

Press release: Green collar jobs in offshore wind set to triple by 2030

- New Offshore Wind Sector deal will have ambitious target to achieve at least 33% women in the total offshore wind workforce by 2030
- sector to triple highly-skilled jobs to 27,000 by 2030 through a new skills package for offshore wind employees
- UK to become a global leader in renewables with more investment potential than any other country in the world as part of the modern Industrial Strategy

Ambitious plans to increase the proportion of women working in the offshore wind sector and triple the number of highly skilled jobs are set to be announced by Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry tomorrow.

Currently only 16% of the offshore wind workforce are women but under this new ambitious deal, the sector will aim to more than double the number of women entering the industry to at least 33% by 2030, with the ambition of reaching 40%. It will also aim to increase the number of green collar jobs in the industry to 27,000 jobs by 2030, up from 7,200 today.

This is the 10th sector deal signed by Business Secretary Greg Clark, and a major milestone for the modern [Industrial Strategy](#).

Already companies from Hull to the Isle of Wight are up-skilling young people, preparing them for good, high quality jobs in the sector, but the sector is pledging further action, including:

- an Offshore Energy Passport, recognised outside of the UK, will be developed for offshore wind workers to transfer their skills and expertise to other offshore renewable and oil and gas industries – allowing employees to work seamlessly across different offshore sectors
- further work with further education institutions to develop a sector-wide curriculum to deliver a skilled and diverse workforce across the country and facilitate skills transfer within the industry
- targets for increasing the number of apprentices in the sector later this year

Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry said:

The move to a cleaner, greener economy is outlined in our modern Industrial Strategy as one of the greatest economic opportunities of our time. Working with the offshore wind industry, I want to ensure that women and young people benefit from this sea-change.

This deal could support a tripling of jobs over the next few decades and it is exciting to see that the industry is encouraging my children's generation – the UK's workforce of the future – to

propel themselves into the industry, giving them the skills they need to thrive in the sector.

Up and down the country, the clean growth job opportunities are growing, from how to manufacture a wind turbine blade to project managing the design and manufacturing stages of the development of a windfarm. The Offshore Wind Sector Deal is expected to outline how the government and the industry will increase apprenticeship opportunities with a target to be set by Offshore Wind Week in November.

Amy, Group Lead at MHI Vestas Offshore Wind, which builds 80 metre blades for some of the world's largest wind turbines, said:

If you have a can-do attitude and want to be a part of an industry that is making a positive difference to the world, you'll be just the right person.

It is exciting to see that the offshore wind industry is pushing to increase diversity – ensuring that more women are joining the sector. There's nothing a woman can't do.

The government is working with industry to encourage more students into STEM education and training, at all stages from primary school to higher education, funding programmes to increase the uptake of maths, computing and physics. Recent research shows that almost two-thirds of 18-24 year olds would prefer a job in the green economy to one outside of it – equating to around 3.7 million young people in the UK.

Encouraging more diversity in the growing low carbon economy is all part of the government's commitment to creating a fairer workplace under the modern Industrial Strategy. Last year the government committed to scaling up women in the nuclear industry to 40% and the offshore wind industry is also rising to the challenge.

1. This sector deal is the tenth sector deal established under the modern [Industrial Strategy](#) with sector deals already established with the Life Sciences, Automotive, Construction and Nuclear sectors. Partnerships between the government and industry on sector-specific issues can create significant opportunities to boost productivity, employment, innovation and skills.

2. The Industrial Strategy [Clean Growth Grand Challenge](#) maximises the advantages for UK industry from the global shift to clean growth – by supporting UK businesses to lead the world in the development, manufacture and use of low carbon technologies, systems and services that cost less than high carbon alternatives.

3. The offshore wind industry has predicted 27,000 jobs by 2030.