

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Infrastructure (2024).



This is not an official publication of the House of Commons or the House of Lords. It has not been approved by either House or its committees. All-Party Groups are informal groups of Members of both Houses with a common interest in particular issues. The views expressed in this Report are those of the group.

This report has been written by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) as Secretariat to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Infrastructure (APPGI), with approval from Andrew Jones MP, as Chair of the APPGI.

Content

Overview.....Page 3
Highlights of 2023.....Page 4
Plan for 2024.....Page 6
Secretariat.....Page 7
Expenses Report.....Page 8

Overview

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Infrastructure (APPGI) is Parliament's leading cross-party group dedicated to economic infrastructure in the UK.

In recent years, the APPGI has helped bring infrastructure to the forefront of the United Kingdom's politics. From raising the profile of major infrastructure projects and their benefits amongst parliamentarians to advising the government on critical matters relating to the built environment, the APPGI is well established as a key forum for engaging parliamentarians in infrastructure policy issues.

It convenes those stakeholders to discuss how best to ensure society gets its necessary infrastructure.

This report outlines the importance of the APPGI and the work done during the last year to bring information to Parliamentarians interested in this area.

The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), as the Secretariat of the APPGI, would like to thank all of the officers and members during the past year for their continued engagement with the group and for championing the importance of infrastructure.

Highlights of 2023

Site Visit to HS2 site in Birmingham: Curzon Street.

In January, the APPGI and the APPG Women in Transport made a joint trip to view the Curzon Street Station site in Birmingham. During a site tour, the group was given an HS2 project update and an overview of the plans for the Curzon Street Station. They also heard from site contractor Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) about how the HS2 project has provided new upskilling, employment, and education opportunities for people in the Midlands.

To read more, click [here](#).

Annual Reception with the Chancellor, Jeremy Hunt.

Chancellor Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP addressed the APPGI's annual reception at One Great George Street in February. The Chancellor told attendees he would continue his commitments to capital spending and accelerate delivery.

To read more, click [here](#).

Sir John Armitt speaks to Parliamentarians ahead of the Infrastructure Progress Review.

In March, Sir John Armitt and James Heath, the Chair and CEO, respectively, of the National Infrastructure Commission, joined a roundtable in Parliament to discuss the Infrastructure Progress Review. This gave parliamentarians from a wide range of parties an opportunity to hold a closed-door briefing and question session with the guest speakers.

To read more, click [here](#).

APPGI hears from RenewableUK on a renewables-based energy system in the UK.

In May, Barnaby Wharton, director of future electricity systems at RenewableUK, joined an online industry briefing where he spoke to members about their work on making a renewable-based energy system in the UK. He also discussed the barriers the UK faces in getting to net zero.

To read more, click [here](#).

Site Visit to London Power Tunnels

In June, the APPGI was invited to visit London Power Tunnels, which is the construction project being built to rewire South London. Here, the group explored the Tunnels and learned about the importance of the project to meet the government's net zero ambitions for 2030 and 2050.

To read more, click [here](#).

APPGI hears from Midlands Connect on planning for a greener, fairer, stronger future.

In July, Midlands Connect was a guest speaker at an online industry event focused on the subnational transport body's emerging programmes to decarbonise roads in the region. There was also a discussion on electric vehicle infrastructure in the region.

To read more, click [here](#).

APPGI hears from the Rt Hon Chris Skidmore on 'Mission Zero'

In July, the Rt. Hon. Chris Skidmore joined an online briefing of the APPGI to discuss his 'Mission Zero' report and the importance of infrastructure in achieving net zero. This high-profile event was the first to kick off the ICE – APPGI Green Paper on net zero behaviours.

To read more, click [here](#).

APPGI heard from the Energy Networks Association on grid decarbonisation.

In September, the APPGI heard from Lawrence Slade, the CEO of the Energy Networks Association, on connecting clean energy and delivering hydrogen projects as part of the group's online industry briefing series. Lawrence also spoke of the investment that is being made in energy infrastructure, which will bring the UK to net zero.

To read more, click [here](#).

APPGI launch of the National Infrastructure Commission's report: Second National Infrastructure Assessment.

In October, the APPGI held the Parliamentary reception for the NIC's Second National Infrastructure Assessment. Sir John Armitt spoke at the event, and parliamentarians were able to ask him and the commissioners questions.

To read more, click [here](#).

Additional work from the APPGI.

[We are celebrating a strong start for UK infrastructure in 2023.](#)

[A 'non-showy' Budget that solves post-pandemic problems for the UK.](#)

['Infrastructure policy certainty yields better delivery, better value, and quicker timescales.'](#)

Plan for 2024.

2024 will see a bumper year for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Infrastructure. With an upcoming General Election, there has never been a more important time to stress the importance of economic infrastructure in the UK. The necessity of certainty within construction has never been more needed, and all parties are in listening mode as we approach the General Election.

This AGM for the group takes place in March. However, the APPGI has already seen a great deal of movement and work this year.

The APPGI and ICE joint paper looking at behaviour changes required to reach net zero was launched last month. The APPGI's cross-party support in creating this report shows the importance of working together.

The report was launched with the Chancellor, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, at the annual reception. He spoke of the importance of infrastructure and government plans for the following year.

The APPGI has plans for another private roundtable with the National Infrastructure Commission in May. More events will be planned for the rest of the year, and details will be sent to members.

Secretariat and Governance

The APPG on Infrastructure (APPGI) is the leading cross-party group dedicated to economic infrastructure in the UK, and it highlights its importance amongst parliamentarians, government, and industry.

The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) is the official Secretariat for the APPGI. The APPGI has no external members or sponsors.

The APPGI is chaired by former Treasury and Transport Minister Andrew Jones MP.

Alan Brown MP, the former Shadow Spokesperson on Energy Security and Net Zero for the SNP supports him as co-chair.

About the Institution of Civil Engineers

The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) is a 95,000-strong global membership organisation with over 200 years of history. Its mission is to improve lives by ensuring the world has the engineering capacity and infrastructure systems it needs to enable our planet and those who live on it, to thrive.

It is a centre of engineering excellence, qualifying engineers and helping them maintain lifelong competence, assuring society that the infrastructure they create is safe, dependable and well designed. Its network of experts offers trusted, impartial advice to politicians and decision makers on how to build and adapt infrastructure to create a more sustainable world.

Information about our work and governance can be found on [our website](#).

For more information, please contact policy@ice.org.uk

Expense Report: March 2023 – March 2024.

The following expenses have been incurred since the last AGM on 29 March 2023 and have been paid for by the Secretariat. As the secretariat for the group, the ICE covered these costs. No costs were incurred for the two site visits or the online events.

March 2023 – Sir John Armitt speaks to Parliamentarians ahead of the Infrastructure Progress Review

Item	Cost
Venue Hire – House of Commons	£718.80
Catering	£720
Total	£1,438.80

October 2023 - APPGI launch of the National Infrastructure Commission’s report: Second National Infrastructure Assessment.

Item	Cost
Venue Hire – House of Lords	£368.74
Catering	£1334.58
Photographer / Videographer	£658.18
Total	£2,361.50

February 2024 – Annual Reception with the Chancellor, Jeremy Hunt.

Item	Cost
Venue Hire	£1704
Catering	£5891.64
Photographer	£660
Total	£8,255.64

In addition, the Secretariat has given work hours in kind to the ICE. This stands at 12 days per year for one staff member, at a cost of **£2,025.60**.

Total: £14,081.54