
Report to the North Bank Partnership
Green Port Growth Programme (GPGP) – November 2017 Update

Employment & Skills Strand

Strand Progress

Apprenticeship Wage Subsidies - The 2017-18 target for apprenticeship starts is 200. Since 1st April 2017 211 applications have been approved.

Up-Skilling Training Subsidies - The 2017-18 target for upskilling is 200. Since 1st April 2017, 409 applications have been approved.

Wage Subsidies – Disadvantaged Groups – Since the start of the Programme take-up on wage subsidies for disadvantaged groups has improved slightly with 15 companies engaged relating to subsidies for 50 individuals.

Pathway to Employment - With 12 of Cohort 8's 15 completers (80%) and 6 of Cohort D's 7 completers (84%) moving into work the outcome figures for the project to date are:

- Starters – 215
- Completers – 163 (76% - of starters)
- Job outcomes – 109 (67% - of completers)

Green Shoots of Opportunity - The four individual Green Shoots projects are delivering well. Referrals are at a steady rate, employer engagement is increasing and there are good examples emerging of tailored and effective one to one support, progression into training and employment, uptake around further education and voluntary work opportunities, and also signposting to other support provision for example basic skills, and mental health.

Operational update:

PROBE - The PROBE delivery team became fully staffed in October and there were seventeen project starters, of which three have gained employment, two have moved into formal certified training and one is undertaking voluntary work to build confidence and social interaction skills as a step towards employment.

Recent case studies from PROBE's Green Shoots project include a 62 year old who had nominally retired after 36 years of service, but wanted to return to the labour market. With support from the project, he has changed career

path and now moved into the charity sector. Additionally, a full-time mother with a young child who may not previously have been eligible for assistance as not registered unemployed is now working through the qualifications and training required to become a registered child minder. Other project outcomes include a job start in Social Care which is a sector with labour shortages, and also support with re-sitting of English and maths qualifications in order to facilitate entry to an Access to Nursing course.

CatZero - The most recent CatZero programme was run in Beverley, with participants from the town, but also Bridlington, Hornsea and Hull. The mix of locations highlighted challenges around travel and public transport, and other issues linked to rurality, including the lack of available work in more isolated areas, and the difficulties associated with the seasonal jobs market.

The final day celebration event for the Beverley participants was very well attended by invited parents, friends and siblings, but also noticeably representatives from a number of the agencies who support individuals and had referred them to CatZero, including Jobcentreplus work coaches, East Riding Council's Care Leavers team, youth social workers and also the local Beverley FM radio, who were interested in the programme.

Barriers to work identified by the Beverley participants during the presentations they all made at the celebration event included lack of confidence, mental health and depression issues, spirals of inactivity leading to low aspiration and motivation, and a lack of understanding of the modern workplace and what work job roles actually involve. The CatZero programme is tackling these issues well. Positive comments on the day from the parent of a young adult participant who has mild Dyspraxia and Asperger's Syndrome around their increased self-confidence and social interaction as a result of the programme were particularly pleasing.

ReNu - The project continues to develop across the East Riding, and held its first 'Dragon's Den' session in the month. Feedback from both the participants and the Dragons is being collated to evaluate the session. ReNu continues to expand employer support and partner relationships.

Enviromail - Enviromail have recently been awarded Disability Confident Leader status. This is an excellent achievement, bearing in mind that there are only sixty-eight businesses across the United Kingdom who have the standard, many of which are large public limited companies and Government bodies, as opposed to community interest organisations.

The Disability Confident assessment actually highlighted Enviromail's innovation and commitment to championing and improving access to training and employment opportunities within the renewable sector for people with disabilities, health issues or mental health barriers. The Green Shoots project itself is certainly living up to the Disability Confident standard, employing and involving a number of people with health challenges. Enviromail now have aspirations to make Hull and East Riding the Disability Confident capital of the UK.

Sector and Careers events

The Engineering Sector LMI event (25 October) – This event took place on Wednesday 25 October 2017 at the Lawns Conference Centre, Cottingham. The event was attended by over 60 delegates from business, training providers, Job centre plus, careers advisors and organisations helping people into work.

Paula Cullen from Airco said "It was excellent to hear about the growth in the region and how everyone is contributing to the growth. I am arranging a studying visit to Nestle to meet the team; the day was excellent for networking",

Jill Coyle from Nestle said "seeing different businesses and their approach to recruiting young talent has broadened my understanding of careers guidance, I have made some great new contacts and will be arranging further visits with these".

Tracey Jackson - DWP said "I have learned how employers are trying to educate future generations to close the skills gaps and the roles within these companies. I have gained a greater understanding of the various aspects in chemical, electrical, mechanical & medical parts of engineering".

The Videos of all of the LMI Sector days are available on YouTube page:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOxRETbxx3EKIEC5RERqv1g>

Business Support Strand

Strand Progress

The project has (to date):

- 538 Enquiries
- 336 Enrolled
- 194 Businesses Supported
- 55 financial assistance applications have been awarded
- 122.82 f/t equivalent Jobs created

	Enquiries	Enrolled	Business Supported
East Riding of Yorkshire	155	107	59
Kingston Upon Hull	273	176	123
Yorks & Humber	110	52	12
	538	335	194

Financial Assistance (to date)

- Financial assistance paid = £772K
- Financial assistance committed = £358K
- Percentage of spend with local businesses, 37% Hull and East Riding, 7% rest of Yorkshire & Humber, 56% Outside of Yorkshire and Humber.

The primary activities by the team this month have been:

- Reconciliation of budgets and outcomes to ensure clear identification of funds and activities for year 7.
- Ongoing discussions and meetings to clarify Year 7 activities in line with legacy planning and potential future funding pots.
- Meetings with related business support organisations and understanding of their offers relevant to businesses supported by Green Port including UK Export finance and the WISE 10 step programme.
- Ongoing development of Green Port videos, now concentrating on direct information and understanding of different technologies, the first being a video on Ground Source Heat Pumps which will be available to view from early November.
- As part of the wider ERYC Business Investment Services Team undertaken a successful assessment of our service area which has resulted in the team being awarded 'CUSTOMER FIRST' Accreditation again.
- Work with the University in the development of a business survey questionnaire as part of the Green Port Impact Assessment Study.

Events / Workshops

Workshop - Preparing Business for Growth – The fifth round of the business growth workshops commenced this month working with 6 companies to examine and reflect on business management mind sets and behaviours and how they influence the way in which a business performs. Action plans were completed by the attendees to assist them in the development of a clear future business vision with measurable goals and targets to support them into the renewables sector and what they need to consider in producing a clear 'Business Blueprint'.

Christmas Networking Event – Preparations have started for the Christmas Networking event scheduled for 14 December 2017, talks are ongoing with the Ron Dearing UTC, special guests relevant to the supply chain and to highlight Green Port SME's to showcase the new VR facility. Save the date invite emails have been sent to SME's, framework and board members, resulting in over 50 companies already being registered prior to any direct announcement of key guest attendees.

Supply Chain Opportunities - 15 requests for suppliers from 6 Prime contractors. 65 companies from the Humber region were matched directly and put forward for consideration. From the 14 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 = £177.7m approximately.
- Total value of contracts in the Yorkshire and Humber region = £88.1m approximately with contracts ranging between £1k and £30m.
- Total value of offshore wind contracts won by companies based in the Humber and East Riding region = £46.6m approximately.

The team attended Offshore Energy 2017 in Amsterdam resulting in separate meetings taking place with IHC, ALE, NKT and MPI Offshore. These companies had been targeted following the supply chain from mapping exercise.

Wider Renewables Activity

Additional activity as reported in the Business Support Monthly News Round Up. There is a lot of media activity presently around the Governments new ‘Clean Growth Strategy’.

Key Observations

We continue to receive on going information on the successes of our local businesses winning contracts throughout the renewables sector as well as information on their local supply chain and use of local sub-contractors. There is ongoing work with the Green Port Impact Assessment team at the University to support us in the best way of presenting these successes.

Inward Investment Strand

Strand Progress

Women into Manufacturing and Engineering (WIME) - The WIME careers event took place at the Humber UTC in Scunthorpe on 20 and 21 October 2017. Twenty partner companies/organisations from around the Humber supported the event, which gave the opportunity for women to find out about career opportunities, training and qualification needs, apprenticeships and job vacancies in the manufacturing and engineering sectors.

As this was WIME’s first venture to the South bank of the Humber the event was widely promoted throughout local newspapers and social media channels. Ninety nine people pre-registered for the event and it is estimated that a further fifteen were walk-ins. Thirty people also boarded the steam train for the tour of the British Steel site. Over 50% of the visitors travelled from Hull to attend the event, with 25% being job seekers and 25% students.

Companies reported that the calibre of visitors was high and that a number of them were looking at returning to engineering from other jobs or a career break.

The Humber UTC is exploring the possibility of organising some engineering returner classes.

Participating Companies			
Airco	APD Comms	Army Royal Eng.	ABP
BP	British Steel	CITB	Dong Energy
EDF Energy	Howdens Joinery	Humber Bridge	JCP
KCOM	NCS	Network Rail	Spencer Group
The Deep	Vivergo Fuels	Women’s Eng. Soc.	Green Port Hull

Registration Analysis – 99 people			
AGE		STATUS	
Under 25	33	Employed	49
25 to 45	39	Job Seeking	25
Over 45	27	Student	25

LOCATION	
HU Postcodes	52
DN Postcodes	30
LN Postcodes	5
SK Postcodes	4
YO Postcodes	5
Other	3

HOW HEARD	
E-shot	27
Family/Friends	31
Mobile Ad	4
Newspaper/Online	7
Social Media	11
Not Stated	18

Green Port Impact Assessment (GIA) - Interim findings and website Launch – 4 December 2017

The University of Hull has been undertaking an independent study to determine the socio-economic and environmental impact of the work of Green Port Hull and the £310m Siemens Gamesa/ABP blade manufacturing facility investment as a business case to illustrate results.

Two years of research has now been completed and a series of different research activities have been executed which provide preliminary insights in the effectiveness of GIA. The GIA website has been developed to provide public access to the overview of the evaluation and to provide independent insight in the socio-economic and environmental impact of Green Port Hull activities on the Hull and East Riding areas. A significant database will be made available for those that desire to understand the depth of the data collection and seek further details. Only data that has been approved for release by the GPGP, Siemens Gamesa and ABP will be visible on the website.

The 4th December was selected to launch the website and the findings to coincide with the first anniversary of the Siemens Gamesa blade manufacturing site in Hull.

Key indicators / findings to be announced:

- Economic Multiplier for the investment
- Job displacement number
- Claimant and claim amount trend data
- Regional productivity numbers
- GVA trend
- Employment numbers
- GPGP strand activity including the successful Pathway to Employment

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

Strand Progress

During September the work of the RDI Strand team has focussed upon:

- O&M Centre of Excellence: Both the Executive Governance Board (EGB) and Project Management Group (PMG) have met and are agreeing terms of reference. Activity on the initial six scoping projects has started and there are a number of engagement activities under development.
- Visiting appointments: Since previous reports, detailed discussions have taken place with OREC, regarding two specialist placements.
- PhD Placements: All 4 x GPGP PhD students have now commenced their PhD studies and an initial networking session has happened.

Key Observations

Recruitment of additional RDI Strand staff has progressed further, the post of Innovation Manager now advertised. Once in place, the additional activity outlined in the delivery plan will accelerate.

Site Assembly Strand

Strand progress

Ergo Project - Construction continues to progress well and completion is likely to be early in the New Year (the full Green Port allocation of £710k has been defrayed). Designs for the internal fit out are being finalised with a local supplier. The concertina brochure and brand guidelines have been published.

The website has been designed by Fred Marketing and is currently under construction by ERYC web team. Holding page is now live www.ergoconnects.com/ergoconnects.co.uk Early demand is positive in advance of main marketing push. Interested parties will be shown around the building early in the New Year and discussions with cafe operators are ongoing. An advert has gone on ERYC website and discussions are ongoing with aligning University and Green Port projects.

Goole Intermodal Terminal - Atkins are now underway on site investigation works which will determine the feasibility of dredging the terminal to accommodate the desired vessel size (3000dwt / 4.5m draft).

Sugar beet Feasibility Work - Future Food Solutions (FFS) have issued final report to ERYC for review before wider distribution. Inward Investor interest remains high with discussions ongoing.

Brough Phase 3 Relief Road - Sweco have now been appointed from ERYC framework and early stage master planning of road layout is underway.

Business Grants Strand

Strand progress

We have recently received an enquiry for a Green Port grants one from a local fabricator seeking to make an investment of £350k. In addition we have received an initial enquiry from a potential inward investor seeking to manufacture green construction materials. In general there appears to be continued interest from investors in the modular building industry.

Programme wide update

The Hull City of Culture 2017 announcement that the company will continue beyond 2017 has been made officially to partners, confirmation letter circulated to the board.

Planning for Year 7, the final year of Green Port delivery has started during October working with individual strands to ensure delivery plans are finalised and ready for board approval at the March 2018 board meeting.

Financial commitments and expenditure continue to be closely monitored with strand leads, with a job creation assessment of all areas of committed and potentially committed being made on an ongoing basis. Activities are being prioritised as to the highest level of job creation.

Intensive energy users study update - The study remains on track to deliver its findings by the end of the financial year. An event will be arranged for early 2018 to present the Study findings to stakeholders.

Sarah Clark
Programmes Manager
2 November 2017