

UK Gigafactory Commission

Britain's Battery Future



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Our recommendations

To secure long-term automotive competitiveness and energy security, the UK must adopt an interventionist mindset, acting decisively with financial incentives and proactive engagement. A tripartite strategy focused on OEM, battery plants and active material investment is central to achieving this.

- 1 Attract an OEM** - Prioritise attracting a major global OEM with near-term EV expansion plans as the anchor for new UK gigafactories.
- 2 Accelerate gigafactory delivery** - Develop a benchmarked opening offer package of incentives to enable rapid senior-led negotiation with global battery manufacturers covering energy costs, sites, grants and financial incentives.
- 3 Build domestic CAM/AAM** - Launch a programme for attracting investment in cathode and anode materials manufacturing plants, supported by energy cost relief and precursor refining aligned with the UK Critical Minerals Strategy.
- 4 Establish central drive for inward investment** - Give a named Cabinet minister personal accountability for delivering simultaneous investment in a new gigafactory, EV manufacturing plant and UK active materials supply chain.
- 5 Reduce energy costs** - Increase the level of EIs relief and broaden support to include vehicle assembly and the wider supply chain.
- 6 Reform ZEV mandate** - Recalibrate the ZEV mandate to balance a drive for ZEV uptake while avoiding penalties and disincentives for growth for those producing and considering further investment in the UK.
- 7 Address Rules of Origin** - Recognising limited CAM/AAM capacity across the UK and EU, negotiate a deferral or phased transition of the 2027 deadline.
- 8 Support innovation scale-up** - Fast-track the scale-up of next-generation chemistries (e.g., solid-state and lithium-sulfur), while continuing to direct innovation funding towards manufacturability and cost reduction.
- 9 Expand strategic sites** - Expand the Strategic Sites Accelerator to deliver shovel-ready sites with grid, water and transport already secured and supported by early remediation and permit pre-clearance.
- 10 Develop skilled workforce** - Launch a high-profile national campaign modelled on Destination Nuclear, complemented by sector-specific apprenticeships, curriculum reform in universities and colleges and vendor-led training to build the specialist workforce needed.