

Green Port Growth Programme Management Board –12 April 2017
STRAND UPDATE REPORT

Employment & Skills Strand

Strand Progress

Apprenticeship Wage Subsidies - The 2016-17 target for apprenticeship starts is 200. Since 1st April 2016 166 applications have been approved with a further 89 pending.

Up-Skilling Training Subsidies - The 2016-17 target for upskilling is 200. Since 1st April 2016 201 applications have been approved with 126 applications pending. We have also safeguarded 131 jobs.

Wage Subsidies – Disadvantaged Groups - Take-up on the wage subsidies for disadvantaged groups continues to be slow with 13 companies engaged and 18 individuals in receipt of the subsidy and 8 pending.

Pathways to Employment

Year 1 – 2016

In the first year of Pathway to Employment, 80 candidates started the 10 week programme in four cohorts of 20. Of those 80, 71 candidates completed the 10 week programme, a completion rate of 89%. Of the 71 completers, 48 entered employment, giving an overall job outcome rate of 68%.

This was recently recognised at the Humber Renewable Awards held at The Deep when the Pathway to Employment Programme and Team won the Humber Excellence in Renewables Skills and Training Award.

Year 2 - 2017

In year two of the programme, an additional 4 cohorts of 10 candidates have been added and the first of these (Cohort A) commenced on 30th January. Cohort Five (19 candidates) started their programme on 3rd January and 18 out of the 19 completed the programme with 6 gaining employment. Cohort A (10 Candidates) completed their programme on 7th April. 7 candidates completed and 6 gained employment. Cohort Six (18 candidates) are currently undergoing their 5 week training and will commence their work placements on Tuesday 18th April. We also have our first two Care Leaver referrals on this cohort.

The overall figures for completed Cohorts are:

- Starters – 109
- Completers – 96 = 88%
- Job Outcomes – 60 = 63% of completers into Jobs.

Sector Careers events - The latest careers labour market information day to be delivered under the Green Port brand has reported excellent feedback from the circa 90 attendees. The event was focussed on careers within the marine sector and was held on the P&O Ferry the Pride of Rotterdam whilst berthed in King George Dock. An event report is attached.

Business Support Strand

Strand Progress

The project has (to date):

- 490 Enquiries
- 308 Enrolled
- 177 Businesses Supported
- 47 financial assistance applications have been awarded

- 108.56 f/t equivalent Jobs created

Financial Assistance (to date)

- Financial assistance paid = £533K
- Financial assistance committed = £263K
- Percentage of spend with local businesses, 40.2% Hull and East Riding, 7.2% rest of Yorkshire & Humber, 52.6% Out of Yorkshire and Humber

Events / Workshops

WiME - The Green Port Business Support team exhibited to showcase the work and opportunities within SME's including showcasing products and services, case studies on present female employees, job descriptions on present and potential job opportunities and displaying pieces of equipment to show hands on work. We were pleased to be joined by female employees from Level Systems, AIG Engineering & GFG Plastics and showcase work from Turner Timber Frames & MB Roach as well as launch the new Offshore Jobs Guide.

Intermediary events - The final Green Port intermediary event took place on Wednesday 29 March giving the GP team the opportunity to explain the programme and support available to local advisers, accountants, solicitors, banks etc. The events took place in Brough, Hull, Goole, Beverley, Bridlington, Market Weighton and Driffield and were well received.

YNYER Funding Expo (27th March 2017) - The team presented at the YNYER LEP / TAP expo to promote the Green Port Programme.

Workshop (Managing Change) – The workshop was aimed at companies who have previously attended the Green Port's business growth workshops. The workshop gave delegates the opportunity to look at effective change management and how innovation can be used to overcome the barriers.

Workshop (Hot Topics) – This was a new workshop presented by BVG Associates. This workshop looked at the issues affecting the UK offshore wind industry along with future supply chain developments and how companies could prepare themselves to bid for work. Key focus was made to the current and future opportunities within the Hull and East Riding area highlighting the requirements to lower energy production costs and the importance of innovation.

Supply Chain Opportunities

- 13 requests for suppliers from 4 Prime contractors
64 companies from the Humber region were matched directly and put forward for consideration.

From the 13 requests, 5 companies have been awarded contracts

7 Prime contractors outlined contract or subcontract opportunities at supply chain events

- Overall total of awards identified either to companies in this region or from companies within the region
= £162.6m approximately
- Total value of contracts in the Yorkshire and Humber region
= £73.6m approximately with contracts ranging between £1k and £30m

Successes

Green Port Hull: HFR Solutions video 'Gong'

A video commissioned by GP Business Support to showcase the support it has given to training provider HFR Solutions at the Christmas networking event has been recognised at Hull film awards The Gongs.

The company's film was commended in the Message category of the 2017 Rank Foundation Gongs, which celebrate the best in regional film making, including corporate, educational and independent films.

The four-minute film was produced by Humber Film member Mindmap Productions and featured a fictional apprentice fire-fighter training with Hessle-based HFR Solutions.

The Message category was supported by For Entrepreneurs Only, and was one of eight categories overall including drama, education, animation and comedy.

The video can be viewed here (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bicplQw5Bo>).

Wider Renewables Activity

Completion of the Offshore Jobs Guide and soft launch - At the WiME event , the first viewing of the new jobs guide highlighting the types of potential job opportunities within the wider supply chain was given. The full print run has now been received and will be distributed to career advisers through support from EBP (Education Business Partnership) after Easter when a formal launch and marketing will take place. Copies will be available for the board at the meeting on the 12th April.

Additional activity as reported in the Business Support Monthly News Round Up.

Inward Investment Strand **Strand Progress**

Since January 2017, The Hull and Humber Chamber (HHC) alongside the German Business Desk have delivered four low key inward visits by prospectors to Hull, involving 9 persons of senior management and operational management level, representing companies from Germany, Belgium, Poland and Denmark. They were identified as companies that may be interested in investing and operating out of Green Port Hull (GPH) and approached in confidence at the Wind Energy Hamburg Exhibition. Meetings and dialogue has been on-going with decision makers within the companies since, culminating in the recent visits to Hull.

The visiting companies met with representatives from ABP, Siemens and Hull City Council Economic Development department. Two areas for consideration by the GPGP Board arising out of the meetings are:

- GPH qualifying as the preferred operating port for Hornsea, Dogger Bank and other mid UK Sector Offshore Wind Farm development, either by way of an independent quay or through the Siemens Quay, if the latter were to be made available to third parties.
- Attracting inspection, maintenance and repair and offshore accessory and service companies to GPH.

The Inward Investment Strand will continue to support the prospectors but discussions are now of a commercially confidential nature and are subject to NDA's being signed by all directly involved.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- That the HHC team will continue in dialogue with a number of interested parties located in Germany, Poland, Belgium and Denmark.
- That the HHC team attend Global Offshore Wind Exhibition to be held at Excel London in June 2017.

Communications and Marketing

The Marketing and Communications Plan update including forward plan of activity for the next 6 months has been agreed. Communications will continue to be focused on the promotion of Green Port Hull to national audience and the Green Port Growth Programme to a regional audience. Major events will also include Project Blyth – Race, The Business Day, Global Offshore Wind, and WIME.

Over the last three months 59 articles with great engaging content tailored to the different target audiences have published reaching all major news outlets. Coverage has been secured on Look North, Radio Humberside, Viking Radio, Hull Daily Mail, Yorkshire Post covering topics including Green Port Hull, WiME, The Green Port Hub and skills support, business grants and business support.

The approximate reach and advertising value equivalent of the media coverage generated since January 2017 is:

- Value £114,000
- Reach – 2.13m

Headline website statistics and social media activity reach are set out below.

- Web - Page Views 174,284
- Web - Users 28,792
- Web - New Visitors 57.72%
- Facebook adverts 35k views, videos 5,259 views
- Twitter 58.2k impressions

Women into Manufacturing and Engineering (WiME)

In partnership with City of Culture's Women of the World Festival, the second Green Port Hull WiME event took place at the Guildhall on 11 March 17. The event was a huge success with more than 300 women visiting to explore employment opportunities with 15 local employers in the engineering and manufacturing sectors in the Humber including Siemens, Airco, ABP, British Steel, Centrica, Swift, Spencer Group and Ideal.

WiME was widely promoted through all the media channels and received excellent coverage on the local radio stations, newspapers and local television stations. Indeed the BBC Look North WiME interview had 11 thousand views on their Facebook page. In total the Green Port Hull and WiME message reached over 450,000 people with coverage worth over £40k.

The Results

- Swift signed up 63 women for their future open day and they have interviewed an attendee for an apprenticeship position.
- Ideal signed up 70 women for their future open day.
- CITB signed up a large number for the Open Doors construction site visits w/c 27.3.17
- Green Port Hull Business Support team promoted a new publication "Job Roles in Offshore Wind".
- NCS signed up 20 individuals for support, There was good interest in apprenticeships, a number of women who are economically inactive/not claiming benefits and really keen to re-enter employment and some enquiries about changing careers

What Next for WiME

- International Women into Engineering Day 23rd June
- Grimsby Skills Fair 6th July
- Wilberforce College, Girls into Engineering Day 13th July
- Hull College Girls into Engineering day w/c 10th July
- Project Blyth Race Event, Hull, 16th July - WiME will have a stand.
- Attendance at Mini Big Bang Events
- Scunthorpe Festival of Skills October
- WiME event on the south bank in October – British Steel have offered to host

WiME at Science and Technology Select Committee

On March 16th Kirsty Clode, Chairperson, WiME initiative attended the UK Government's Science and Technology Committee to give oral evidence on 'Closing the STEM skills gap'. The inquiry was held at the Big Bang UK Scientists and Engineers Fair in Birmingham. Other witnesses giving evidence were:

- Yvonne Baker, CEO, STEM Learning UK,
- Paul Jackson, CEO, Engineering UK,
- Phillip Pratley, Director, Trade and External Relations, Leonardo
- Blossom Hill, BAE Systems' UK Apprentice of the Year 2016,
- Mark Page, Your Life Advisory Board Member and Managing Partner, A.T. Kearney.

Members of Parliament present were Stephen Metcalfe (Chair); Victoria Borwick; Dr Tania Mathias; Carol Monaghan; Derek Thomas.

Topics discussed during the two hour evidence session included the public perception of STEM, the productivity gap in the UK vs other countries, the difference in education systems vs other countries, the importance of employer engagement in schools, progress with the apprenticeship schemes, the high attrition rate seen for women who do enter these industries, engagement with Primary Schools and the impact of Brexit. The issue of the UK having a particularly large STEM skill gap for girls/women was explored at length. The background for the WiME initiative was explained together with how WiME operates and the great success seen. There was significant discussion on the barriers that girls and women face (parental understanding of STEM careers, the quality of the careers advice in schools, the lack of links from school work to a job, the lack of visible role models and the lack of a clear path into manufacturing and engineering for females who want to join or re-enter this sector later in life). A full transcript of the session can be found on the website below:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/science-and-technology-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/inquiry3/>

The MPs are currently considering the next steps. An update from the committee is expected in April.

Northern Power Women Awards

Two key figures from the WiME initiative were finalists in the Northern Power Women Awards, which were held in Manchester. The awards, in partnership with Northern Powerhouse, are run by Northern Power Women – a collaborative campaign to accelerate gender diversity from the North of England. Kirsty Clode, Chair at WiME, and Paula Cullen, representing WiME partner Airco Centre of Excellence, were in the running for Mentor of the Year and Small Business of the Year. Paula Cullen and Airco were successful in their category.

Humber Renewables Awards - Three Green Port Hull projects were shortlisted for the Awards, Pathways to Employment, WiME and Project Blyth.

Pathway to Employment programme was crowned the winner of the Excellence in Renewables Skills and Training Award and Project Blyth was successful in the Renewables Education category.

Greenpower – Project Blyth - There are now 62 cars signed up with Project Blyth with 60 local companies signed up to support the teams. The race which is planned for Sunday 16 July 2017 will now take place at the KCOM Stadium in Hull's West Park with cars racing around a circuit that covers the perimeter of the stadium and the adjoining car parks, where a Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Fair will also take place.

The race is split up into Formula Goblin for primary school children, F24 for 11-16 year olds and F24 plus for 17-25-year-olds. The three best teams will then go into the national finals held at Rockingham in Northants.

The 10 Formula 24+ cars supported by Green Port Hull are:

Green Port Hull Funded Teams	Mentor
Wilberforce College	One Point/Hull College/Hull CC/ABP
East Riding College Bondholder	Insignia Signs/Seahorse Marine/NPS Humber Ltd
MC4C (Hull City Council Making Changes for Careers)	Spencer/Sign Services/Northern Gas
Sirius Sixth Form College	KCOM
Airco Centre of Excellence	Siemens

The Warren	Aldercote Ltd
Hull College	TBC
Goodwin Community Hubs	Goodwin Development Trust support as mentors
St Michaels Youth Project	Humber Police
Tigers Trust	Family ties with engineering company

Research, Development and Innovation (R, D & I) Strand
Strand Progress

Formal confirmation has been received from the Dutch Government that it will support the DemoWind costs. As such, the project is now formally live.

By invitation, Alan Lowdon attended the launch of the BEIS Energy Entrepreneur Fund 2017 in London. Some 200 persons were present. Insights of relevance to the micro-business and SME cohort of the RDI Strand were received, as well as indications of the critical success factors from previous rounds (then under DECC).

RDI strand representatives attended the NOF Energy Annual Conference at the Sage, Gateshead. The opportunity was taken to promote GPGP to a Chinese delegation from an incubator and accelerator specialists. The company is looking to establish a subsea and offshore incubator somewhere on the east coast of England. Links with the LEP are being looked at.

A meeting has been held with Scottish Enterprise’s Director of Innovation and High Growth Ventures, in Dundee to discuss opportunities for jointly funded R&D in the renewables space, especially relevant give SE’s inclusion in the Subsea and Offshore Energy Science & Innovation Audit.

Green Port Impact Assessment (GIA) Study update

The planned policy workshops were held on February 17 with a number of attendees from different organisations including: ERYC, DIT, ABP, Port of Cuxhaven, NE LEP, Siemens, UK leads for Areva, Port of Ejsberg, Bremerhaven, Belfast (installation port), Arch group in Blyth, Port of Ostend, BEIS, DONG Energy, Volker Fitzpatrick.

Objectives of the workshop: How to attract more renewable investment, how to safeguard what is already on the Humber and how to maximise economic investment in region.

Site Assembly Strand
Strand progress

ERGO Centre - Legal work on the purchase of the plot at the Bridgehead site and the partnership agreement with The University of Hull were finalised on the 31st March 2017. This has committed the £1m LGF element of the project and the Green Port funding will be next to be defrayed over the 2 quarters. Construction tenders have been returned, ERYC Infrastructure & Facilities team are still going through the details. Initial estimates indicate project may be slightly over budget but a large contingency has been built in and a value engineering exercise is underway.

Beverley Grovehill - Capita expected to complete the work within next couple of weeks.

Melton Rail Feasibility Study - Aecom have returned a first draft of the report and will be finalising the work in the next couple of weeks.

Sugarbeet Feasibility Work – Holme-on Spalding Moor based Future Food Solutions won the tender via the procurement process and the study is underway.

Business Grants Strand
Strand progress

During the month two applications have been received. We have also received two new enquiries and have continued to work with two potentially large applicants during this month.

Programme wide update

Decision required - In May 2017 the current private sector representatives will have sat on the board for 2 years, with two further years of Programme delivery remaining the board is asked to consider if a second private sector recruitment exercise should be undertaken.

Plans are being finalised to move Green Port Hull's Amy Johnson Moth 'Engineered' from Zebedee's Yard to the GPH Hub by mid April.

Sarah Clark
Programmes Manager
5 April 2017