

In order to build environmentally sustainable, economically productive and inclusive Smart Cities, Localis calls for the following policy recommendations:

Recommendation #1

Upgrades to networks to enable smart energy and the roll out of EVs must be done fairly to ensure equitable opportunities for households across different socio-economic backgrounds and to ensure existing disparities are not exacerbated.

Recommendation #2

Ofgem should loosen regulations to allow energy network providers to invest ahead of demand.

Recommendation #3

Certain regulatory powers of Ofgem should be regionally devolved so that cities can develop their own energy policy.

Recommendation #4

Local authorities should be given a mandate to form consortiums and develop smart city plans which integrate various initiatives across geographical boundaries.

Recommendation #5

Public awareness of the environmental and financial benefits of smart city growth and development should be increased.

Recommendation #6

Local government should work with private energy network providers to deliver physical infrastructure.

Recommendation #7

In developing smart city strategies, private providers should be given access to public data and vice versa.

Recommendation #8

Government must produce a standardised framework for electric vehicle charging equipment and associated infrastructure upgrade requirement.