



Green Port Growth Programme Management Board – 9th July 2014

Strand Update

Skills Strand

Engineering Apprenticeships / Engineering Up-Skilling – Whilst applications are filtering in this reporting period has been fairly quiet as expected due to the time of year, it is expected there will be a large spike in applications over the next couple of months.

Specific Skills – There have been no additional applications during this period however discussions have been taking place with Boston who may be requesting additional applications in the near future against this strand.

Additional activity - This project is currently in the process of being developed further including working through the Council's tendering process. Various meetings have taken place to progress currently it is still on target to commence for Q3 2014-15. The project aims to help members of disadvantaged groups (mainly people who have been in receipt of an out of work benefit for at least 6 months) to access employment opportunities in the wider renewables supply chain has been prepared.

Business Support Strand

To date the project has:

- 113 enquiries
- 81 enrolled
- 55 reviews completed
- 14 companies financial assistance awarded
- 19 f/t 1 p/t Jobs created

Grants and Consultancy Support (to date)

- Grants and consultancy support processed for payment - £51,596
- Committed grants and consultancy support costs - £112,430
- Percentage of grant spent by purchasing through local businesses - 79% Hull and East Riding, 16% rest of Yorkshire & Humber, 5% outside of Yorkshire and Humber.

Business Directory - The directory was launched and went live at Global Offshore Wind. The directory now has almost 40 entries, at present 6% of those companies are located out of the Humber region with browse results filtered by proximity to HU1. There are clear links to the directory on Green Port Hull and Green Port Growth websites, and on the reverse, links to the websites at the top of the directory.

Events - As part of BIZ week, the team organised a programme stand at the Chamber Expo (3rd and 4th June) with 35 companies/consultants showing interest in the programme and/or the forthcoming Green Port Business Directory. DH and colleagues at Hull City Council also had a programme stand at the Yorkshire International Business Convention.



As part of Humber Renewables, MW attended Global Offshore Wind in Glasgow (10th – 12th June), as part of the soft launch of the directory.

Links with other programmes - On 19th June DH attended East Riding College's launch of their Energy Technology Centre (planned for a September 2015 opening). The Centre, jointly funded by ERDF, aims to provide conference facilities for SMEs, links to training, and offer fully or part-funded consultancy services. DH has identified potential duplication regarding business support and a meeting is being arranged with Richard Webster so that the projects can work collaboratively where relevant.

Through the news round-up and individual company meetings, where appropriate, the team have made opportunities visible through providing information to companies on remaining Humber Renewables events in 2014 and associated funding.

Procurement - The consultancy Framework has now been completed, letters have been issued to both the successful and unsuccessful groups. Framework meetings have been carried out with each group individually in order to introduce the team, provide an overview of the programme, give an update of business support activities to date, give feedback on their tender submission, discuss key points of the framework content/contract and to run through the process for the future mini-competitions.

Site Assembly Strand

Work continues on how the GPGP can contribute resource to the enhancement works at the re-routed footpath around the Green Port Dock site as well as part of the works required to develop the Northern Gateway Roundabout to allow 24 hour movement along the haul road. Detailed costings are awaited.

Land and Property Group - Due to the nature of the project the Green Port Hull Land and Property Group has not met for some time. A meeting of the group will be arranged over the next couple of months to provide an update on the land requirements of the supply chain.

Inward Investment Strand

Eastern Park and Ride Study– Paull - Grontmij has been commissioned to undertake a study to establish the economic viability for the provision of a purpose built bus-based Park and Ride (P&R) facility on a site east of Hull, on land adjacent to the A1033 Hedon Road Salt End Roundabout.

There are three phases to the works:

- Phase 1 to establish potential usage of the site, including the methodology to derive the patronage figures;
- Phase 2 to carry out preliminary investigations and prepare a preliminary layout design to sufficient detail to enable a detailed cost estimate to be prepared;
- Phase 3 to carry out a cost/benefit analysis.



Grontmij has now completed Phase 1 of the study which provides modelling of the usage figures with the site being operational from 0700 to 1900 hrs with a bus frequency of 10 minutes. Growth factors have been forecast from 2014-2034. The final draft of the Phase 1 report is currently being considered and ratified by Hull City Council. Subject to acceptance and viability of the usage findings the project will progress to Phase 2.

Green Port Hull Supply Chain Directory - The Green Port Hull Supply Chain direction is now operational and can be viewed on <http://directory.greenporthull.co.uk/>

During the trial/development phase the Business Support Team invited local companies/THMA members to populate the supply chain directory. The finalised directory, which has been endorsed by Siemens, went live to co-inside with the Global Offshore Wind Conference in Glasgow. Humber Renewables, Siemens and ABP all took stand space at the event and agreed to a 'soft' launch of the directory on their respective stands, with visiting companies being invited to sign up to the directory via ipads.

Those companies who have initially completed the capability audits over the last three years will be invited to submit their details. A formal launch of the directory will be undertaken in the next couple of months.

Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce (HHCC) activity

Work continues on developing links and gathering information regarding new links with other potentially relevant Northern European countries.

Denmark - A delegation of Danish businesses visited Green Port Hull, between the 17- 19 June. The delegation was led by the British Danish Chamber of Commerce and consisted of 12 companies. A list of participating companies and the itinerary was provided for the information of the RGF Green Port Growth Programme Board, most of whom met the inward delegation during their visit. The delegation was accompanied throughout by Pauline Wade, RGF International Strand and Director of International Trade for the Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce who was well supported by three Hull Ambassadors. During the visit the delegation visited Alexandra Dock and the Paull site and met with Civic leaders and members of the Hull business community with a particular interest in the off-shore wind sector. They were shown around the Hull & the East Riding of Yorkshire and recognised the quality of life the Humber offered.

Germany - Work is progressing re developing links with the British German Chamber of Commerce, Hamburg Chapter, with a planned joint event with the Danish, German Chamber in October.

France - Contact was made with the Franco British Chamber at a COBCO (European Chamber Network) meeting held in London earlier this year and followed up by a visit to France to meet the CEO of the Chamber and Board members. Options for working together were discussed and the French Chamber recommended that the aim would be for collaboration in the renewable energy sector would be to commence in January 2015, once there has been a settling down period after the May 2014 European Parliament Elections and other political issues impacting on the French economy. The status of this relationship will be reviewed and reported to the GPGP Board in the Autumn.



Other European Markets - Work will continue on developing links across the European Chamber Network over the next 18 months, with options being explored for the setting up of Green Port desks in some of the key markets to promote inward investment. Aarhus in Denmark is likely to be the first. GPGP Board will be kept informed.

Recommendations:

- Continue developing opportunities by working with the British Danish Chamber of Commerce. Agree draft terms and condition for the setting up of a Green Port Inward Investment desk at the Chamber's offices in Aarhus. Gather information.
- Participate in the joint renewable energy event in Germany in October.
- Continue to gather information and work towards engagement with other European Countries that are active in the international supply chain.

Research and Development Strand

General

- Liaison has continued with University of Hull to understand both the history and the resource base available as a delivery partner. Additional, key academics have been engaged.
- Relationship with the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult continues to be strengthened with a view to a strategic initiative being launched between GPGP and OREC targeted at SME's in the Hull and East Riding area.
- A review of the as-submitted 2013 business plan has been undertaken with the key recommendations to maximise its impact potential (see below). AL to produce a separate paper for consideration at the September Board.
- The R&D strand has established a relationship with THMA and will look to partner on networking and awareness-raising initiatives.
- Attendance at the RUK Global Offshore Wind and the Global Manufacturing Festival at AMRC, Sheffield were both very productive and generated new insights and leads for use when engaging with companies and within the University of Hull.
- AL has provided an R&D assessment template for use by GPGP as its official document. This will form the basis by which submissions are assessed, where appropriate.
- AL has been officially informed of his re-election to TPWind (EU research platform defining R&D needs for H2020), thus providing a conduit of insights back to GPGP.

Observations

- The business plan review undertaken by AL with support from GH pinpoints the need for greater resources to be available to the R&D strand to allow it to undertake a number of strategic initiatives to drive the R,D & I agenda, including the ability to co-invest alongside the likes of OREC and DECC and to structure its operations around a full intellectual asset management basis from foresighting to commercialisation. A Board paper is to be produced to outline the opportunities and associated resourcing requirements. AL to prepare and present to the GPGP Board at the September 2014 meeting.



- HIVE continues to raise its profile within the offshore wind market. A steady stream of interested parties was witnessed at Global Offshore Wind, Glasgow. This remains a key opportunity for University of Hull and the GPGP to exploit.

Awareness of the GPGP as a resource to support businesses is growing. From the R&D strand's point of view, it is clear that the strand needs to straddle the entire technology readiness level spectrum (TRL) such that value can be generated for companies at varying levels of maturity. AL to initiate as part of the business plan review note to Board.

Business Grants Strand

Work continues to decide on how best to progress with developing appropriate processes that incorporate access to the Knowledge Fund with the expectation that the GPGP business grants to be ready to 'open for business' potentially by autumn 2014. The RGF3 Growing the Humber fund has also been extended and financial scope for applications lowered to £5k.

Sarah Clark
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3rd July 2014