Official Announcement on Leadership Transition June 2026 –

Letter from the Chair

Dear all,

I wanted to let you know that David Murray has stepped down as Executive Director of Sustainability First to pursue new opportunities and personal projects. Over the past four years, David has provided strategic leadership to the organisation, overseeing its development, programmes and external engagement across complex policy and regulatory environments. Sustainability First would like to thank David for his leadership, professionalism and commitment and wish him every success in his future roles.

I am delighted to share that Clare Dudeney and Zoe McLeod are stepping in as interim Co-Directors of Sustainability First during this transition period. Between them they bring more than twenty years of experience across energy, water, and climate policy, including as a recognised consumer and community champion. They have each been central to some of Sustainability First's most significant work across energy (supply, distribution and transmission) and water - from public engagement in infrastructure transitions, to water regulation reform and improvements for consumers in vulnerable situations.

This change in leadership, comes at a moment of real significance for the sectors we work in. Low public trust, an ongoing cost of living and biodiversity crisis, and climate impacts leading to fundamental resilience challenges across the sectors.

Government is reshaping the water regulatory landscape. The energy transition is generating urgent questions about fairness, affordability and public consent. Regulators and government are under pressure to govern in a fast-changing world with significant technological change in both the short-term and long-term public interests. These are precisely the challenges where Sustainability First has always had most to contribute.

Working with our wider team of associates and staff, Clare and Zoe will be supporting a renewed focus on flagship thought leadership and innovation, building on Sustainability First's established strengths in championing the public interest and environment in the energy and water sectors.

They will be in touch over the coming weeks to discuss our priorities and forward programme and to explore opportunities for collaboration. In the meantime, please do get in touch if you would like to catch up, share ideas or discuss how we might work together.

Regards

John Lunn

Chair, Sustainability First