

# Community Newsletter

May 2026



**The Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant (LSEP) is an Energy from Waste facility which is currently under construction at the Lostock Works site near Northwich in Cheshire. The facility will use residual waste left after recycling to generate enough sustainable energy to power 125,000 homes.**

**LSEP Ltd is a joint venture between Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners and FCC Environment. Our newsletters will keep you up to date on what's happening at the site and any news and events that are coming up.**

## Construction update

The plant is entering the final phases of construction with major civil engineering works and building assembly works now complete. Roads and hardstanding works are also progressing well. The building is now almost fully enclosed, with roofing and cladding nearly complete. Only the installation of the louvres (which provide ventilation) remains.

The main remaining construction work involves connecting key equipment through pipework, cables, control systems, and building services. Pipework and insulation works are close to completion and are expected to finish in May 2026. Electrical installation is ongoing and is due to complete in Q4 2026.

Cold commissioning began in March, and this will accelerate next month once the site is made live. Hot commissioning, where waste is first treated, is planned for Q4 2026 with the plant expected to be fully operational in early 2027.

As we progress through the commissioning process we will be cleaning and testing various parts of the system, which occasionally people living close to the plant may be able to see or hear. However, we do not expect this to happen very frequently.

During August or September, we will be cleaning the internal tubes of the boiler plant by blowing high pressure steam through them. This will dislodge any rust or weld material that is loose inside the tubes. We will do everything we can to ensure this is not a disturbance to local residents, including tempering the sound from the steam blow using silencers. However, sometimes, this activity may be heard, and white steam may be seen by passing traffic or pedestrians.

In September and October, we will start up the boiler and test safety systems, including valve checks. This also may produce visible white steam and some local noise. This will be a one-off event and will be repeated very infrequently in the future to minimise disruption nearby. Fire alarms will also be tested during this time, but they should only be heard if you are close to the plant.

We will continue to provide updates via the LSEP website and through updates to the Local Liaison Committee.

## LSEP at a glance

**600,000**

tonnes of waste diverted from landfill

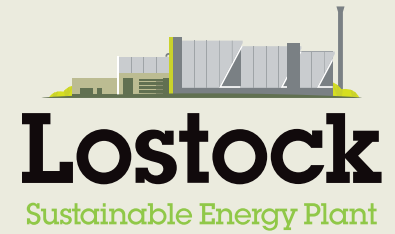
Enough energy to power  
**125,000**  
homes

Reducing carbon emissions by over  
**190,000**  
tonnes

**600**  
jobs during construction and 50 operational jobs

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## Community Fund

**LSEP has launched a new Community Fund designed to benefit the local community during the final construction and commissioning phases of the plant, ahead of LSEP becoming operational in early 2027.**

A pot of £50,000 will be available for local projects, with two types of grant available:

- Small Grant: Up to a maximum of £2,500
- Large Grant: Up to a maximum of £10,000

The fund will be open to projects across the parishes of Northwich, Lostock Gralam, Lach Dennis & Lostock Green and Rudheath which have a positive impact on:

- the local environment
- Cheshire West and Chester Council's sustainability goals
- net zero and climate emergency goals
- community health, wellbeing and social value in the area

### Who can apply?

Properly constituted not-for-profit organisations, voluntary groups or registered charities with a bank account requiring at least two signatories.

### How do I apply?

Further information and details of how to apply can be found on our website [www.lostocksep.co.uk](http://www.lostocksep.co.uk) or by contacting [communityfund@lostocksep.co.uk](mailto:communityfund@lostocksep.co.uk)

### Timescale:

Applications for the grant are now open and will close on the 30th June 2026. If funds are still available following the first round of funding, there will be another round of applications, expected to take place before the end of 2026.

## Community Open Day

**We are planning our next open day on 6 June 2026, 1:00pm – 4:00pm.**

Once again we'll be taking small groups of local people on a tour round the site to see the construction first hand and ask the team questions. If you're interested in attending please email: [info@lostocksep.co.uk](mailto:info@lostocksep.co.uk)



### Contact us

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