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

Employment & Skills Strand

Strand Progress

Apprenticeship Wage Subsidies - The 2017-18 target for apprenticeship starts is 200. Since 1st April 2017 171 applications have been approved.

Up-Skilling Training Subsidies - The 2017-18 target for upskilling is 200. Since 1st April 2017 345 applications have been approved which is a marked increase on previous years numbers achieved.

Wage Subsidies – Disadvantaged Groups - Take-up on the wage subsidies for disadvantaged groups continues to be slow with 15 companies engaged and 40 individuals in receipt of the subsidy, since the start of the programme. As a result of discussions within the Programme the arrangements have been changed to provide a one off payment at the 6 months employment period as opposed to staged payments across 6 months. This has no effect on state aid and the value of the incentive payment remains the same.

Pathway to Employment – The outcome figures for the project to date are:

Starters – 165

Completers – 139 (84%)

Job outcomes – 81 (58%)

Green Shoots of Opportunity Programme

The four individual projects within the Green Shoots of Opportunity programme are now fully up and running. The projects are being delivered by Enviromail, CatZero, Probe and a team at East Riding Council. Participant numbers are already good, and referrals to the projects are coming from a variety of sources including Jobcentre Plus, health organisations, charities and local support groups.

Individuals are being assessed on a one to one basis to understand the more obvious and also underlying issues and reasons why they are long term unemployed or currently at a distance from the labour market. Each project also offers general job search support and advice including CV reviewing, interviewing techniques; help with on-line application systems and signposting to or provision of relevant training, basic skills and education. Links to employers are also being established, and referrals made to partner organisations when appropriate, most noticeably around mental health and substance misuse issues.

The four projects have also been able through Green Port funding to start trialing a variety of different ways to tackle issues such as engagement, developing personal confidence, 'soft' employment skills including motivation, standards of behaviour, working in teams, understanding employer expectation, time keeping, health and safety, hygiene in the workplace etc.

Sector and Careers events

The Labour Market Information (LMI) Sector events provided to date have been very well received. The events provide businesses with the opportunity to have a direct impact in shaping the future workforce by giving a clear view of the current labour market, training and progression routes and what opportunities will develop in the future. From completed evaluations collected from the six events delivered to date delegates said that the events has increased their knowledge and understanding of the sectors and would like further events covering the wider range of sectors especially the digital sector as the trend is that there is a significant increase in the use of technology in all sectors.

Further network meetings to encourage more partnership working would be welcomed as this has already proved beneficial as we are now identifying that as a result from the sector events and networking, people are moving into employment with employers from the sector events. Novous are currently working with Clean6 following the Bio Economy event looking at how they can support them with their recruitment needs ensuring offenders have the right skills to gain employment with Clean6 on their release. The foundations Live 2017 event was a huge success and we are looking at promoting and support the event again next year.

The following events are planned to take place over the coming months:

- 18 October 2017 – Careers in the Curriculum. Enhancing the Relevance of the Curriculum to the World of Work, an opportunity to explore with businesses & senior schools staff effective ways of enhancing the relevance of the curriculum, striving to not only improve the quality of careers education, but also leading to improved attainment and young people leaving schools with the skills and qualifications needed by the local economy.
- 25 October 2017 - LMI Engineering Event, confirmed keynote speakers include Nestle, British Steel, BP, Dong, & Airco.
- 14/15 November 2017 – Digital & Engineering event organised in partnership with East Riding Education & Skills Partnership and East Riding College. The event is to showcase the exciting range of digital & engineering jobs available locally.

Business Support Strand **Strand Progress**

The project has (to date):

- 534 Enquiries
- 335 Enrolled
- 195 Businesses Supported
- 55 financial assistance applications have been awarded
- 122.82 f/t equivalent Jobs created

	Enquiries	Enrolled	Business Supported
East Riding of Yorkshire	154	106	59
Kingston Upon Hull	271	177	124
Outside	109	52	12
	534	335	195

Financial Assistance (to date)

- Financial assistance paid = £758K
- Financial assistance committed = £399K
- Percentage of spend with local businesses, 36.5% Hull and East Riding, 7.1% rest of Yorkshire & Humber, 56.4% Out of Yorkshire and Humber

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.

Wider Renewables Activity

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

Offshore Wind Sector Roundtable event 26th Sept 2017 – This was part of a series of events currently taking place around the country, delivered by The Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) to support the process of preparing a Sector Deal to position offshore wind at the heart of the Government's emerging Industrial Strategy. Supply chain companies were invited to share their thoughts, concerns, suggestions to help shape a Sector Deal that works for everyone in the sector across the UK.

Key Observations

We are receiving a higher volume of 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. Currently in discussion 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**

Exhibitions attended - In order to save on time and costs, engagement with potential investors has been by way of attendance at relevant exhibitions as most would be present in one location, others of significant potential have been visited individually.

- Offshore Energy Manchester, October 2016
- Wind Energy Hamburg November, 2016
- Wind Energy International, London May 2017
- Husum Wind September, 2017

Global Wind Energy Market Outlook - With more than 50GW of new additions in the 2017-2020 period under the central scenario, the EU 28 will represent slightly less than a quarter of global installations, significantly less than a quarter of the global installations, significantly lower than China, which expects to install almost double, 84 GW. Onshore wind installation in the US will be similar to those in Europe, However, no additions are expected on offshore wind technology with 8% of world's market in the period, India is expected to bring additional 17 GW of onshore capacity. *Source: Wind energy in Europe: Outlook to 2020.*

Potential global markets for FDI in the renewable energy sector:

- Europe
- India
- China, Singapore & Hong Kong
- Japan
- Middle East
- USA

Sector results 2016-17 - There were 87 UK inward investment projects in the renewable energy sector, creating or sustaining 3093 jobs.

Source DIT

Potential global markets for exports - Opportunities exist to export knowledge (R & D) expertise and supply chain activities to markets developing renewable energy projects, such as Taiwan, India, USA, Latin American markets and China, although the latter is a fairly developed market.

WiME – the next WiME event is being held on the South Bank, based at the Humber UTC in Scunthorpe, there will be a careers advisor and partner event held on Friday 20 October 2017 and a public open day on Saturday 21 October 2017. Several members of the Green Port team will be in attendance during both days.
<http://greenporthull.co.uk/news/women-into-manufacturing-and-engineering-event-to-come-to-humber-utc>

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

O&M Centre of Excellence: Work to scope the areas of focus for the O&M Centre of Excellence is now being undertaken by the Strand Lead, working closely with the Aura Research and Development Lead, and OREC. It is intended that once scoping is complete, lead body status will be assigned to either the University of Hull or OREC, dependent upon relative level of experience, relevant resources and expertise.

Visiting appointments: Since the July/August report, detailed discussions have taken place with OREC, regarding a placement involving experienced materials chemist Dr. Kirsten Dyer, and a specialist organisation who have pioneered Health and Safety devices for OSW, who are based in Edinburgh. It is intended that the OREC placement will begin this autumn, with a Limpet Technologies placement beginning early in the New Year.

PhD Placements: All 4 x GPGP PhD students have now commenced their PhD studies. Recent work has focussed upon ensuring that their work relates to the overall Aura Project, with a networking session planned for 5/10/17.

OSW Skills & Occupational Profiling Study: this is now out to tender, with Cambridge Econometrics and NSAP invited to submit.

Regional Innovation Audit: A full draft of this work has now been received, and is with the Strand Lead for comment. Much interest has been shown in this work by other key local stakeholders such as the LEP, and it is intended to share its findings and recommendations once in final draft.

Key Observations

- As can be seen above, progress towards key delivery objectives such as identifying suitable collaborators for the Visiting Appointments initiatives, publication of the Regional Innovation Audit, and undertaking the Skills & Occupational Profiling Study are on schedule.
- Recruitment of additional RDI Strand staff has progressed further, with a GPG Project Manager now appointed, and the post of Innovation Manager shortly to go out to advertisement. Once in place, the additional activity outlined in the delivery plan will accelerate.

GIA Study update – The study continues in to its second year of delivery. Current activity includes a refresh of the website to ensure maximum use is made of the contents as well as updates on the key data.

Site Assembly Strand **Strand progress**

ERGO Centre

- Construction is well underway on site and is on schedule to complete by the 21st December 2017.
- Concertina brochure has been finalised along with a postcard design to be distributed at the upcoming Humber Renewables Exhibitions in Amsterdam. Social Media campaign is being discussed with prospective suppliers.
- Handling some early enquiries in advance of marketing material being published and web site going live.

- Interviews with prospective Cafe operators were held in early October.
- ERYC Asset Strategy team investigating feasibility of installing solar panels on the roof.

Goole Intermodal Terminal

Project inception meeting was held (30/8/17) with Atkins (who have been appointed to do the site investigation works off the YORconsult Framework) and they have produced a detailed schedule of site investigation works lasting approx. 3 months.

Sugarbeet Feasibility Work

Interest from investors in this field continues to be strong and Future Food Solutions (FFS) will be publishing their final report imminently. FFS are meeting and briefing potentially suitable site owners in conjunction with ERYC Inward Investment team.

Grovehill Site

The Grovehill options report and user demand study funded by the Green Port Site Assembly strand has now been completed in draft by Capita, and G L Hearn Ltd. Future options for the development of the site are likely to centre around a range of industrial uses (encompassing renewables) in the B1(b/c), B2 and potentially B8 sectors.

Additionally, the report strongly recommends the construction of a new business centre for Grovehill. Joint aims would be to replace the current building which is poorly located, unattractive, old and nearing obsolescence, and provide a purpose built outlet equipped with modern technology. It would be considerably larger than existing provision, and more likely to meet demand from the knowledge-based and high-tech industries that provide better work opportunities. The centre would also act as a service hub and catalyst for the development of the rest of the enterprise park.

Business Grants Strand **Strand progress**

There are several applications being progressed and at varying stages of development although no new applications have been received this month.

Programme wide update

Intensive energy users study update

The study being progressed by the Carbon Trust is about to start sending requests for interview to those organisations in the Humber who have been identified by the Steering Group as being the highest energy users and or emitters. Interviews with other stakeholders will commence in a future phase after this initial work is underway.

Following the legacy meeting held in September discussion have been taking place between both HCC and ERYC to further generate ideas as to what the need for support will look like once the Green Port Programme has ended.

Sarah Clark
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