



DarkSky UK Conference

Newcastle University
9th September 2025

SAVE THE DATE!

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US



DarkSky
UK



Newcastle
University

Good Lighting - from Pollution to Solution

A One-Day Conference of Best Practice, Knowledge
Exchange and Collaboration to Deliver Better Lighting

Programme

9.30am-9:40am

Welcome to Newcastle University and Aims of the Day – *Dr Robert Shaw, School of Geography, Politics and Sociology.*

9:45am-10:30am

Light Pollution Benefits No-one (Session Chair: Andrew Bissell, SLL):

- Glare and Inclusive Spaces, Peter Thorns, Thorn UK Ltd;
- Astronomy and the Visitor Economy, Richard Darn, Go Stargazing and Duncan Wise, Northumberland National Park Authority;
- Biodiversity, Professor Darren Evans, Newcastle University.

[10 min presentations from each and 15 min Q&A]

10:30am-11:00am

Coffee break

11:00pm-11:35am

Less is More – New Approaches to Lighting Design (Session Chair: Amy Rennie, Buro Happold):

- Road Lighting, Karl Rourke, Live Labs II & East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
- Housing Development Standards, Stuart Morton, WSP (with Vistry/ Homes England).

[10 min presentations & 15 min Q&A]

11:35pm-12:10pm

Policy to Practice: Settlement-Wide

(Session Chair: Nick Dunn, Lancaster University):

- Presteigne and Norton, Powys, Kerem Asfuroglu, Dark Source;
- Hawby, North York Moors, Mike Hawtin, NYM National Park Authority.

[10 min presentations & 15 min Q&A]

12:10pm-12:45pm

Policy to Practice: Community and Business Projects

(Session Chair: Guy Harding, Institute of Lighting Professionals):

- Lighting with Communities in Cumbria, Jack Ellerby, Friends of the Lake District;
- Business Lighting, Dani Robertson, Dark Sky Officer for the Protected Landscapes in Wales.

[10 min presentations & 15 min Q&A]

12:45pm-1:40pm

Lunch, Networking and Lighting Company Stalls

1:40pm-3:00pm

Mainstreaming Dark Sky/Environmentally Sensitive Lighting Through Collaboration

- APPG Ten Policy Plan, Robert Massey, RAS - 10 min presentation, then into Workshops:

A: National Policy and Regulatory Changes (Session facilitator: Jack Ellerby, FLD);

B: New Standards (Session facilitator: Dan Oakley, Darkscape Consulting);

C: Engagement, Education and Training (Session facilitator: Paul Gregory, Dark Sky Lighting)

[Facilitator gives 5 min intro and introduces the 3 questions for discussion (based on Policy Plan/other relevant reports/research, eg. House of Lords Science and Technology Committee Inquiry) – 1.15 hour workshops]

3:00pm-3:15pm

Workshop Feedback, 5 mins each, two priority action points from each of the three questions.

3:15pm-3:25pm

Close and Joint Action Plan, Roy Alexander, Dark Sky UK.

3:25pm-4:00pm

Networking and Close with Drinks and Cakes