging space, including companies in the financial, charging and original equipment manufacturer (OEM) segments, the conversation touched upon the relevance of combining public and private funding to advance the shift to electric. There was agreement that the sector is quickly developing and uncertainty around EV drivers' charging preferences remains as we move into the mass adoption of EVs. Overall, there was widespread consensus on the sector's positive outlook, with confidence that electric mobility will be a key enabler of decarbonisation and it could enhance the energy system's flexibility.



Site Visit: Aldborough Gas Storage Visit



In October, the YEP Forum visited SSE's Thermal's Aldborough Gas Storage site; as sponsor for the Forum, this is another example of its commitment to fostering talent within the energy industry.

An informal buffet lunch allowed attendees to mix and interact, setting the tone for meaningful discussions throughout the day. Industry experts took the stage, delivering a series of insightful presentations. Gas Storage Director, Michael Gillat, offered a comprehensive overview of gas storage, highlighting its strategic significance within the company and outlining future plans. Process Safety Engineer, Matt Trindall, delved into the nuanced safety considerations specific to gas storage plants, shedding light on the intricacies of working within a Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) site. Hydrogen Technology Engineer, Oliver Wilson, provided valuable insights into the evolving landscape of hydrogen production, storage, and utilisation in the energy sector.

Following these enriching presentations, attendees were led on a comprehensive site tour.

The visit was a memorable and educational experience for all, with great feedback from attendees.

YEP Forum x Accenture - Data and digital: Accelerating the Net Zero transition, Edinburgh

In November 2023, the YEP Forum partnered with Accenture to host its first event in Scotland post-Covid. An impressive panel discussed the role of data and digitalisation in helping Great Britain reach Net Zero and covered topics including operations & infrastructure, markets and customers, and skills. Given the majority of the sector is based outside of London, there was overwhelming support to bring discussions and ideas around Net Zero to regions across Great Britain. Chaired by YEP Forum SteerCo member and Energy Transition Consultant at Accenture, Cissie Liu, speakers included:

- **Elachumee Candem-Lennox**
Senior Manager, Accenture
- **David Hilferty**
Director of Impact, Citizens Advice Scotland
- **Shaun Hodge**
Product Manager, SSEN Transmission

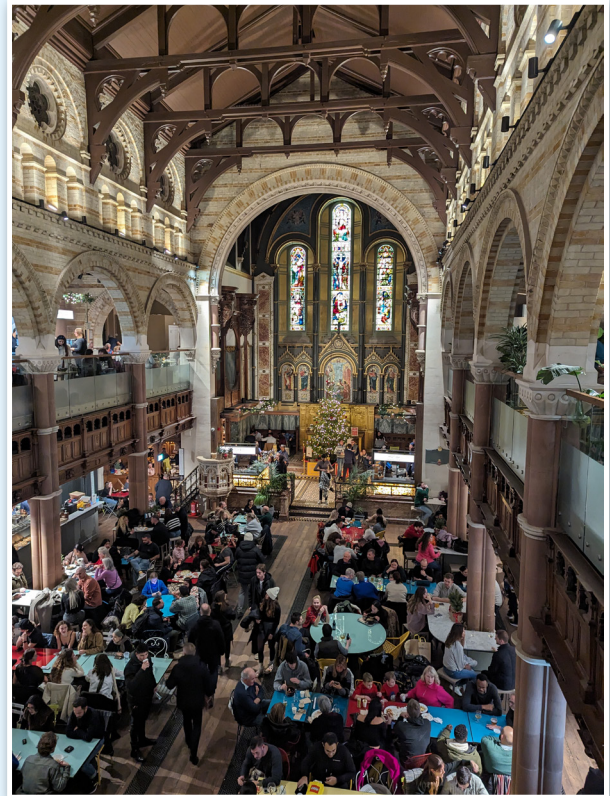
Unfortunately, due to an untimely power cut, Iain Dougan (Head of IT, SSEN – Transmission) and Jessica Steinemann (Senior Data Scientist, Energy Systems Catapult) who were due to speak at this event were unable to join us this time.

YEP Forum x BCPF: How can we improve diversity in the energy industry?

Also in November, the YEP Forum joined forces with the BAME Climate Professionals Forum to hold one of our final events of 2023 in collaboration with FTI Consulting. We hosted a networking reception focused on fostering and encouraging greater diversity within the energy and climate sectors with speeches from special guests:

- **Dhara Vyas**
Deputy Chief Executive, Energy UK
- **Laith Whitwham**
Chair of the BAME Climate Professionals Forum and Senior Policy Advisor, E3G

YEP Forum x EI YPN networking drinks, Mercato Mayfair



To get into the holiday spirit, we teamed up with the Energy Institute's London branch of its Young Professionals Network (YPN) to host a joint social! We held the social in Mercato Mayfair and it was great opportunity to collaborate with other networks, provide enhanced networking for our members, and wear Christmas jumpers. We look forward to working with the Energy Institute YPN in the future and wish them the best with its future endeavours until then!

YEP Forum: Guide to Jobs in Energy

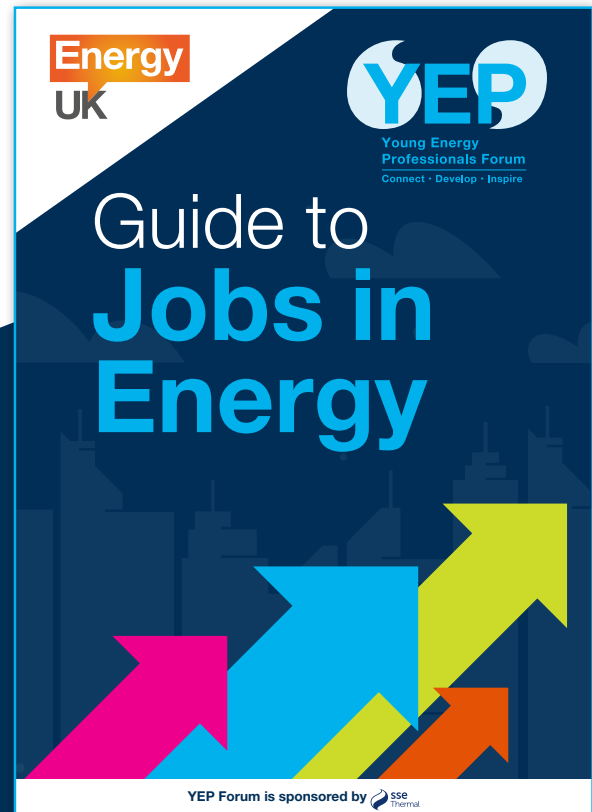
In October 2023, we released our updated Guide to Jobs in Energy.

The report featured interviews and insights with almost 20 people from various roles across the energy sector, exploring how they got into the sector, their current role, what skills are important, what advice they would give and their outlook and aspirations for the sector moving forward.

The guide aims to inspire people to join the sector, through driving awareness about the diversity of careers available and the different pathways to entry. It covers technical roles in engineering and STEM fields, as well as innovation, policy influencing, and organisations that provide a service to the sector. The guide was shared with targeted stakeholders and was well received and featured on careers websites and university career departments. It was widely shared on social media with 45 reshares and over 12,000 impressions.

Emma Pinchbeck, Chief Executive of Energy UK said:

“The energy industry will play a vital role in helping the UK decarbonise and yet it is well documented that there is a skills gap that could be detrimental to achieving our Net Zero target.



“Hundreds of thousands of new jobs need to be filled by 2050 and there is a need for people who understand communications, marketing, or have commercial skills, alongside people who can invent things and solve technical issues.

“It’s important that people from all backgrounds can see themselves working in our sector, and this guide, as well as the wider work of the YEP Forum, will help people at the start of their working life understand how they can have a long-term career with purpose.”

Phil McNally, previous YEP Forum Chair who presented the guide:

“The transition to Net Zero will require a monumental effort from hundreds of thousands of people to deliver all the new infrastructure we need and solve the challenges ahead of us with innovative ideas. These jobs span all corners of the economy, including engineering, policy, finance, and marketing to name just a few.

“This skills gap is a significant challenge but also a fantastic opportunity for people to play a role in the defining challenge of our time.”

2023 YEP Awards

On Thursday 16th November 2023, the YEP Forum held its 9th annual YEP Awards at the Hilton Tower Bridge in London.

We were delighted to welcome two keynote speakers;

- **Chris Stark** – Chief Executive, Climate Change Committee
- **Helen Sanders** – Head of Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, SSE Thermal

The event was hosted by the fantastic Dr Matt Winning, Comedian and Environmental Economist, who brought a touch of comedy and realism to the purpose of our work in energy.

This year we had seven award categories to recognise the outstanding success and contributions of young industry professionals. We also had the new Innovator of the Year award, specifically recognising those who had challenged the status quo within their field and thought creatively about how to solve the problems facing the energy industry.

Thank you to all who attended the event, and a particular thank you to our judges, our keynote speakers, and our sponsors SSE Thermal, Policy by Murray, Drax, National Gas and EDF (UK).

Award	Winner	Judge
Audrey Gallacher Award for Excellence	Troy Fisher SSEN Distribution	Andy Hallett Regulatory Policy Committee
Consumer Champion Award	Hannah Rochford National Grid ESO	Danni Barnes National Energy Action
Diversity & Inclusion Award Sponsored by Policy by Murray	William Dryden National Grid ESO	Mac Alonge The Equal Group
Innovator of the Year Sponsored by Drax	Vishak Dudhee V-LAB	Rubina Singh Octopus Ventures
Rising Star Award Sponsored by SSE Thermal	Dylan Jones Kinewell Energy	Ana Musat Renewable UK
Team of the Year Award Sponsored by National Gas	Strategic Modelling Team Frazer-Nash Consultancy	Jake Tudge National Gas
YEP of the Year Award Sponsored by EDF (UK)	Sarah Woolham-Jaffier National Grid	Emma Pinchbeck Energy UK

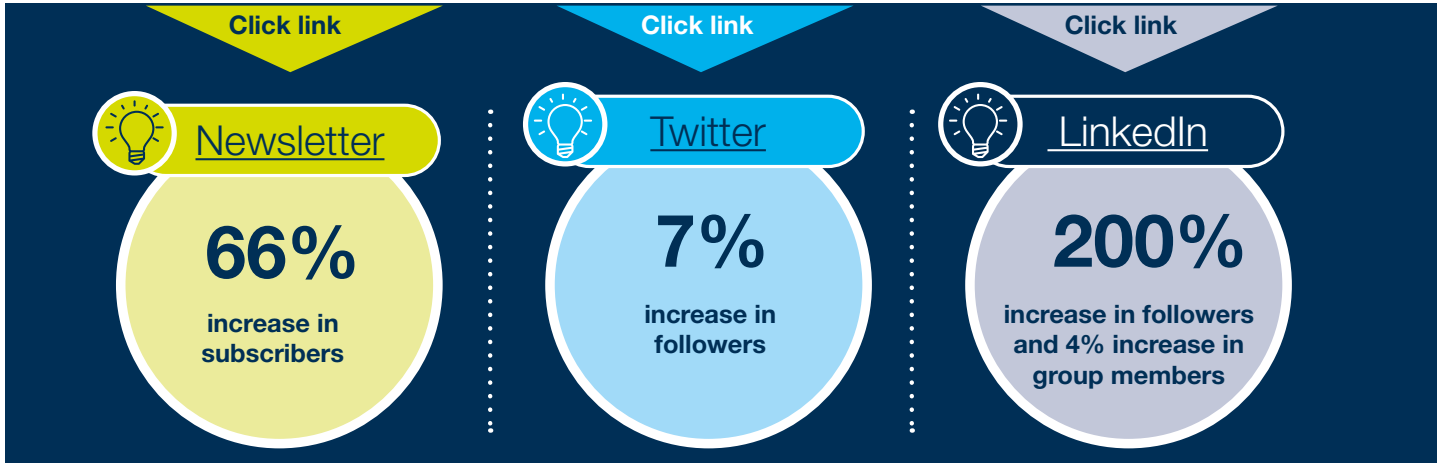
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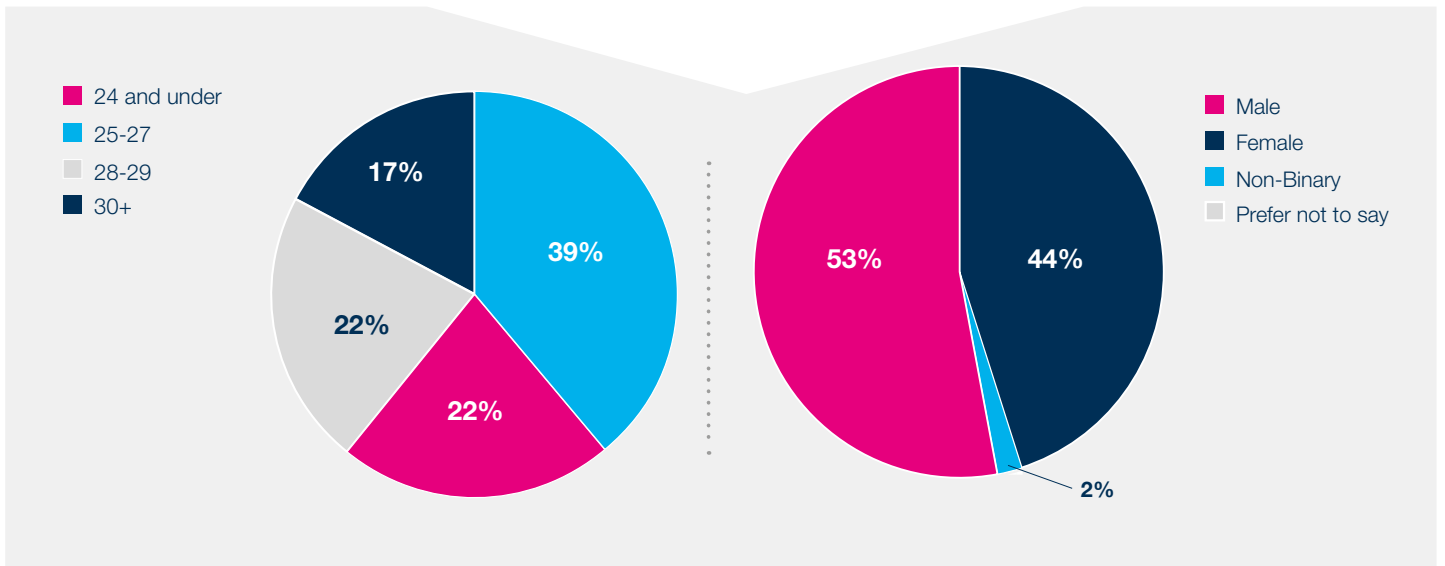
Membership Statistics and Engagement 2023



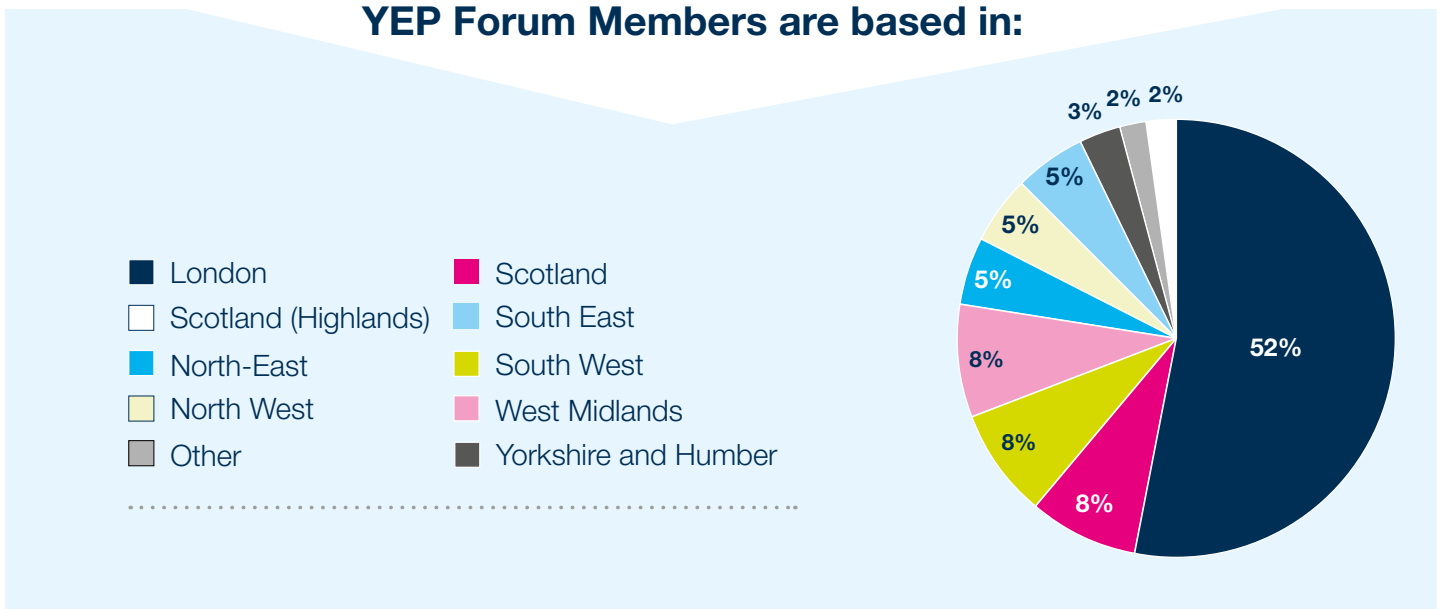
Over the last year, the YEP Forum has continued to grow.



YEP Forum Members are:



YEP Forum Members are based in:



Reflections on 2023



2023 was the 10th year of the YEP Forum and we marked the occasion in style. Over the course of the year, we hosted 20 events including a Parliamentary Reception, a visit to an offshore wind farm, and our biggest annual Awards ceremony to date, to name just a few. We now have more members than ever benefitting from the wide array of events we host and developing their networks across the sector. It's been a privilege chairing the Forum over the past year and I know there are big plans in store for 2024, so stay tuned!

Phil McNally

Senior Advisor, Energy & Net Zero,
10 Downing Street

The YEP awards event was a hugely inspiring evening for me and my National Grid colleagues both in terms of the attendees I met and the quality of speakers. I left with a huge amount of optimism and hope for the future and I was able to connect with new people from across the sector. For this reason I look forward to joining future YEP Forum events. Being recognised as YEP of the Year is a huge honour.

Sarah Woolham-Jaffier,

YEP of the Year 2023 and Lead Project Manager,
National Grid



I've been so proud of everything the YEP SteerCo has achieved in the past couple of years. From celebrating the best and brightest through the annual YEP Awards, to learning and sharing insights across all corners of the sector, we've connected hundreds of professionals, and provided countless opportunities for development. I am continuously inspired by the individuals I've met through the YEP Forum and worked alongside through the SteerCo, which makes me excited to play a part in shaping the energy industry of the future. It's been hard to say goodbye to such a fabulous crew as I make the move back to Australia but be sure to look out for the YEP Forum Australia edition in the not too distant future!

Amarinda Bazely

Outgoing SteerCo Member and Head of
International Buildings and Industry, DESNZ



• **Connect**
• **Develop**
• **Inspire**

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The UK's journey to Net Zero is riddled with 'wicked problems' – it cannot be solved by a single organisation. The YEP Forum embodies the spirit of collaboration needed across the industry in Great Britain to take on these challenges. It brings together curious and capable professionals with different backgrounds and experiences to share ideas, and create new opportunities for development and growth for the industry's talent pipeline. For those at the start of their career, it's a great way to explore different paths and to expand your network.

Cissie Liu

Energy Transition Consultant, Accenture

I am very proud to have supported the YEP Forum in the year it turned 10. From delivering the largest ever YEP Awards, the success of our Guide to Jobs in Energy, to the sheer volume of events that we hosted in 2023, the YEP Forum has helped to connect, develop and inspire young professionals from across the energy industry. I can't wait to see what 2024 brings!

Robert Birch

Senior Policy Executive and outgoing YEP Forum Secretariat, Energy UK

”

It was great to get the opportunity to attend the YEP Awards 2023 in November. I was honoured to win the Customer Champion Award for my work on the Demand Flexibility Service, driving active participation from homes and businesses in the energy industry. On the night I really enjoyed hearing about all the different projects across the energy industry that had been driven forward by other nominees and winners. Young energy professionals are the future of the energy industry, and it is great to see the opportunities and networking that the YEP Forum enables through their events. I was able to meet other like-minded individuals across the industry where we're all driving forward the energy transition to create a smarter, greener, and affordable future.

Hannah Rochford

Winner of Consumer Champion at YEP Awards 2023 and Ancillary Service Development Manager, National Grid ESO

”

Looking ahead for 2024

Yumann Siddiq

Policy Manager, Smart Data Communications Company

Chair of the YEP Forum 2024 – present

Sandy Kelly

Flexibility Lead, EDF (UK)

Vice Chair of the YEP Forum 2022 – present



As the Chair and Vice-Chair of the YEP Forum for 2024, we're delighted to take this opportunity to look ahead at what we have planned for the year.

We would first like to extend our gratitude to Phil McNally and Rob Birch who have done excellent jobs as Chair of the Forum and lead of the YEP Secretariat respectively in 2023. Likewise, Amarinda Bazeley and Lauren Brown have been invaluable members of the Steering Committee and as all four of their tenures conclude, we recognise their efforts in guiding the YEP Forum to deliver its most impressive year-to-date; breaking records on the number and quality of events; increasing membership and promoting the Forum to new audiences.

Because of their efforts, the YEP Forum is in an incredibly strong position going into 2024 and we are excited to build on their success. This year, the Forum will deliver more site visits to some of the UK's most significant energy infrastructure facilities. It will introduce interactive events where members can challenge themselves and their thinking, as well as networking receptions which will bridge the energy sector with related sectors such as environment and health as we approach the final few decades for delivering a Net Zero economy.


Following our end-of-year strategy session, we have maintained the Forum's motto:

Connect, Develop, Inspire.

This motto will guide our activities in 2024 - We will continue providing opportunities to connect with at least one event each month. We will create opportunities to develop your understanding of the sector with more innovative events such as interactive workshops and mentoring opportunities. Finally, as ever, we will continue to ensure our activities inspire the next generation of energy industry leaders and recognise your achievements at the YEP Forum's Annual Awards ceremony. Look out for our panels with energy industry leaders from across the world and the YEP Parliamentary Reception this year!

As we head into the upcoming general election, the energy sector's political significance, economic impact and effect on people's lives continues to grow, while the urgency to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change only intensifies. We look forward to hearing about your contributions to tackling these issues when we see you next – whether it be at a light-hearted social or an insightful panel!

Stay connected

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 YEPForum@energy-uk.org.uk



Young Energy
Professionals Forum

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Thank you

to our lead sponsors, **SSE Thermal**, without whom many of 2023's successes would not have been possible. Additional thanks go to our contributors and the **YEP Forum Steering Committee**:



With thanks to those who contributed to this report:

Ellie Rowlands, Robert Birch, Phil McNally, Yumann Siddiq, Sandy Kelly and all members of the Steering Committee

• Connect
• Develop
• Inspire