



CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION (UK)

SEPTEMBER 2025

G7 HOSTS CRITICAL MINERALS CONFERENCE

UK & CHINA TO HOLD FIRST TRADE TALKS IN 7 YEARS

ANGLO AMERICAN & TECK RESOURCES TO COMBINE
IN MERGER OF EQUALS



SEPTEMBER 2025

Welcome to the CMA (UK) Monthly Newsletter, featuring updates on the critical minerals space. Read on for:

- G7 Hosts Critical Materials & Minerals Conference in Chicago
- 10 Downing Street Announces September Ministerial Reshuffle
- UK to Hold First Trade Talks with China in Seven Years
- Anglo American & Teck Resources to Combine in Merger of Equals
- US & Pakistan Sign \$500M Critical Minerals Deal
- CMA Attends & Speaks at UK Solar & Energy Live 2025
- Join CMA (UK) 5th Annual Conference on 1 December in London
- DBT Side Event: Central Asia's Strategic Value to UK Industries
- Critical Minerals Equipment Hub Now Open and Operational
- Zero Waste Scotland Publishes State of the Circular Economy Report
- New Mining Counsel Joins Fasken Team in London
- Apply to Innovate UK's Critical Minerals Innovation Programme
- DFC Grants \$4.6M Funding for Songwe Hill Rare Earths Project
- CMA (UK) & Natural History Museum Careers Event on 23 October
- Partnering with Resourcing Tomorrow for London Mining Week
- News Round Up: Cobalt, Copper, Graphite, Lithium, Nickel, Manganese, Rare Earth Elements, Tin, Tungsten, Vanadium
- Events Calendar 2025

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G7 CRITICAL MINERALS SUMMIT IN CHICAGO

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The G7 convened this month in Chicago for a Conference on Critical Materials and Minerals chaired by the United States, following on from the G7 summit earlier this year (June 2025) in Kananaskis, Canada.

This conference, along with the recently launched G7 Critical Minerals Action Plan, aims to advance collaboration on critical minerals research and development, particularly in processing, recycling, and circular economy initiatives to secure supply chains and diversify production.

The Chicago meeting was designed to bring together public and private sector leaders to accelerate these developments.

Founder of the CMA (UK) and CMA International, Jeff Townsend, attended the G7 Summit alongside the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

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UK-CHINA TRADE TALKS FOR FIRST TIME IN 7 YEARS

2

On 9 September, the UK announced trade talks with the People's Republic of China for the first time in 7 years.

The newly appointed Business and Trade Secretary, the Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP, will use the first UK-China Joint Economic and Trade Commission (JETCO) since 2018 to press for British businesses to have greater access to the Chinese market, the second largest economy in the world.

A press release by the UK Department for Business & Trade stated that the UK is pursuing 'a pragmatic, careful and confident relationship with China through the relaunch of trade talks this week.' The trip to Beijing will finalise new trade wins that make exporting easier for British companies, as well as boost cooperation in sectors including professional services, automotive, and healthcare.

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UK-CHINA TRADE TALKS



ANGLO AMERICAN & TECK RESOURCES MERGER

On 9 September, Anglo American and Teck Resources Limited (Teck) announced they've reached an agreement to combine the two companies in a merger of equals to form the Anglo Teck group.

The merger positions Anglo Teck to be a global critical minerals champion, enhancing portfolio quality and resilience. Bringing together the technical strengths and operational capabilities of both companies, Anglo Teck will hold an industry-leading portfolio of producing operations, including 6 world-class copper assets, alongside high-quality premium iron ore and zinc businesses

The company will be headquartered in Vancouver, Canada, with corporate offices to support the global group in London and Johannesburg. It is currently expected to offer investors more than 70% exposure to copper.

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NO. 10 ORDERS SEPT MINISTERIAL RESHUFFLE

On 5 September, the UK's ministerial reshuffle introduced a new leadership to various government departments.

Sarah Jones MP, formerly Minister of State for Industry at the Department for Business & Trade (DBT), has moved to a new role at the Ministry of Justice. During her time at DBT she engaged with the sector by visiting stakeholders such as Ionic Technologies and Cornish Metals.

Chris McDonald MP, FEng, CEng, FIMMM, has been jointly appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at DBT and the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ), creating scope for stronger coordination across industrial and energy strategy. With experience at British Steel and the Materials Processing Institute, he brings expertise highly relevant to the UK's critical mineral ambitions.

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If you're interested in finding out more about ministerial appointments, parliamentary affairs, and their implications for the critical minerals sector, please reach out to [✉ eileen@criticalmineral.org](mailto:eileen@criticalmineral.org) to learn about joining the association.



US & PAKISTAN SIGN \$500M CRITICAL MINERALS DEAL

5

On 8 September, a metals company based in the USA signed a \$500 million USD investment deal with Pakistan.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Missouri-based U.S. Strategic Metals (USSM) and Pakistan-based Frontier Works Organization (FWO). FWO is a major critical mineral producer in Pakistan, while USSM specialises in extracting critical minerals from old lithium-ion batteries and mining cobalt, nickel and copper.

A press release from the US Embassy stated that Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, Zach Harkenrider, accompanied a USSM-led delegation to sign the MoU with FWO at Prime Minister Shebhaz Sharif's House.

Discussions involved the development of large-scale mining and processing projects, particularly for rare earth elements (REEs), as well as infrastructure and logistics services.

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CMA (UK) SPEAKS AT SOLAR & STOARGE LIVE UK

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On 25 September, our Founder and CEO Kirsty Benham attended Solar & Storage at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) in Birmingham to present on critical minerals, skills gaps and planning challenges.

Solar & Storage Live UK is the UK's largest solar and energy storage exhibition, bringing together 20,000+ industry professionals. The event showcased global market-leading solutions and technologies for residential, commercial, and large-scale utility projects. It united buyers, installers, and innovators from across the energy value chain to explore the latest advancements driving the UK's energy transition.

Thank you to Solar & Storage for inviting us, especially given the importance of ensuring renewable sectors are future proofing and securing their critical mineral supply chains.

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SAVE THE DATE: CMA (UK) 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

7

Our 5th Annual Conference, Critical Minerals: Transforming the Future, is coming to London on 1 December.

Our conferences welcome hundreds of experts across the globe from industry, academia, government & professional services. Our line-up features C-suite executives, UK and foreign ministers discussing the strategic importance of critical minerals, challenges we face to secure responsible supply, and solutions required to address it.

Speakers include Shobhan Dhir, International Energy Agency; Karim Dahou, Deputy Director of Global Relations, OECD; Oliver Richards, Head of Critical Minerals and Mining, DBT; Sarah Liggins, Ministry of Defense; and experts from leading UK companies such as Ionic Technologies, Seloxium, DEScycle, and more. Ours is a must-attend event for anyone interested in the future of critical mineral supply chains.

Interested in speaking, exhibiting, sponsoring, or hosting a side event? Contact eileen@criticalmineral.org

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CENTRAL ASIA'S STRATEGIC VALUE TO THE UK

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UK Government will be hosting a special side event at our 5th Annual Conference on “A New Silk Road of Resources: Central Asia’s Strategic Value to UK Industries”.

The event offers a rare chance to hear directly from Central Asian suppliers and UK industry leaders shaping the future of critical minerals. Join us to hear from DBT Central Asia, Kazakh, Uzbek, and UK downstream companies; to participate in interactive discussion and networking opportunities; and witness a ceremonial B2B signing.

Can't make the full conference? We've got you covered. Use the promo code **SILK20ROAD** at checkout to receive 20% off your ticket, giving you access to all sessions from 11:00 onwards.

REGISTER HERE



CMA (UK) 5th Annual Conference: Transforming the Future

Sponsored by **Cornish**Metals

A NEW SILK ROAD OF RESOURCES: CENTRAL ASIA'S STRATEGIC VALUE TO UK INDUSTRIES

Wheatley Room, 1 Wimpole Street, London

1 December 2025, 11:30 - 13:00 (GMT)





CRITICAL MINERALS EQUIPMENT HUB NOW OPERATIONAL

The Critical Minerals Equipment Hub (CMEH) is now fully operational, delivering on its mission to enhance the technical capabilities of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly region. The hub is designed to lower analytical costs, reduce time delays, and accelerate research, development, and innovation for the entire UK geo-resources sector.

The CMEH's focus on minerals processing is crucial for making mining projects commercially viable. The hub's new, state-of-the-art equipment was specifically chosen to support the analysis and processing of critical minerals like lithium and rare earth elements, which are a priority in the UK's 2022 Critical Minerals Strategy.

The project was delivered by the Camborne School of Mines (CSM) at the University of Exeter, in close collaboration with key industry partners such as Petrolab, Paterson and Cooke, and Bluecap Resources.

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ZWS PUBLISH STATE OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY REPORT

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Commissioned by Zero Waste Scotland and delivered by Eumonia and University College London (UCL), the 'State of the Circular Economy' report quantifies the economic contribution of circular economy sectors, demonstrating that we have an unrivalled opportunity to evolve an economy that works for people, planet, and prosperity.

Data within the report shows that circular sectors are already contributing more than £7 billion to Scotland's economy, accounting for 81,447 jobs in 2021, with significant potential to drive further economic growth and job creation.

It strengthens recent evidence from experts including PwC and Green Alliance that evolving a circular economy is no longer just an environmental imperative, but a viable and lucrative economic opportunity.

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**State of the Circular
Economy in Scotland**





NEW GLOBAL MINING COUNSEL JOINS FASKEN

On 16 September, Chris Williamson joined Fasken as Counsel in the Global Mining Group at their London office.

Chris brings over 20 years of experience in the Commodities sector, having worked as both a lawyer and front office structurer at top-tier banks and commodities firms. His expertise spans Base Metals, Precious Metals, Bulks, Concentrates, and Carbon, and he has advised on, structured, and executed a wide range of commodities transactions across multiple jurisdictions.

"Chris is a tremendous addition to our Global Mining Group," said Jodi Katz, Managing Partner, London. Fasken's Global Mining Group is consistently recognized as having an unparalleled reputation and more mining and mining finance experts than any other firm.

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FASKEN



INNOVATE UK CRITICAL MINERALS PROGRAMME

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Applications are now open for UK SMEs innovating in critical minerals (either companies in the REE value chain, or those doing sustainable material recovery through re-mining) to join Innovate UK's Global Business Innovation Programme in Québec, Canada this November.

This programme is designed to help you scale internationally and unlock new growth opportunities. Over a 9 to 12 month journey, you'll take part in Get Ready workshops and a Market visit to Québec, with 6 days of tailored meetings, B2B matchmaking, and high-level networking.

Apply to build strategic R&D and innovation partnership, connect with world-leading researchers, companies, and policymakers, and position your business at the forefront of the global clean energy and critical minerals market.

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**Global Business
Innovation Programme
Critical Minerals & Materials
Canada**

Apply by 7th October 2025



Innovate
UK



DFC GRANTS \$4.6M FOR MKANGO RESOURCES PROJECT

On 29 September, the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) provided project development funding of US\$4.6 million to Mkango Resources Ltd.'s Songwe Hill Rare Earths project in Malawi.

Mkango Resources is advancing multiple strategic projects across the rare earth elements (REEs) supply chain to produce rare earth carbonate, oxides, alloys and magnets, including Pulawy separation plant in Poland.

In the UK, Mkango Resources completed the first NdFeB production run at their magnet recycling and manufacturing plant in Tyseley Energy Park, commissioned by the University of Birmingham and HyProMag Ltd.

Other jurisdictions being evaluated for HyProMag technology roll-out include Japan, Canada and South Korea.

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CMA (UK) & NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM HOST CAREERS EVENT

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We would like to invite you to the 2nd edition of our Careers for Next Generation Minerals fair, co-hosted with Natural History Museum on 23 October. The event is free to attend for all students, parents, and teachers interested in learning more about opportunities in the UK critical minerals sector.

From exploration geologists who uncover critical minerals potential and chemical engineers who discover innovative ways to recycle magnets, to social scientists who map our global risks and supply chains and ESG consultants who monitor and design project sustainability — the opportunities in critical minerals are endless.

This event is kindly sponsored by Camborne School of Mines, SRK Consulting, Vale Base Metals, and Unimetals Group. There are only a couple of spaces left, so sign up today!

SIGN UP HERE



Careers for Next Generation Minerals



Thursday, 23 October 2025 | 12:00 - 17:00



The Natural History Museum | London

Calling all students, parents, and teachers to discover the world of critical minerals! Come along and enjoy an interactive exhibition featuring universities & employers, and talks from young professionals working in the industry.



Sponsored by



University
of Exeter

Camborne
School of Mines



VALE



srk consulting



UNIMETALS



PROUD TO BE PART OF LONDON MINING WEEK 2025

London is set to become the global capital of mining with the launch of London Mining Week - a new initiative by Beacon Events uniting industry leaders, investors, policymakers, and innovators for five days of mining-focused events.

Decision-makers from around the world will converge on the city for a week of high-level meetings, capital markets access, world-leading legal expertise, and global agenda setting.

The CMA (UK) is pleased to be an official part of London Mining Week, with our 5th Annual Conference, **Critical Minerals: Transforming the Future**, and Drinks Reception taking place at 1 Wimpole Street on Monday, 1 December.

Get 10% off your delegate passes to Resourcing Tomorrow by using our exclusive discount code **LMW10**.

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**WHERE LONDON BECOMES THE
CENTRE OF THE GLOBAL MINING CONVERSATION**



NEWS ROUNDUP

The following news articles from Argus Media, Mining Weekly, Mining Magazine, Financial Times, and others, provide an overview of critical mineral mining for:

- Cobalt
- Copper
- Graphite
- Lithium
- Nickel
- Manganese
- Rare Earth Elements
- Tin
- Tungsten
- Vanadium

The Critical Minerals Association (UK) takes no credit for any articles and makes no endorsement of any of the content.

Cobalt

- Africa

- Democratic Republic of Congo: Glencore Plc [22.09.25]
 - Glencore considers selling its interest in the Kamoto Copper Company, another large cobalt producer in the DRC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- DRC [21.09.25]
 - The DRC plans to lift its cobalt export ban from October 16 and impose annual export quotas.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Zambia: Metalex Africa Zambia [19.09.25]
 - The US Trade and Development Agency awards funding to Metalex for a cobalt and copper feasibility study in Zambia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- North America

- Canada: Electra Battery Materials [12.09.25]
 - Electra announces details of financing for completion of Ontario cobalt refinery and other key projects.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Oceania

- Australia: Cobalt Blue Holdings Ltd [04.09.25]
 - Cobalt Blue announces successful completion of cobalt separation pilot at Broken Hill hub.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Copper

- Asia
 - Indonesia: Freeport-McMoRan Inc [24.09.25]
 - Freeport-McMoRan declares force majeure at its Grasberg mine in Indonesia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - Canada: Prospect Ridge Resources Corp [11.09.25]
 - Prospect Ridge Resources acquires 100% interest from Orogen Royalties for its Camelot copper-gold project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Chile: Anglo American PLC [16.09.25]
 - Codelco and Anglo American to launch joint operating company for new copper mines.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Argentina: BHP Group [18.09.25]
 - BHP and Lundin Mining's joint venture, Vicuña, plans to invest over \$400m to progress Argentina's copper mines.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Surefire Resources NL [09.09.25]
 - Surefire shares encouraging results from a moving-loop ground electromagnetic survey conducted at its Copper Hill Project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Graphite

- Africa
 - Malawi: Sovereign Metals Ltd [11.09.25]
 - Japan to invest \$7 billion to develop the Nacala Logistics Corridor.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Uganda: Blencowe Resources PLC [12.09.25]
 - Blencowe Raises £1.12million to advance its Orom-Cross graphite project through placing and board options.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - USA: Exxon Mobil Corp [12.09.25]
 - Exxon announces invention of new type of graphite, claiming it can extend EV battery life by up to 30%.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - USA: International Graphite Ltd [15.09.25]
 - International Graphite joins Australian delegation of advanced critical minerals producers to meet with senior US officials and investors in Washington and New York.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - USA: Syrah Resources Ltd [17.09.25]
 - Syrah Resources and Tesla agree to extend deadline on graphite supply agreement.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Lithium

- Asia
 - China: Xinjiang Xihai [02.09.25]
 - Xinjiang Xihai has started up the first phase of a plant for lithium carbonate in Luopu county.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - India: Haryana [04.09.25]
 - Construction of Asia's largest lithium-ion battery manufacturing unit has begun in Haryana, India.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Anson Resources [24.09.25]
 - Miner Anson Resources signs offtake deal with South Korea's LG Energy Solution.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - United States: Elevra Lithium [01.09.25]
 - Elevra Lithium merges Piedmont and Sayona's projects, establishing itself as a major hard-rock lithium producer in North America.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Argentina [28.08.25]
 - Argentina's Secretary of Mining tells Korean companies to use them as supplier of lithium.
 - [Read the article here](#)

Manganese

- Africa
 - Botswana: Giyani Metals Corp [11.09.25]
 - Giyani Metals appoints Nigel Robinson as interim executive chairperson.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Togo: Keras Resources Ltd [26.09.25]
 - Keras Resources records first payment from its Nayéga manganese mine ore.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - India: Vendata Resources Ltd [19.09.25]
 - Vedanta announced as preferred bidder for Punnam Manganese block.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Element25 [12.09.25]
 - Element 25 raises A\$10-million through share placements to increase manganese production at its Butcherbird project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Australia: Firebird Metals Ltd [29.09.25]
 - Firebird secures \$6M capital to accelerate manganese battery technology by establishing a R&D laboratory in Western Australia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Nickel

- Asia
 - China: MMG, Anglo American [12.09.25]
 - China-backed MMG seeks to buy Anglo American's nickel assets, facing European regulatory uncertainties.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Indonesia: PT Gag Nickel [12.09.25]
 - Indonesian government allows Raja Ampat mine to resume operations following environmental impact concerns.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Indonesia [12.09.25]
 - Indonesian authorities seize portion of Weda Bay nickel site over forest violations.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Russia [18.09.25]
 - China suspends a subsidy for state firms purchasing Russian copper and nickel.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Brazil: Centaurus Metals [04.09.25]
 - Deveopment at Jaguar nickel sulphide project faces hurdles due to power issues.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Rare Earth Elements

- Asia
 - India [10.09.25]
 - India explores deal for rare earth samples from Myanmar.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Kazakhstan [10.09.25]
 - Kazakhstan plans to launch a rare earth laboratory and discusses development of production facilities.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Estonia: Neo Performance Materials [24.09.25]
 - Mass-scale production facility for rare earth magnets opens in Estonia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Russia [10.09.25]
 - Russia holds talks with China to obtain technologies for rare earth extraction.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - United Kingdom: Mkango Resources [18.09.25]
 - Mkango secures funds to pursue rare earth recycling business with operations in the UK and Germany.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tin

- Africa
 - DRC: Rome Resources [15.09.25]
 - Rome reports high-grade tin mineralisation from drilling programme at Mont Agoma.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - China: Hebei Agricultural University [05.09.25]
 - Scientists in China and Australia discover how tin recovered from discarded electronics can be transformed into powerful catalysts for clean hydrogen generation.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tungsten

- North America
 - Idaho: Resolution Minerals [08.09.25]
 - Resolution Minerals reports early signs of tungsten mineralisation at Horse Heaven project in Idaho.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Tivan [16.09.25]
 - Critical minerals company Tivan to acquire the Molyhil tungsten-molybdenum project for \$8.75 million.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Vanadium

- North America

- Canada: Go Metals Corp [29.09.25]
 - Go Metals to start metallurgical testing at its KM98 Vanadium Titanomagnetite Project in Québec.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- USA: CleanTech Vanadium Mining Corp [22.09.25]
 - CleanTech to pursue funding opportunities from US Department of Energy for its Gibellini vanadium project in Nevada.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Oceania

- Australia: Australia Vanadium [05.08.25]
 - AVL is granted development approval for its Tenindewa processing facility from the WAPC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Australia: Vecco Group [22.09.25]
 - Queensland Government invests A\$10 million to create an “Australian-first” commercial-scale vanadium electrolyte facility in Townsville.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- South America

- Bolivia: Cleantech Vanadium [07.08.25]
 - Cleantech Vanadium has finalised the acquisition of rights to the El Triunfo gold and antimony project from Silver Elephant Mining.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2025

- AusIMM, as part of Australian Mining Week 2025 London | **ERM Breakfast Roundtable: Building Resilient Critical Mineral Supply Chains** | London, UK | 7 October
 - [Register here.](#)
- CMA (UK) & Natural History Museum | **2nd Edition: Careers for Next Generation Minerals** | Natural History Museum, London, UK | 9 October
 - [Register here.](#)
- London Metals Exchange | **LME Week 2025** | London, UK | 13 - 14 October
 - [Learn more here](#)

DECEMBER 2025

- Critical Minerals Association (UK) 5th Annual Conference | **Critical Minerals: Transforming the Future** | 1 Wimpole Street, London | 1 December
 - [Register here.](#)

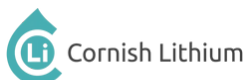
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OUR MEMBERS





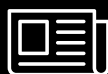
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