

WELCOME

This is a special edition of the DECC Review to mark the first week in the job for new Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Edward Davey.

He had a busy start with a series of events in his first week. For his first visit he joined forces with the Deputy Prime Minister in a visit to the Building Research Establishment's Innovation Park near Watford with the message that green growth and green jobs will remain at the heart of the Coalition's strategy for economic recovery. He then gave his first speech as he attended the launch of the new Energy Efficiency Deployment Office.

"There may have been a change at the helm, but there'll be no change in direction or ambition."

Edward Davey, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change

Edward Davey appointed Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change

Edward Davey MP was appointed Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change on Friday 3 February, following the resignation of Chris Huhne.

Arriving at DECC's headquarters in London, Mr Davey said:

"This is a sad day because Chris Huhne has had a real vision for a green economy and he's done fabulous work as Secretary of State.

"I've now got to take up the challenges - the challenge of climate change, the challenge of energy security.

"And I'm particularly conscious of the impact on households across the country of high energy bills.

"I'm determined to work to follow on Chris' priorities, the Coalition's priorities and to make them my priorities.

"I want us to have a green economy, with the green jobs and investment we need to help grow our economy."

Related links

- [Edward Davey addresses the press on the steps of DECC](#) - Video on YouTube
- [Edward Davey's arrival at the Department of Energy & Climate Change](#) - Photos on Flickr
- [Edward Davey biography](#)

Also in this edition



Going for green means going for growth



Energy saving at heart of strategy



Sound Bites

Edward Davey, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change arrives at DECC on appointment to the Cabinet, 3 February.



forward

Going for green means going for growth

FIRST VISIT

Edward Davey hit the ground running on Monday 6 February by joining Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg in sending a clear signal that green growth and green jobs will remain at the heart of the Coalition's strategy for economic recovery.



Energy Secretary Edward Davey and Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg with BRE CEO Peter Bonfield. Photo: Peter White, BRE

Visiting the Building Research Establishment's Innovation Park near Watford, a testing site for green homes, they met graduates considering moving into green construction jobs.

"I have long believed in the need to marry our economic and environmental agendas.

"By focusing on the low carbon industries of the future we can rebalance our economy, reducing our dependence on the City of London on the one hand, and on oil and gas imports from unstable parts of the world on the other.

"My priorities are very simple: green jobs, green growth and getting the best deal for energy bill payers. My department is already implementing bold and ambitious reforms - like electricity market reform and the Green Deal - to unlock private investment, drive innovation and build a resilient, green, competitive economy. It's now my job to see those through.

"There may have been a change at the helm, but there'll be no change in direction or ambition."

Davey puts energy saving at heart of strategy

FIRST SPEECH

On Wednesday 8 February the new Secretary of State joined Climate Change Minister Greg Barker to unveil details of the new Energy Efficiency Deployment Office (EEDO) at a meeting with industry leaders at The John Lewis Partnerships' Peter Jones store on Sloane Square in London.

In his [first speech as Secretary of State](#), Mr Davey said:

"I'm hugely enthusiastic about energy efficiency. It's the cheapest way of cutting carbon – and cutting bills for consumers. It has to be right at the heart of what we do.

"EEDO will be a centre of expertise, challenging our work and making energy efficiency real and relevant to people's everyday lives. Two out of three consumers think their home is wasting energy, but only one in three is going to do anything about it. That has to change. We need to get out there and show people what energy efficiency can really do for them."

The 50-strong team will pull together expertise from across the Department. EEDO staff will continue to support the delivery of the Green Deal, the rollout of smart meters and the increase in renewable heat as well as developing a new energy efficiency strategy.

DECC also launched a [Call for Evidence](#) with responses helping guide future energy efficiency strategy.

Edward Davey launches EEDO at John Lewis in Sloane Square London. Photo: Jeff Hopkins



Sound Bites

Quotes from Edward Davey in his first week

On getting the best deal for the consumer:

"I have long believed that collective purchasing will be a game-changer in terms of handing power back to consumers.

"As Energy Secretary I am determined to take this agenda forward. I want to make it easier for consumers to club together and use collective purchasing power to reduce their gas and electricity bills.

"At the same time we are working with Ofgem to simplify energy tariffs, make energy bills easier to understand, and boost competition in the market so that consumers can get the best deals."

On new nuclear:

"I'm continuing the work to implement the coalition agreement, there'll be no change on nuclear policy.

"There have been understandable concerns given the expensive mistakes made in the past which the taxpayer is still paying for.

"But coalition agreement is crystal clear - new nuclear can go ahead so long as it's without subsidy. Developers will be required to put money aside from day one to pay for the eventual decommissioning and waste management."

On onshore wind:

"I've been a lifelong supporter of renewable and wind power and I'm not going to change now. I think that onshore and offshore wind power has a real place in a balanced mix of energy generation so I'm a huge supporter of renewables and I'm going to make sure that they have a real role to play in the future.

"I think the case is pretty compelling. Already we've seen through the subsidies that this government has invested in onshore wind that the price has come down to make onshore wind competitive so we've got money to invest in all sorts of renewables because of the success of the investments we've been making."

Speaking at the formal opening of the Walney offshore windfarm off Cumbria (the biggest in the world):

"Britain has a lot to be proud of in our growing offshore wind sector. Our island's tremendous natural resource, our research base and a proud history of engineering make this the number one destination for investment in offshore wind.

"And Walney is the newest, biggest and fastest-built jewel in that crown, providing clean power for hundreds of thousands of households.

"Opening Walney during my first week in office lets me underline my commitment to continuing the Coalition's work to make this sector a success story for the British economy, not least with the innovation it is driving and the employment it is creating."

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