

## PROGRESS REPORT TO EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT GROUP

Reporting Period: Jan 2021	Sector-Based Support Group: Clean Growth Workstream
	Group Lead: Professor Milan Radosavljevic

Group Objective	Guidelines	Milestone RAG Status
Support the economic recovery and renewal of the above sector, with Community Wealth Building at the heart, in response to the profound and unprecedented impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on the economy.	Milestone completed	
	On target	
	Minor delays up to one month	
	Delays greater than one month	

Key Milestones/Deliverables (e.g. establish group membership, communications plan agreed & by whom, strategic resources plan agreed & by whom)	Due Date	RAG Status
Recovery & Renewal Action Plan produced and agreed by REP		
Addition of other milestones/deliverables relevant to the group (some examples provided above)		

Key Actions - update on activity:
<p><u>1.</u> Since the last reporting period, what development has taken place in terms of a recovery and renewal plan for the above sector?</p> <p>Key operational developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workstream membership identified and finalised</li> <li>• Chair appointed – Prof. Milan Radosavljevic</li> <li>• Terms of Reference Agreed and attached as appendix</li> <li>• 3 Workstream meetings have taken place and a range of workshops agreed which will help identify the actions for recovery and renewal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AGD projects – arranged for 29/1/21. Early engagement was considered a priority given the stage of development of the business cases.</li> <li>○ Energy masterplanning &amp; transport – is being scheduled for Feb/March</li> <li>○ Supporting businesses through appropriate information (Clean Growth focused Business Recovery Portal) – date yet to be arranged</li> <li>○ Business and public engagement – dates yet to be arranged</li> <li>○ Strategic alignment – dates yet to be arranged</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>According to the Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy, “Clean growth means growing our regional economy while cutting greenhouse gas emissions.” The key initial development in the Workstream has thus been a recognition that as such Clean Growth spans across the</p>

regional economy with the clear need to develop the Ayrshire Energy Masterplan. Considering the evolving impact of the pandemic on working practices across all economic sectors, the need for energy masterplanning exercise therefore key to recovery and renewal.

2. Since the last reporting period, what quantitative and qualitative information has the group identified, collated & interpreted with regard to the impact of Covid-19 on the sector?

- SE has undertaken research nationally into the impact of COVID in the low carbon energy sector. Consideration will need to be given to how this applies in an Ayrshire context. To progress this SE is looking to commission research to review this, and to provide range of other important information including the array of available funding sources, and policy and strategy developments to ensure Ayrshire is fully aligned strategically in its clean growth activity. In addition, UWS has been developing training and innovation support mechanisms in response to known impacts, including a portfolio of CPD courses (<https://cpd.uws.ac.uk/w/support/>) and a Scotland-wide Business recovery portal to be launched in February 2021 with an initial focus on our Scottish campus locations (Ayrshire, Dumfries & Galloway, Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire). The purpose of both is to continuously evaluate emerging needs within local authorities across Scotland and the initial information from several hundred CPD attendees indicates reskilling/upskilling/retraining as well as financial support to be the key needs (individuals and companies).



## Coronavirus Support

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Figure 1: Economic recovery portal (working draft snapshot).

3. Since the last reporting period, what support has been provided to the sector in terms of a response to the pandemic?

- As clarified above, Clean Growth is not a single sector but a desired position across a range of sectors and sub-sectors and as such businesses will have had access to a range of UK & Scottish Government Grants through the above Clean Growth focused Business Recovery Portal that will aggregate all available assistance provided by the local Authorities, agencies, education providers and other organisations. Information on this will be collated as part of the research exercise mentioned above.

4. Since the last reporting period, what actions have been identified and/or implemented to support recovery and renewal within the sector, including financial implications of measures proposed?

- As the group progresses with the workshops identified above they will use the output from these, coupled with the knowledge and expertise of workstream members to identify business development and/or other opportunities for the range of sectors involved in Clean Growth for inclusion in the Plan.

5. Since the last reporting period, what collaborative work has taken place with the other sector-based recovery and renewal groups to ensure a joined-up approach?

- An initial Workstream leads meeting was organised by the Chair of the Space and Aerospace Workstream in 2020. Given the breadth of Clean Growth, the workstream recognises the importance of engaging across all workstreams and plans to engage with them all in the coming months.

6. What engagement has taken place since the last reporting period with local businesses and the wider community, and what support has been realised from this?

- The engagement has been concentrated on the stakeholders involved in the Workstream. Due to UWS's involvement in the Workstream and a leading position Scotland in terms of knowledge exchange, the university is engaging with some of the most innovative businesses in Ayrshire and across Scotland. They have been instrumental in developing understanding of the impact of the pandemic, the role of innovation in economic recovery and will be key participants in our future engagement activities through workshops.

7. Since the last reporting period, what work has been identified or undertaken that has linkage with / impact on the Ayrshire Growth Deal?

- A workstream representative attended the AGD project leads meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to introduce the work of the Clean Growth Workstream. A facilitated workshop is taking place on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 with the AGD project leads, the AGD PMO, Clean Growth Workstream Leads and SE. The purpose of the workshop is to explore each project with a view to identifying the specific opportunities relating to clean growth, and the actions necessary to achieve them. The workshop proposal is attached as an appendix. It may be that a follow up workshop will be required and if so, this will be arranged as soon as possible thereafter.

8. What work has been identified or undertaken since the last reporting period that has an impact on climate change?

- As part of the agreement on the Workstream's Terms of Reference. It was agreed to develop a framework (an energy Masterplan) for investment in energy infrastructure (power, heat and transport) that will underpin economic growth and resilience to provide a pathway to net zero by 2045 (recognising also the interim target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75% by 2030).
- A meeting took place with the Workstream leads and representatives from each of the 3 Councils to discuss the scope of a workshop which will be held some time in Feb/Mar 2021. A workshop proposal will be developed and agreed with this group in advance of the workshop.
- SE has commissioned Ramboll to do an Ayrshire Heat Map. This work will establish and map existing low carbon heat activity, assets and projects in Ayrshire. The information will be presented on a schematic map and can be used to promote the potential for further investment in low carbon heating and heating networks in and around Ayrshire, and will help to partially inform the work of a broader Ayrshire Energy Masterplan.
- UWS is participating in a highly ambitious project proposal that has been submitted as part of the H2020 Green Deal call. If successfully funded, this will provide the Workstream with access to state-of-the-art developments across 12 participating countries throughout Europe.

9. What work has been identified or undertaken since the last reporting period that has an impact on skills and training within the sector?

In addition to the work highlighted above, the following has been undertaken:

- Participated in the "Building a Collaborative Skills Response to COVID Workshop organised by SDS on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- Skills needs will also form part of the AGD project Clean Growth Workshop on 29<sup>th</sup> January with SDS's involvement

10. What work has been identified or undertaken since the last reporting period that has an impact on digital infrastructure within the sector?

- None at this stage but energy masterplanning may lead to the need to review digital infrastructure requirements in order to facilitate achieving the targets.

11. What work has been identified or undertaken since the last reporting period that has an impact on business support for the sector?

- The development of the Business Recovery portal and development of UWS CPD courses focusing on clean growth.

12. What work has been identified or undertaken since the last reporting period that has linkage with / impact on Community Wealth Building?

- None at this stage.

What issues have been identified since the last reporting period?	What mitigating actions have been taken/considered to overcome these issues?
We expect issues to be identified as part of the series of workshops referenced about and these will be notified in due course.	

What actions/support/resources/decisions are required by the Executive Oversight Group or the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board?
Energy Masterplanning is a key requirement to underpin the work of the Workstream to achieve the carbon-related targets highlighted in the Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy. This is a resource-intensive exercise that needs to be supported by all three local authorities.

## Ayrshire Growth Deal – Clean Growth Workshops

### Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to take a deep dive into the Ayrshire Growth Deal Projects to explore how we can ensure investment from the Deal will accelerate Ayrshire's shift to net zero carbon and create clean growth opportunities for people and business.

### Background

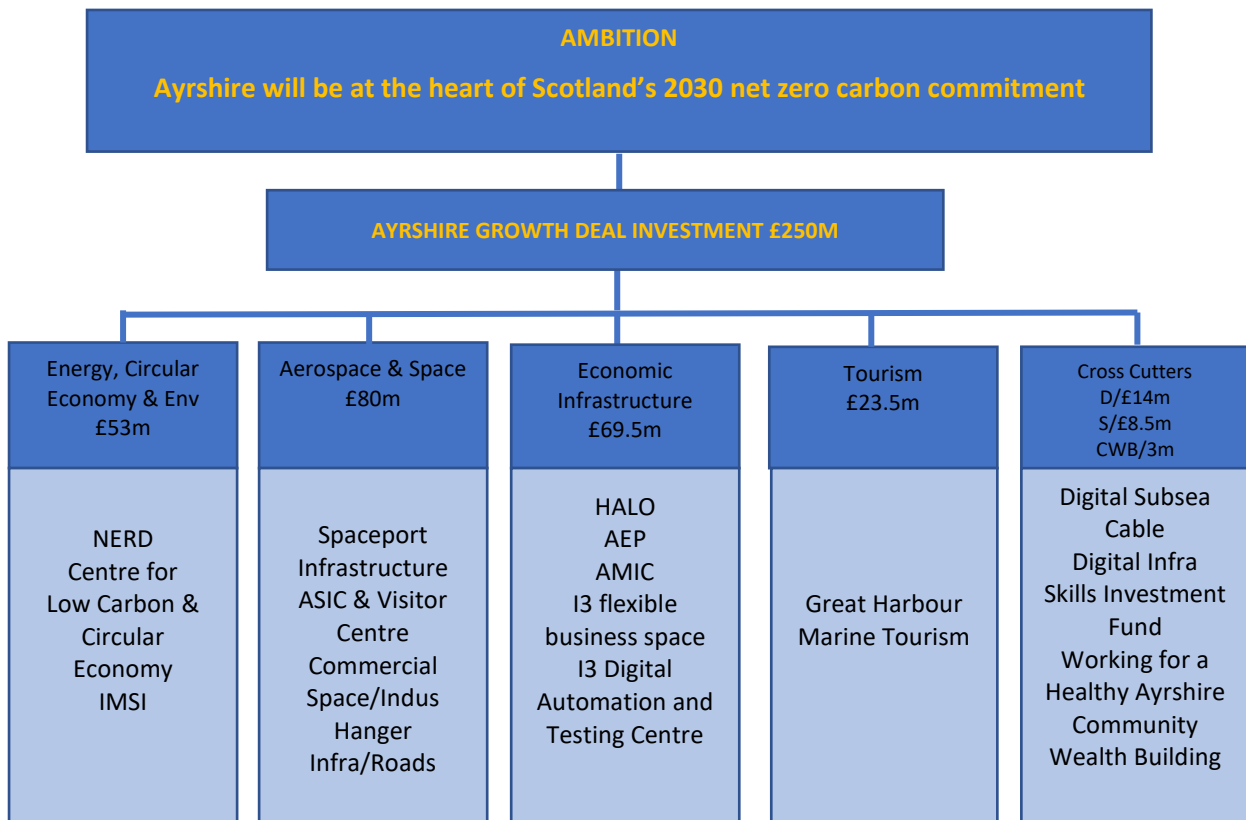
Clean growth is at the heart of the Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy. The Strategy, along with tackling inequalities, commits to carbon neutrality, and to protecting the climate and environment for future generations by being at the heart of Scotland's 2030 net zero carbon commitment.

Currently, COVID-19 is the most pressing emergency. The pandemic and economic lockdown have led to economic contraction, disproportionately affecting the disadvantaged and sharpening disparities. At the same time, across the world countries are realising the urgent need to take wide-spread action to tackle the climate emergency.

The Scottish Government's Programme for 2021 includes a range of initiatives to address the climate emergency and create jobs. The soon to be launched heat and hydrogen strategies, along with the updated Climate Change Plan is further evidence of their commitment to net zero carbon.

This confluence of factors needs collective action, and recognising the need to be pro-active in this area, an Ayrshire Clean Growth Workstream was formed to develop the actions necessary to deliver on Ayrshire's Clean Growth ambitions taking into consideration the impact of COVID-19, and the steps that need to be taken to support recovery and renewal.

### Ayrshire Growth Deal



## **The Workshop**

The focus on Clean Growth is aimed to drive a fair and just transition to a net zero economy in Ayrshire by unlocking those clean growth opportunities that not only enhance the environment by reducing emissions, but can deliver economic benefits from innovation and new skills, and the development of low/zero carbon technologies and industries, and the promotion of a circular economy.

AGD projects are an essential part of Ayrshire's economic recovery and as such, need to have a major role in helping to deliver Ayrshire's Clean Growth ambitions. The goal of this workshop is to explore each project with a view to identifying the specific opportunities relating to clean growth, and the actions necessary to achieve them.

### **Objectives:**

The workshop will:

- Set the context for the workshop within the Ayrshire Clean Growth agenda
- Review each Deal project from a clean growth perspective through the lens of Energy, (including Masterplanning), Innovation and Infrastructure
- Establish where and how synergies could be achieved by interactivity between the projects to identify new opportunities that progress Ayrshire's clean growth ambitions.
- Identify the actions necessary to ensure the opportunities are realised
- Provide a platform to link the AGD project leads to the Clean Growth Workstream

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Scene Setting
3. Project Review
  - Energy, Circular Economy and Environment – *(NERD, Centre for Low Carbon and the Circular Economy, and IMSI)*

#### **Break**

- Innovation – *(Aerospace and Space, Tourism)*
- Infrastructure – *(HALO, AEO, AMIC, and i3)*

#### **Break**

4. Implications for Cross Cutting Areas *(Digital, CWB, and Skills)*

# Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership

## Ayrshire Regional Economic Strategy – Clean Growth Workstream

### Draft Terms of Reference

#### Introduction

The Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership (AREP) was established in 2019 following Scottish Government's Enterprise and Skills Review which led to a recommendation by the then Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Mr Keith Brown, MSP, that Scotland should establish successful regional partnerships to stimulate local economies and build inclusive growth.

When formed the AREP was charged with a number of objectives, one of which was to develop and implement a new Economic Growth Strategy for Ayrshire in collaboration with all stakeholders. The Ayrshire Economic Strategy has now been completed and sets out the vision and objectives for Ayrshire for the next 10 years. Within the Strategy there are 6 Growth Themes; Advanced Manufacturing; Aerospace and Space; Life Sciences; Clean Growth; Food and Drink, and the Visitor Economy. Each of these themes have 3 key objective to meet relating to Sustainability, Productivity and Inclusiveness, and workstreams are being formed to develop the actions necessary to achieve the objectives.

#### The Purpose and Remit of the Clean Growth Workstream

##### *Purpose*

The primary purpose of the Clean Growth Workstream is to use the breadth of knowledge, expertise and insights of its members to develop the actions necessary to deliver on the Clean Growth Key Objectives, taking into consideration the impact of COVID-19, and the steps that need to be taken to support recovery and renewal.

The **Clean Growth Key Objectives** are:

- **Sustainable:** We will create nationally recognised research and development capacity and clean energy infrastructure to offer strategic resilience to the national climate change infrastructure, in a way that means that our strategic growth locations are served by energy innovation that will play a vital role in securing investment.

##### **Remit:**

- Develop a strategic approach to clean growth based on Ayrshire Growth Deal developments (i.e. Hunterston's scale, deep water access, dry dock facility and the National Energy Research and Demonstrator (NERD) project), in support of Ayrshire's economic ambitions and the Scottish Government targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions to **net zero** by 2045.
- Develop a framework (an "energy masterplan") for investment in energy infrastructure (power, heat and transport) that will underpin economic growth and resilience to provide a pathway to net zero by 2045 (recognising also the interim target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75% by 2030).

- **Productivity:** we will develop strategic capability to maximise investment in clean energy technology, and explore the opportunities related to space sector, digital innovation and life sciences to find new cross-sector applications and clean growth opportunities.

**Remit:**

- Identify, collate and interpret the quantitative and qualitative information required (including the business support that has been provided) to understand the impact of COVID-19 and future economic shocks on the sectors as well as identify the actions required to support the ongoing recovery and renewal within the sectors (including financial implications of measures proposed).
- Develop a dedicated portal to demonstrate the strategic approach, the energy masterplan and economic potential for clean growth in order to broker support and attract inward investment in clean technology and digital innovations across the sectors, energy infrastructure, and commercialisation of clean growth ideas.
- **Inclusiveness:** we will work with businesses and partners to promote economic opportunities arising from clean growth to support inward investment and opportunities for our SMEs and the indigenous business base.

**Remit:**

- Coordinate with the other workstreams and engage with local businesses, other relevant groups and the wider community to ensure a joined-up approach.
- Submit regular updates, including recommendations to the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership/Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee that will contribute to economic recovery.

Underpinning the above will be a mapping of relevant national, regional and local strategies, plans and activities to ensure the actions determined by the workstream are strategically aligned and any duplication of activity is avoided.

Moreover, in delivering to these objectives, our work will be guided by the following principles:

- Ensure the benefits of clean growth and zero carbon transition are evenly spread to the benefit of the Ayrshire community as a whole.
- Promote the use of relevant data and insights to inform the interventions required to support the sectors involved now and into the future.
- Identify and utilise good practice already underway, and monitor progress in respect of actions identified.
- Promote economic opportunities arising from clean growth to our SMEs and the indigenous business base.
- Widen out participation in the work to involve others as appropriate, for example, community or third sector groups.

## **Membership Composition/Expectations/Meetings/Accountability**

### ***Membership***

- The membership of the workstream will comprise a Chair and representatives from the relevant public sector organisations and companies within the private sectors across East, North and South Ayrshire.

- Membership will be reviewed as the work progresses and any requirement for additional members will be agreed by the workstream. Meetings may involve additional guests, dependent on agenda items.

### ***Expectations***

- Members are expected to attend meetings as required and participate and challenge constructively.
- It is essential that members are committed to, and are actively involved in, progressing the remit of the workstream.
- Members will do what they can to make timely decisions and taking action so as not to hold up projects.

### **Meetings**

- The workstream will be chaired by Professor Milan Radosavljevic. Meetings will be convened by the Chair and supported by SE.
- The Group will meet monthly, and the Chair may call additional meetings as necessary.
- The agenda, with attached meeting papers, will be distributed at least 5 working days prior to the next scheduled meeting.
- Full copies of the minutes, including attachments, will be provided to all workstream members no later than one week working days following each meeting.
- If a designated member is unable to attend, a representative with the relevant knowledge and expertise should attend in their place.
- Members may be contacted via the Chair in-between the formal meetings, if there are **urgent matters to discuss**.
- Meetings to be interactive and last no longer than two hours unless necessary.

### **Confidentiality**

- Workstream members are required to respect confidentiality of specific topics discussed and documentation shared at meetings, through the Knowledge Hub or other mechanism as requested by other members, or when marked as confidential.

### **Accountability**

- The workstream is accountable to the Ayrshire Regional Economic Partnership and Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee.

### **Communications**

- A Communications Plan has been developed and is available on the Clean Energy Group Space on the Knowledge Hub, and includes information on workstream meetings, reporting requirements and contact information.