

# Skills For A Low Carbon London

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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2007



- Project identifies potential skills and capacity gaps in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy in London
- Recommends ways to address skills and training shortfalls
- Commissioned on behalf of London Energy Partnership Skills Task Group
- Funded by London Development Agency
- Managed by Greater London Authority
- Research delivered by partnership led by SE2
- Involved participation of wide range of partners
- Produced *Skills for a Low Carbon London* report

- Building Regulations, Part L (2006)
- Microgeneration Strategy: Power from the People (2006)
- EU Energy Performance in Buildings Directive
- Housing Act 2004
- Mayor of London's Energy Strategy and the London Plan
- Thames Gateway London
- Olympic & Paralympic Games 2012
- Energy Action Areas

- Energy efficiency and renewable energy is not covered by a single Sector Skills Council (SSC) – represented in fourteen SSCs
- Project research focused on six key SSCs
- Sector skills agreements at different stages
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy are very rarely referred to in National Occupational Standards
- Extensive range of education and training for energy efficiency in London, less so for renewable energy

- Changes in Building Regulations seen as most important factor
- Very large companies have more ability to respond to key drivers in a strategic way – smaller companies' response is more ad hoc
- 50% of interviewed companies had staff recruitment problems
- 77% of companies regularly invest in training - larger organisations have a more formal training process than smaller employers
- Key barrier to training is time
- Cost can be a barrier to training

- 66% of interviewees had expanded range of courses in last five years
- 94% of interviewees saw market growth as the main opportunity to prompt them to expand their teaching/training provision further
- Majority of training providers are operating at full capacity
- Problems in recruiting staff is a barrier to expansion of training
- Funding not viewed as a major problem
- Placements believed to be highly beneficial for students
- Contacts with employers is seen as very important

- Need for a clear lead from the Mayor of London/GLA
- Organisations confused by various environment legislation and regulation - GLA could provide a framework of best practice guidance
- Needs to be a more generalist view of energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Need for clear career paths to attract young people to industry
- Need to include energy efficiency/renewable energy in qualifications
- Need for more streamlined information on training available in London
- Olympics 2012: a showcase opportunity and catalyst for change

## High Priorities

- Feed into the work of London's Skills and Employment Board
- Establish an Energy Trainers Forum for London
- Contribute to the development of training and qualifications for domestic energy assessors

## Medium Priorities

- Roll out and extend energy efficiency/renewable energy training for planners
- Actively contribute to the Mayor's new Climate Change and Energy Strategy
- Communicate with London's energy efficiency and renewable energy employers about regional strategies and initiatives

## **Medium Priorities**

- Actively encourage partners to contribute to consultations on the development of Building Regulations
- Establish close links with the London environmental business support network
- Encourage London employers to go beyond minimum standards
- Work to “mainstream” energy efficiency into every day working practices

## **Actions**

- LEP will meet with key Sector Skills Councils in April to discuss project findings and establishment of Energy Trainers Forum for London

- What are your experiences of any skills gaps in London or have you found quality skills and training easily?
- Is your organisation or industry prepared for any growth in sustainable energy skills requirements over the next five to ten years?
- What do you see the role of the London Energy Partnership (LEP) in meeting any expected growth?
- Following on from the recommendations from *Skills for a Low Carbon London*, how do you propose that your organisation can become involved in delivering report's recommendations?
- What do you see the role of other partners in meeting this demand?