

# APPG for Sustainable Resources

## Summary of Activities 2025

Contact: [Victoria.zeybrandt@policyconnect.org.uk](mailto:Victoria.zeybrandt@policyconnect.org.uk)

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### **Unpacking the Circular Economy:** Sustainable Resources in the New Government

- Parliamentary panel event with Minister Mary Creagh.
- This event brought together parliamentarians, experts from across the sustainable resources community, government policymakers and more to explore priorities for the waste and resources sector in the new Parliament and next steps to promote sustainable resources and a circular economy across the UK.

### **Sustainable NHS Mandate**

- Parliamentary roundtable chaired by Baroness Margaret Ritchie, an event in partnership with the APPG for Health.
- Tasked to reform or die, developing a ‘circular’ NHS has become an existential imperative.
- Sustainable practices hold the key to NHS survival. By promoting efficiency and better utilising waste, circular products and practices benefit quality of care, financial resources, continuity of supply and the environment.
- The Government must show leadership to enable a wholesale cultural shift to circular care.
- The discussion set objectives for the Government’s impending healthcare reforms to set to develop a sustainable health economy.

### **Textile circularity**

- Parliamentary panel event chaired by Tristan Osborne MP.
- This roundtable will brought together key stakeholders to discuss the current state of textiles circularity in the UK and internationally. The discussion explored the development of a textiles Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme, examining its potential structure and impact. Additionally, it highlighted innovations in the textiles sector that support circularity, addressing both policy and industry-led solutions to drive sustainability.

## The Industrial Strategy Summer Reception

- Parliamentary networking reception hosted by Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea, in collaboration with the APPG for Manufacturing
- This event explored what the UK's **Industrial Strategy** needs to deliver for long-term economic growth, productivity, and competitiveness.
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## A Sustainable Health Footprint: effective waste management

- Parliamentary panel event with Baroness Ritchie.
- An event in partnership with the ESA and Stericycle.
- With the health service generating significant volumes of clinical waste each year, there is growing urgency to find environmentally responsible and cost-effective solutions. Clinical waste not only contributes to carbon emissions and environmental degradation but also places a financial burden on healthcare providers.
- This work brought together insights from policymakers, healthcare providers, researchers, and industry experts to explore how the NHS can reduce its environmental impact while maintaining high standards of care and safety. By identifying best practices, innovative technologies, and policy levers, the aim is to support the NHS in progressing towards its net zero targets and embedding sustainability into core healthcare operations.

## From Niche to Norm: Mainstreaming the Circular Economy in the UK

- Parliamentary panel event chaired by Tristan Osborne MP.
- As the UK seeks to achieve its net zero and resource efficiency goals, embedding circular economy principles into mainstream economic, industrial, and environmental policy is becoming increasingly urgent. But what does this look like in practice, and what role must policymakers, business leaders, and academia play in making it a reality?
- This event brought together key stakeholders from across government, industry, and research to examine:
  - What are the key policy levers for scaling circular economy practices in the UK?
  - How can barriers to uptake across industries be addressed through regulation, incentives, and innovation?
  - What does “normalisation” really mean for the public, private, and third sectors?

- How can Parliament help accelerate progress toward a circular, resource-efficient economy?

### **A Circular Future for Absorbent Hygiene Products: Rethinking Nappy Waste**

- Parliamentary panel event chaired by Tristan Osborne MP.
- An event in partnership with the North London Waste Authority.
- Absorbent hygiene products – including nappies, incontinence products and period products – represent a significant and growing waste stream in the UK, with major implications for local authorities, households, and the environment. These products are difficult to manage, contributing heavily to both carbon emissions and disposal costs, yet each year it is estimated that in excess of 1 million tonnes of AHPs are disposed of, the vast majority incinerated or sent to landfill.
- This event provided a space to explore current challenges and emerging opportunities in the policy environment to reduce waste, improve resource efficiency, and support more sustainable systems for managing these materials.