



Launch of the refreshed UKRN Investor Guide

The refreshed [UKRN Investor Guide](#) was launched on 5 May 2026, at an event hosted by [Jacobs](#) (the global professional services firm), which brought together a diverse group of regulators, investors, industry bodies, government and consultancy, underlining the value of cross-sector dialogue.

The key overall themes from the discussion included the following:

- **Clarity in the role of government to set the direction of travel** and regulators to enable growth, as investors value predictable and independent regulatory decisions.
- **Commitment across the sectors to drive investment** in UK infrastructure, acknowledge shared challenges and focus on learning potential valuable lessons from one another.
- **Regulation is key to make projects investable and affordable**, so should be considered a part of the value proposition, although more can be done with repeatable delivery models.

The Guide provides an easily accessible, digital-only overview of regulated sectors' investment needs, and the main elements of associated economic regulation that may be of interest to investors. It also sets out the role that regulators play in supporting investment and growth, as well as the range of other public sector institutions that help to deliver investment in the UK. The Guide provides a short profile of each sector, the role that our members play and key contacts for further information.

The event was opened by a series of short presentations that emphasised the UK's compelling investment track record and the value of regulation in enabling growth and providing long-term stability and predictability. Building on this there is a further opportunity to foster a more open and constructive dialogue between regulators and investors to work towards an efficient infrastructure sector in the UK that continues to attract investment in a global market.

The panel then explored how regulators, investors and government can work together to create the conditions for sustained, long-term investment in UK infrastructure. Chaired by Maureen Paul (Jacobs Senior Director for Energy Transition), the panel brought together perspectives from the investment community (Infracapital), regulators (Ofcom and the ORR) and government (NISTA).



The themes of the discussion included the following

1. **Collaboration:** proactive engagement between all parties came across strongly, particularly as a cross-stakeholder dialogue.
2. **Regulation as an enabler of investment:** independent, stable and predictable regulation attracts capital and can be a big facilitator of economic growth Strong engagement with investors on what would attract them to invest in the UK is crucial.
3. **The need for strategic clarity and long-term pipelines:** recent Government initiatives, such as the 10-year Infrastructure Strategy and pipeline have started to provide clearer commitment over the direction of travel which in turn enables better supply chain planning, however, there was a call for 50-to-60-year sector visions.
4. **Standardisation and consistency:** greater standardisation across sectors could lower barriers to entry, improve productivity and accelerate delivery.
5. **Cross-sector challenges require cross-sector solutions:** strong recognition that while infrastructure is often discussed in sectoral silos, the supply chain is shared, which creates competition for resources (skills, materials), even if financial capital is globally available.
6. **Regulatory regimes need to be flexible** to cope with change in a dynamic and fast changing world without undermining their underlying stability which is attractive to investors.
7. **Affordability and delivery risk:** recognition from the panel that the constraint is not capital, but there are barriers created by construction costs and supply chain availability. There is a need for improved delivery capability and investment in high demand skills and SMEs.
8. **The development of major new infrastructure** projects shouldn't come at the expense of looking after underlying infrastructure asset health.
9. **Long-term alignment of objectives:** infrastructure sector 'trilemma' (net zero, affordability, resilience) is a challenge but while short-term trade-offs exist, these are aligned over the long term.

Next steps

The UKRN is working on the next phase of work on the Guide, which will include more sector profiles, such as energy and aviation, and other useful content, to be published later this year.