

Green Jobs Taskforce

Terms of Reference

December 2020

1. Objectives of the taskforce

The Green Jobs Taskforce has been jointly set up by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Department for Education (DfE) to support the UK to transition to a net zero economy and deliver a green recovery, by developing recommendations for an action plan to support 2 million good quality, green jobs and the skills needed by 2030.

The purpose of the Taskforce is to:

- Improve analysis and understanding of the potential net zero skills needs in the near and long term.
- Identify the solutions to improving the quality of green jobs and ways to ensure a sustainable pipeline of talent.
- Increase diversity in the low carbon workforce across green sectors.
- Identify options to support a just transition for people working in high carbon industries and enable them to mobilise their skills in support of net zero.
- Develop a joint set of recommendations for government, business, education institutions and trade unions to capture the economic opportunities of the transition to net zero

Outputs:

- An improved evidence base, building on existing research and experience of members, complemented by a list of recommendations responding to these findings - from each working group;
- An actionable skills plan for government, industry and the skills sector to deliver green jobs, while supporting a green economic recovery and an effective transition to net zero by 2050;
- Success metrics to monitor delivery of these actions; and
- Showcasing UK action on green jobs and skills at COP26, through initiatives such as a Green Jobs of the Future event.

2. Structure of the taskforce

The first meeting of the taskforce will take place in early November 2020 which will agree the Terms of Reference and work plan for the taskforce.

Members would then lead individual workstreams on the four priority areas;

- Skills to address immediate challenges and support a green recovery
- Pipeline of future skills and talent for net zero

- Quality of green jobs and a diverse workforce
- Just transition & retraining for high carbon workers

The members would then report back initial findings and recommendations to the core taskforce in early 2021.

The taskforce would then collectively agree a green jobs and skills action plan, supporting Government's policy development on net zero and green economic recovery.

3. Chairs

The Taskforce will be chaired by DfE and BEIS Ministers, Gillian Keegan and Anne-Marie Trevelyan.

4. Membership

The Taskforce will include a diverse mix of expert members from business, trade unions, Further Education and Local Enterprise Partnerships.

Officials from Government departments other than BEIS and DfE will attend relevant working groups and Ministers from these wider departments will be invited to the final Taskforce meeting to hear the recommendations. Other relevant stakeholders will be invited by Government to take part in working group discussions.

Government officials will be in attendance to facilitate working group discussions and provide the secretariat function.

Taskforce members will be:

Sarah Beale, CEO, Construction Industry Training Board (CITB)

Russell Smith, Director, Retrofit Works

Nick Molho, CEO, Aldersgate Group

Professor Dave Reay, Chair in Carbon Management & Education, School of Geosciences, Edinburgh University

Rhian Kelly, UK Corporate Affairs Director, National Grid

Jane Cooper, Head of Stakeholder Relations & Regulatory Affairs for Ørsted, Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB)

Yvonne Kelly, Principal and CEO, East London Institute of Technology

Peter Stephens, Head of UK External & Government Affairs, Nissan

Tor Farquhar, Tata Steel

Simon Ashley, SVP People and Culture, BP

Paul Nowak, Deputy General Secretary, TUC

Alan Goundry, Head of the Energy Academy, Newcastle College Energy Academy

Andy George, Head of Talent Management, Barratt Developments

Sharon Lane, Managing Director Tees Components, Tees Valley LEP

Sue Ferns, Deputy General Secretary, Prospect

Angela Francis, Chief Advisor on Economics and Economic Development, World Wide Fund for Nature

Afsheen Rashid Kabir MBE, Co-founder and CEO, Repowering

5. Role of members

Taskforce members will:

- Actively contribute to the four Ministerial-led meetings of the core Taskforce in November 2020, February-March 2021, and April 2021, providing evidence-based advice in their respective area(s) of expertise.
- Set up and co-lead working groups to develop recommendations for government, industry, and the skills sector, on one of the four workstreams. Development of recommendations will involve engaging and working in partnership with relevant stakeholders through workshops or other chosen fora.
- Engage with Government to refine and finalise policy recommendations which, when completed in Spring 2021, will form a Green Jobs and Skills Action Plan for consideration by Government.

6. Ways of working

When discussing and agreeing solutions, the Taskforce should aim to work within the parameters of existing government policy and regulatory frameworks where possible.

The Secretariat will monitor the effectiveness of the group in meeting its intended objectives and will regularly review whether there is a need to make changes to the structure and purpose of the meetings.

Government officials will support with coordination, policy formation and analysis, working with Taskforce members and their organisations.

7. Reporting and escalation

DfE and BEIS will regularly provide progress updates of Taskforce activity to Ministers and other senior officials.

8. Record of meetings

The main points discussed, and actions agreed in each Taskforce meeting will be recorded, rather than a verbatim account.

9. Secretariat

Secretariat for the Taskforce will be jointly led by BEIS and DfE. The Secretariat will be responsible for arranging meetings, circulating papers and recording minutes of meetings. Agendas and papers will be circulated at least three working days in advance of meetings. Minutes will be circulated and agreed within two weeks of meetings.

The Secretariat will also be responsible for maintaining and tracking progress of the agreed workplan.

10. Frequency:

The main Taskforce will meet four times between November 2020 and April 2021. Regularity of meetings for the working groups will be decided by the members leading them as appropriate.

Meetings may be called outside the planned schedule, by exception, if required.

The Taskforce will seek to end its role by Spring 2021.