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Energy and Utility Skills

Power, Gas, Water Waste Management, Recycling

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The Role of Energy & Utility Skills

As a Sector Skills Council we are positioned to:

- Analyse the current and future skills requirements for our employers.
- Write the NOS for the industries we represent.
- Create and manage apprenticeship frameworks.
- Identify/create/endorse qualifications to meet our employers' skills needs.



This entails:

- Articulating need within the appropriate context and with adherence to key policies
- Developing qualifications and supporting capacity building to ensure appropriate skills pathways
- Ensuring added value and relevance to our industries
- Facilitating and brokering employer/stakeholder/ government collaboration.



The Drivers

Renewables and Energy Efficiency is being driven by a number of factors & opportunities:

- Challenging European Directives and Targets
- Energy Supply and Demand
- Economic potential and sustainability
- Climate Change



The Challenges to date

- The speed of change and associated demand
- The need to ensure efficient and productive resource allocation
- The broad and varied understanding of common terms ‘Low Carbon’, ‘Energy Efficiencies’, ‘Renewables’
- The short, medium and long term investments required
- The impact across all industries and the interdependencies to be identified
- A clear articulation of the skills supply in place coupled with sector competitiveness, ageing workforce and diminishing pool of recruits.



The Approach

The Renewables Energy Skills Framework for Action:

- EU Skills' Workforce Planning Model
- Update the Occupational Functional Map for renewables
- Map the education and training supply for renewable energy
- Support the National Skills Academy Power to address the skills needs of the macro-Renewables sector
- Review, identify and develop appropriate qualifications as required by industry.





Workforce Planning Model



National Skills Academy Power

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- NSAP business plan approved & announced March 2010
- NSAP is committed to working in Scotland which will lead in Renewables and Metering
- Initial investing employers include Scottish & Southern Energy, Scottish Power and some of their contractors including Carillion and Balfour Beatty
- A number of colleges and providers have expressed their interest in working with the NSAP in addition to in-house providers
- The Quality Assurance process for England is in final stages of development and will be adapted to reflect Scottish systems and quality criteria currently in place.



Qualifications Review and Development

- Supporting Summit Skills who are leading on micro-renewable technology units
- Introducing new wind turbine technician MA in September 2010
- Working with employers and other SSCs to address key consumer areas e.g. Energy Efficiencies
- Frameworks for the marine sector currently under development
- OFM and WPM to provide further intelligence





Current activity:

Responding to immediate employer demand to support upskilling and reskilling requirements:

- Working with SDS to provide support for upskilling and reskilling requirements
- Providing data re demand for certificated and flexible learning opportunities
- Working with Scottish Government to develop solutions through clusters and collaborations
- Working with Awarding Bodies and providers to ensure appropriate flexible and modular routes to reflect employer demand.