



Sustainable Glasgow

GREEN ECONOMY/PRIVATE SECTOR INDUSTRY HUB

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE BOARD – GUY JEFFERSON, SP ENERGY NETWORKS.

22nd APRIL 2021

Purpose of Report:

To update Sustainable Glasgow Board on progress and actions associated with the Green Economy/Private Sector Industry Hub.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Sustainable Glasgow Board

- a) Note the content of the report.
- b) Note discussions with Edinburgh Climate Compact and the possibility of running a joint event on the run up to COP26 and other potential future collaborations.

1. Background

Fourth meeting of the hub took place on 20th April 2021 with following representation:

SP Energy Networks, Glasgow City Council, Scottish Enterprise, University Of Strathclyde, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow Chambers Of Commerce, Scottish Government, Clyde Gateway, SDS, Edrington Brands, ACS, SPT & Deloitte.

2. Terms of Reference

Terms of reference for the Hub are approved. They include a link to the Climate Emergency Implementation plan to recognise it as the key document to guide our action over the coming year.

3. Membership

The Group believe we now have a strong core of support from public and private organisations covering a variety of sectors making the partnership very diverse and strong moving forward.

4. Work Programme

Progress in a number of the areas initially identified by the Hub members at the first meeting. Focus remains on ensuring that initiatives are delivered for COP26 to shine a light on Glasgow Businesses and engage support of that wider community to support the work being completed to deliver our Net Zero target.

4.1 Green Economy Charter Pledge (as attached).



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Green Economy Charter Pledge has been updated(attached). Principle remains to publicise widely in run up to COP26 showing commitment of businesses to short and long term goals with real change prior to COP26 event. Hub agreed some final changes for April to reflect a commitment to SMEs ambition (see 4.1.1.). Delighted to report that Charter was approved by the group.

We have a number of new sign ups in principle from Deloitte, ACS, Edrington & Babcock which brings total to 15.

Hub members agreed that we should pursue as many sign ups to the Charter as possible in coming months to strengthen the commitment of the wider business community and then start to measure impact against commitments.

The Chair has also been working with the “Edinburgh Climate Compact” who we have launched a similar charter for Edinburgh Businesses. There is a potential to work on a joint event prior to COP26 and consider future collaborations based on the Charter commitments.

4.1.1 SME Initiative

As part of the Green Economy Charter the Hub have now developed a specific initiative to both sign-up SME’s with the ambition to deliver on our Charter pledge and support them to develop their own sustainability strategy. As part of the completed Charter documentation a Guidance note has been drafted specifically for SME signatories. It will be finalised prior to Charter launch but will include specific signposting to resources and support through Business Gateway*.

4.1.2 Charter Launch & Data Management

Propose to launch Charter with new SG website. SPEN and GCC to discuss media proposal next month being drafted by SPEN.

At April meeting Deloitte presented a potential solution to ensure capture of commitments progress for reporting purposes. The “Goal 13” reporting tool is a Not for profit initiative in partnership with the CBI and Met Office which we believe could be adapted to support member companies reporting. ([Goal 13 Impact Platform Demo on Vimeo.](#)). Hub members will work with Goal 13 to develop a proposal for discussion at either May or June Hub.

4.2 Green Business Awards.

Chair met with Chamber Of Commerce to discuss proposals for “Sustainable Glasgow” section at Glasgow Business Awards Ceremony. Chamber are drafting a proposal which will see a Section of the awards dedicated to Sustainable Glasgow with 3 or 4 specific awards included.

4.3 Green Recovery – Top Infrastructure Projects

Fraser Of Allander Institute have joined the hub and will present at the meeting on their work on defining a Green recovery in Glasgow. Our ambition remains to tie this research into defining and promoting infrastructure projects as part of the proposed City Prospectus introduced by GCC at the meeting.

4.4 Future Skills

SDS presented again at April Hub to complete discussion on the Climate Skills Emergency Action Plan. Hub members gave feedback on SDS draft priorities from the action plan and committed to act as a consultation body for future iterations of the plan.

5. Actions to progress for this month

- 5.1 Complete initial sign-ups for Green Economy Charter Pledge and promote for more signatories.
- 5.2 Agree Charter initiative launch for May alongside website launch.
- 5.3 Finalise SME support proposal & guidance document.
- 5.4 Finalise Business Awards proposal.
- 5.5 Next meeting agreed for Tuesday 18th May.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Sustainable Glasgow Board

- a) Note the content of the report.
- a) Note discussions with Edinburgh Climate Compact and the possibility of running a joint event on the run up to COP26 and other potential future collaborations.