

Building Abundance: Removing the Barriers

Energy costs are high, and growth is slow because we can't build fast enough. The changes below will unlock speed to build and, with it, growth and lower bills. None of these changes require public spending or subsidies.

Grid

1. Bin the queue: connect first, reinforce later

- Any project with consented land and a paid commitment fee gets a dated connection within 12 to 24 months.
- It connects on flexible terms: when the grid network is full, it curtails with no reimbursement from the grid.
- The curtailment rules and forecasts are made publicly available. Developers accept the risk.

2. Let firm power be bought and sold

- Issue firm power access rights for existing and future connections. Auction them. Let them trade.
- A steel mill can choose when it runs; a data centre cannot. Let the mill sell its firm access: the same wires serve both, the mill is paid for its flexibility, and nobody has to wait for new capacity.

3. Let anyone qualified build the grid network

- If a connection is waiting on a substation or a line, the licensed builder has the option to build it to the grid operator's requirements and timelines.
- Large grid projects go to competitive tender by default.
- Give licensed builders the legal powers the grid already holds: to run lines over private land, and to buy land compulsorily where essential.

4. Make grid operators accountable for delivery

- Pay automatic compensation to the connecting customer for missed dates.
- Make offers legally binding: liability for material errors, no correction after acceptance.

5. Open the books on the grid networks

- Publish everything: live telemetry, the full grid models and forecasts; every offer and its price; every upgrade programme, its cost, its date, and whether it's on time.
- Let everyone analyse the grid for themselves. Developers can build where the capacity is. Independent builders can quote against the monopoly.

Planning

1. Gas as a transitional enabler

- Today you can't run a low-cost electricity grid with just intermittent technologies + storage alone.
- Stop refusing or delaying consented gas projects on decarbonisation grounds.

2. Enforce planning decision deadlines

- Approve by default where the statutory period expires with no decision.
- Refund fees on late decisions.

Plug-in batteries

• Let homes unlock cheap power: fast-track plug-in batteries

- Plug-in solar was made legal in August 2026; plug-in batteries are queued behind a safety study, with rules not expected before 2028.
- Extend the plug-in route and product specification to battery-integrated devices, building on the existing evidence from Germany so the UK starts from established evidence rather than from scratch.