

## **Notice: Competition guidance: SBRI Perth Smart Energy Network project**

This is a Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI) competition. It is open to organisations of any type and size, from any sector. 100% funding is available to successful applicants.

Please read the [full competition scope](#) before you make your application.

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## **Policy paper: Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund**

*Updated:* Update to text following closing date

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced at Budget 2017 that the government would, in partnership with the private sector, establish a new electric vehicle charging infrastructure investment fund.

The aim of the fund is to catalyse the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure that is required to support the electrification of vehicles, by providing greater access to finance on a commercial basis.

The deadline for the request for fund managers has closed. We are now in the process of carrying out the necessary due diligence and engaging with the relevant parties, ahead of selecting the preferred bidder(s). Further updates will be provided in due course.

### **Contact us**

All questions should be submitted to: [ciif@ipa.gov.uk](mailto:ciif@ipa.gov.uk)

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## **News story: Committee on Radioactive Waste Management visit to Sellafield**

The visit gave the committee the chance to observe progress on decommissioning progress first hand. Sellafield Ltd currently manages roughly

60% of the UK's waste inventory by volume and will be a key stakeholder for any potential UK Geological Disposal Facility.

The committee received updates on Sellafield Ltd projects and organisational structure. Committee members visited the site, observing ongoing decommissioning projects such as the First-Generation Magnox Storage Ponds (FGMSP), the Windscale Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor (WAGR) boxes, and the Highly Active Liquor Evaporation and Storage (HALES).

The Committee observed significant progress in decommissioning and remediation since their [last visit on 5 October 2017](#).

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## **[News story: Committee on Radioactive Waste Management tour of the Dalton Cumbrian Facility](#)**

The committee visited the Dalton Cumbrian Facility (DCF) on 19 June. This is a £20 million facility which opened in September 2013 and was jointly funded by the University of Manchester and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. It is a state-of-the-art ion beam and gamma irradiation facility for nuclear research and development and is part of the National Nuclear User Facility (NNUF), the National Ion Beam Centre and Royce Institute for Advanced materials.

The committee was given a tour around the facility, including visits to the ion accelerators and beamlines, gamma irradiator and materials characterisation laboratory. These facilities allow scientists to assess radiation damage in a short period, that would normally occur over longer timescales. The committee gained insight into the cutting-edge research going on at DCF exploring radiation damage in different materials key to the nuclear industry. A large portion of the research activities is dedicated to decommissioning and the safe management and disposal of radioactive waste.

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## **[International treaty: \[MS No.8/2018\] Framework Agreement on the](#)**

# establishment of the International Solar Alliance

Published title: Framework Agreement on the establishment of the  
International Solar Alliance