



## YOUR NGN NEWS UPDATE

April 2022

### Redcar Proposed as Pioneering Hydrogen Community



We are delighted that Ofgem and BEIS have given us the go ahead to develop our plans to bring hydrogen for heating and cooking to some areas of Redcar, creating the UK's first hydrogen village.

The proposal involves switching the gas supply from natural gas to clean burning hydrogen for around 2,000 homes and businesses in parts of Redcar including the town centre, Warrenby, Coatham and an area of Kirkleatham from 2025, with a decision about whether the project will progress made in 2023.

The plans involve producing hydrogen in Teesside, meaning Redcar would be self-sufficient, generating its own hydrogen locally, from renewable sources.

To achieve the target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, the government and industry are exploring the option of repurposing the UK's gas network to transport 100% hydrogen. Today around 700 homes near Gateshead are already being heated by a blend of hydrogen and natural gas and some homes in Fife, Scotland will become the first to use 100% hydrogen. If ultimately approved, the project is expected to begin from 2025 and run for around two years.

Our Redcar based project team will now spending time with local businesses and residents over the coming months, to help develop our proposals and design our project in more detail.

[Find out more about our plans](#)

## Future is bright at Northern Gas Networks



We are continuing to invest in our future workforce and develop the next generation of energy sector talent through our 2022 apprentice programme.

NGN is expanding its apprenticeships programme, recruiting seven full time roles across our Business Admin Support functions including Communications, Operational Training, HR, Finance and Connections.

The two-year course will see apprentices graduate with a Business Administration Level 3 qualification and will join 27 Craftsperson and Operative apprentices, who all successfully passed their first-year milestone this month having joined NGN during the pandemic in 2021.

Speaking of her first year as a Network Maintenance (E&I) Apprentice, Freya Osment, 26, comments: "I've really enjoyed my first 12 months. I really appreciate working with such a great team and having so many years of knowledge passed on to me. I have surprised myself at how I have picked things up and retained so much information in such little time."

With NGN leading the sector in research and development of green energy technology, including hydrogen's use for domestic heating, apprenticeships offer a way to equip the next generation of our people with the skills to support a transition to a low-carbon energy future.

The apprentices of 2022 will play a crucial role in helping our workforce be ready for net zero.

## Get Involved!

**Join us at our Customers in Vulnerable Situations**

**Open Day on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 11:30-13:30.**

In our first CIVS open day, we're inviting stakeholders to join us at our offices to find out more about the innovation projects and work we've been progressing over the last year to support vulnerable customers. It is also a chance for our stakeholders to meet up with each other in person, and with the NGN team.

The day will include:

- Vulnerability Innovation showcase and workshop, where two of our Innovation partners will be available to discuss projects and opportunities - Egnida and Streetscore.
- Networking lunch 12:00 – 13:00.
- A showcase of a selection of our VCMA projects including Community Action Northumberland discussing slow cooking, Yorkshire Energy Doctor and Groundworks discussing energy efficiency advice and Hull Children's University will share their reading bus project.

- NGN stand showing the services we provide and resources – CO information/locking cooker valves/PSR/energy efficiency booklets.

In response to previous stakeholder feedback, we will also be making desk space available, and our partners are invited to work from our office, if they so desire, on the day.

**Register to attend**

## You said, we did!

Following our most recent workshops, we have been using your feedback in order to shape our future plans and direction for our people and planet strategy.

You can find out more about our conversations with stakeholders at our Tree Planting and our Supplier Code of Conduct Workshops on our [website](#).

### Get in touch...

If you have any feedback about this e-bulletin or any questions about our work, we'd love to hear from you.

Just email [stakeholder@northerngas.co.uk](mailto:stakeholder@northerngas.co.uk)

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