

Capitalising on the Humber's renewables opportunities ...

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Green Port Growth Programme (GPGP).

The Green Port Hull vision is to establish Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire as the world-class centre for renewable energy by capitalising on the Siemens investment

Through the GPGP, we are working with businesses in Hull and the East Riding to ensure this vision is realised. Developed by Hull City and East Riding Councils and private sector partners, GPGP aims to

provide continual support to help local businesses recognise and embrace potential opportunities within the renewables sector.

We will utilise £25.7m of Regional Growth Funding (RGF) to deliver a programme of activity through six business strands designed to develop all aspects of the renewables industry. We are also working collaboratively with Jobcentre Plus to ensure that local residents access the employment opportunities

available within the renewable energy sector.

Our newsletters will keep you informed about what we are doing in our role to secure

long-term economic growth and create employment for the region, as well as interviews with those who are reaping the benefits.



Tim Rix
Chairman of the Green Port Growth Programme

What are the six strands?

The six strands are:

- Employment and Skills Development
- Site Assembly
- Inward Investment
- Business Support & Advice
- Business Investment Grants
- Research, Development & Innovation (RDI)

The objectives for the six delivery strands are to:

- Contribute £300m to the local economy
- Create 1300 local jobs
- Up-skill and train up to 1,900 local people
- Develop over 160 ha of land
- Secure £280m of large inward investment
- Assist up to 650 local businesses to enter the renewable supply chains
- Establish Hull as a Centre for RDI for the renewables industry

Local businesses helped to 'progress ideas' to access renewables opportunities



Businesses in Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire wanting to access renewables supply chain opportunities are taking advantage of support from the Green Port Growth Programme (GPGP) created to establish East Yorkshire as a world-class centre for renewable energy and supported by the Government's Regional Growth Fund.



Supporting apprenticeships

One of the GPGP's objectives is to up-skill and train up to 1,900 local people, with part of this dedicated to support apprenticeship frameworks. To date, almost 400 apprentices have been taken on at businesses across Hull and the East Riding.

In very early discussions with investors, they indicated that the Engineering Manufacturing Craft and Technician apprenticeship framework would make a sound basis for the

employment and skills strand's range of support. This framework was sufficiently flexible to cater for the broad range of skills within the renewables sector and – as an Advanced (Level 3) framework – was robust and challenging enough to meet the sector's skills needs.

The decision was taken to devote half of the GPGP employment and skills allocation (approximately £6million) to support a range of suitable frameworks in the wider renewables sector. As the economic recession

had severely undermined business confidence in taking on new staff and investing in training, it was considered that businesses would best be served by a wage subsidy, which would support the recruitment of Advanced Level apprenticeships.

One of the early beneficiaries of the subsidy was Dunston (Ship Repairs) Ltd, based in Hull, who had already engaged in the offshore wind supply chain through the construction of vessels designed to transport technicians to offshore wind farms in the North Sea.

Keith Clarke, Dunston's general manager, praised the scheme. He said:

"We took on an apprentice who has been here for about a year now. He has been involved with all aspects including fabrication and has learned a lot in a short time. I think the apprentice scheme is definitely a good thing and a positive thing for the area because when Green Port Hull does take off, we need young people with these skills."

The GPGP's Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) strand provides support and identifies new opportunities for key businesses working in the offshore wind and wider



renewables sectors to capitalise on the Siemens investment at Hull's Alexandra Dock.

Dr Alan Lowdon, R&D Director of the Green Port Growth Programme, has been raising awareness of the programme and how companies can take new or existing products and services into the renewables sector.

He said "In the past eight months or so, we have started to help businesses learn how to take their

ideas forward into this new industry and access the range of funding which is available to support this.

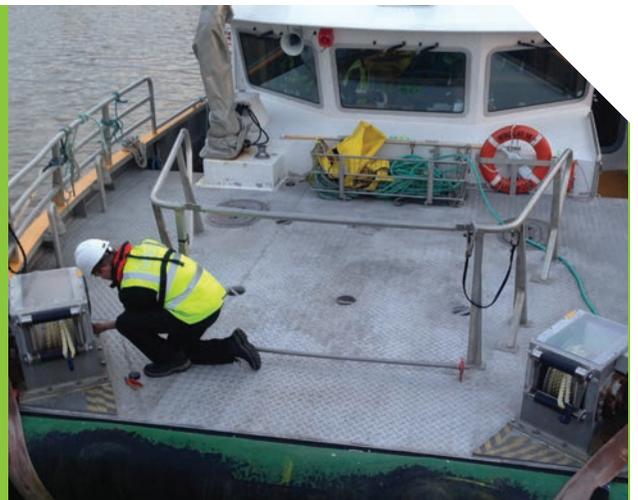
"In addition, an assessment of core skills in the region has identified logistics, operations and maintenance, safety and simulation as areas where the region can play a leading role in relation to offshore renewables R&D, with local businesses and the University of Hull being key to success."

As part of the research, the GPGP has opened a

dialogue with Siemens to find out more about its R&D needs and in particular, how local companies can work alongside to enter its supply chain with innovative products and services.

Dr Lowdon added "We've already facilitated some early introductions. Visibility and knowledge of these local businesses is vital for the larger players coming into the Humber region who will need support on a local level."

Funding helps local apprentice engineer start on dream career path



Apprenticeships have been brought under the spotlight over the past few months, as political parties pledged to create more opportunities for aspiring apprentices as part of their manifestos.

And so they should be, as apprenticeships are a fantastic way for businesses to fill key skills gaps within their workforce, increase productivity and prepare their next generation of employees. However, it's not only businesses that benefit.

Thanks to funding from the Green Port Growth Programme, Hull-based

marine engineering firm MWD were able to take on local apprentice Owen Taylor, 18, who was looking to embark on his dream career as an engineer. Owen started his three-year apprenticeship in October 2014 and is hoping to stay with MWD beyond his training period.

He explains "For years I hoped to become an electrical engineer when I left school, so I was delighted when an apprenticeship came up at MWD, which specialises in marine engineering. I help design and create the control panels for the winches used on

wind turbines, alongside studying for an electrical engineering qualification at Hull Training. After my three years of study, I'm hoping to do a HNC.

"The experience I'm gaining is valuable. Some days are spent in MWD's production facility in Hull carrying out testing, but I've also been fortunate to travel out to the wind turbines in the North Sea. It's great to be able to be hands-on with the testing on site. There's a lot of excitement in the region surrounding the opportunities in the emerging offshore wind

sector, so it's great to be able to play a part in that."

MWD Managing Director Andy Healey commented "Investing in the future of our workforce is high on the agenda at MWD, with apprentices key to this objective. With the Humber region fast-becoming the UK's energy capital, we need to be training young people and giving them the skills and experience they need for a bright future in this industry. Funding from the Green Port Growth Programme has enabled us to take on apprentices like Owen."

Upcoming workshops

There are a variety of workshops planned for the next few months, with topics including:

- Do you understand the offshore wind supply chain, where you fit in and who your competitors are?
- Understanding how buyers for developers and tier one contractors select suppliers
- Selecting and achieving high growth in renewables

- Ways to reduce cost, increase efficiency and provide bottom line improvement
- Successful marketing in renewable energy - how to present your company and win business

For more information on the workshops, please get in touch with the team on **01482 391639** or email greenportgrowth@eastriding.gov.uk

Humber's energy estuary 'goes global' through support from Green Port Growth Programme

Hull and Humber's emerging renewable energy sector is being promoted across Europe through a series of international exhibitions that are being supported by the Green Port Growth Programme (GPGP).

Under the Humber Renewables brand, the Humber Local Enterprise

Partnership (LEP), local authority partners and private sector representatives will visit Paris, London and Liverpool this year, to promote the Humber to the wider, European renewables market. This is to foster more inward investment to the region and to give local businesses the opportunity to showcase their offerings in the market.

Jonathan Rollison, owner of Hull company Point Engineering, will be attending some of this year's exhibitions with Humber Renewables and welcomes financial assistance from the GPGP.

"The support to get our area on the stand looking as we wanted is excellent, which allows us to concentrate

on the main task in hand - promoting what we do.

"As a small company seeking more business in the renewables market, we welcomed the funding and the presence with other Humber-based firms. It really is a benefit networking with others on the stand and having the opportunity to pass on, or receive potential leads."



This year the Humber Renewables exhibition programme schedule includes:

- RenewableUK Global Offshore Wind, London
- RenewableUK, Liverpool
- EWEA, Paris

If you are interested in participating in any of these exhibitions please get in touch with Mary Green at Team Humber Marine Alliance on 01482 485271 or email marygreen@thma.co.uk

What has the programme already achieved?

The GPGP has been working with local companies to increase the skills capacity within their business. This has been done by providing guidance and funding for up-skilling initiatives and apprenticeship schemes, in order to increase the capabilities of their employees.

- more than 200 businesses have been supported
- over 600 new jobs have been created or safeguarded
- 92 businesses have attended a workshop
- 125 businesses are now registered on the supplier directory
- 36 businesses have received support to attend an exhibition

Green Port Hull Supplier Directory

The Green Port Hull supplier directory has been created as a leading industry resource to showcase the strength and depth of the local businesses.



Our region has enormous breadth of engineering and marine capabilities, as well as strong and diverse supply chains to support the growing renewable energy industry. The directory provides a single point of contact for a vast array of skills and resources, and demonstrates the capabilities, knowledge, services and products businesses have to offer.

It's an effective way for organisations to make business connections within industry both nationally and internationally. If you supply the renewables sector, you can create a listing for your business to enable buyers to locate and contact you.

Visit <http://directory.greenporthull.co.uk> for more information.

Successful start to the Green Port Growth workshops



A series of workshops designed to give advice on how to access opportunities in the region's emerging renewable energy sector are proving a 'great springboard' for companies across East Yorkshire.

The events, which began in November 2014, have provided businesses in Hull and the East Riding

with expert advice on how to present their company, increase their opportunities, understand how buyers select suppliers and find ways to work more effectively together. Delegates have also been given the chance to listen to expert speakers with first-hand experience of the renewables market to help boost their knowledge in this sector.

Green Port Growth Expands Its Board



Three new board members have been welcomed to the Green Port Growth Programme.

Scott Yates, of Myton Law, Katy Swaby, of Enviromail, and David West, of Greenstick Energy, have joined the board, which consists of both private and public sector representatives. It provides the strategic direction and leadership needed to make decisions about the deployment of resources from the Green Port Growth Programme across six identified strands – Business Support, Inward Investment, Site Assembly, Employment and Skills, RDI and Business Grants.

Chair of the Green Port Growth Programme Board and Managing Director of JR Rix & Sons Ltd, Tim Rix comments "The board,

which has been in existence since the summer of 2012, was seeking to expand its membership and was looking for private sector business representatives who are committed to furthering the sustainable economic development of Hull and the East Riding.

"We were very keen to ensure that those with experience of running a successful business, and those who represent the views of small businesses, had the opportunity to contribute to the work of the Green Port Growth Programme. Scott, Katy and David all have the passion, experience and commitment we sought and I'm looking forward to seeing what they bring to the programme."

Director/Solicitor at Myton Law, Scott Yates is a marine

lawyer and business owner who is actively involved in the renewable energy sector. He has worked in Hull for 25 years.

He commented "I am delighted to have been invited to join the board of the Green Port Growth Programme which, since its inception, has made excellent progress towards its stated goals of establishing Hull and the East Riding as a centre of excellence for renewable energy and providing long-term economic growth for local people and local businesses."

Katy Swaby is Co-Founder and Director at Enviromail, a Hull-based social enterprise providing eco-friendly business services to local private and public sector organisations. She has worked in business support for over a decade, championing CSR and environmental initiatives.

She commented "To be appointed on to the Green Port Growth Programme board is a real honour. Securing inward investment

and business growth from the emerging green sectors, are the key drivers for economic regeneration. I represent an established and dedicated third sector, which has an important role in economic regeneration, particularly in raising the aspirations, confidence and employability skills of local people. This will ensure that the emerging green jobs are accessible to all."

David West is Managing Director of Greenstick Energy Ltd, inventors of a novel mooring device for offshore applications.

He commented "I am delighted to be appointed to the board. My company has benefitted from its involvement with the programme and my aim is to encourage other local individuals and companies to develop their renewables ideas into reality. Local expertise should be harnessed to develop all areas of renewable energy and Hull and the East Riding should lead the way in this industry."

 Regional Growth Fund

