

UKBCSE Reception
Chairman's Speaking Note
27 January 2003

Thank you for joining us this evening.

This time last year we were on the cusp of the PIU Energy Review being published.

This year we are on the cusp of the Energy White Paper – one cannot help but wonder what next year will bring. Perhaps a comprehensive strategy for the delivery of all types of sustainable energy?

The Business Council is still a relatively new organisation. I did therefore want to thank all my colleagues in the energy sector who have committed to making it happen, as well as to both Margaret Beckett and Patricia Hewitt for their support.

I am pleased that Peter has kindly agreed to be our Patron, and I look forward to being able to announce other Patrons as the year progresses.

You may not realise it, but the Business Council still has just one full time member of staff – what we are achieving through our work is therefore all the more remarkable. I would like to thank both David Green and Russell Marsh for their contribution.

We now await the Energy White Paper. We have much to do on the EU emissions trading regime.

Whatever the outcome in these key areas, I know the Business Council is poised to go from strength to strength.

Thank you all for your support and enjoy the rest of the evening.