



Monthly Stakeholder E Bulletin

April 2024

Your Northern Gas Networks News Update



## Bradford hydrogen fuelling station has been approved

One of the biggest hydrogen refuelling stations in the country can be built in Bradford after plans for a gas site in the city were approved by Bradford Council this month.

The HyBradford facility at the Birkshall gas storage site on Bowling Back Lane is a partnership project between Hygen and N-GEN, and it is expected to be completed in 2025.

When up and running, businesses and other users in West Yorkshire will be able to use the refuelling facilities on site, with distribution experts Ryze delivering hydrogen to industrial users across the region.

The hydrogen will be produced through a process known as electrolysis, using renewable electricity to split water into hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen has been identified as a greener way of fuelling larger vehicles such as HGVs, buses and coaches.

Approving the scheme to build the new fuelling station at the site this week, planning officers at Bradford Council said: “The benefits of the hydrogen production facility in terms of carbon emissions and contributing to a low carbon economy is supported.”

After the plans were approved, Gareth Mills, Managing Director at N-Gen, said: “We are extremely proud to be bringing a flagship hydrogen production facility and significant investment to Bradford.

“The site was once home to gas holders, which stored natural gas used by the residents and businesses in Bradford, so it is fitting that the site will continue its heritage and now be used for the production and storage of hydrogen, a cleaner fuel.

Find out more by clicking the image above, or visiting <https://www.n-genenergy.com/bradford-council-announces-clean-air-zone/>



## Introducing Northern Gas Networks' degree apprenticeships where learning and earning go hand in hand

During the vital time of transitioning to net zero, Northern Gas Networks (NGN) is developing a new wave of talent in the energy sector.

NGN currently employs over 80 apprentices across the North East, Yorkshire and northern

Cumbria, and aim to increase this 25% by 2026.

The NGN apprenticeship programme was first launched in 2005 and has expanded rapidly over the years, offering academic training and on-the-job learning for operational and office roles. These include opportunities in engineering, business administration, HR, communications, operational training, gas connections and finance.

NGN has recently launched a new avenue of degree apprenticeships where employees can benefit from a paid for degree whilst gaining valuable industry experience and earn a salary. Four individuals are currently benefiting from this scheme and the network are looking to up their intake in the future.

Chris Adair, Training and Apprenticeship Manager at NGN, said; “Helping people to understand the industry and the varied career options it presents for the future workforce is vital to reaching the UK’s climate targets.

“NGN is committed to offering a sustainable path to a long term, rewarding career in the energy sector. We actively pursue initiatives that improve access to opportunities and fair employment and seek to recruit apprentices from a variety of backgrounds, especially socially deprived areas where younger people may not always have the knowledge, support, or access to different career paths.”

Russel Kaye, Operations Manager at Northern Gas Networks who is currently completing a degree apprenticeship, said; “I decided to take the degree apprenticeship route to become a rounded manager. Apprenticeships are a great way to gain the skills that businesses truly value.”

Mark Horsley, NGN’s CEO, is excited for the future. He said: “As an anchor institution embedded in the region that we serve, we have a responsibility to make a positive difference to the lives of people living and working in the North of England.”

## Northern Gas Networks Partners with the Breaking Down Barriers Commission to Foster Inclusive Opportunities

NGN has partnered with the Breaking Down Barriers Commission, an initiative steered by The Purpose Coalition in an inspiring move towards fostering societal equality and inclusivity.

This collaboration marks a significant commitment from NGN to leverage its industry leadership and resources in breaking down systemic barriers, ensuring equal opportunities for all.

The Breaking Down Barriers Commission, under the leadership of Nick Forbes CBE, is dedicated to transforming the role of businesses and organisations into catalysts for societal change. By joining forces with the Commission, NGN embarks on an innovative journey to enhance accessibility and create equal opportunities within the communities it



serves. Mark Horsley, NGN's CEO, said; "We are proud to align with the Breaking Down Barriers Commission. This partnership highlights our dedication to making a tangible difference in the lives of the people we serve."

NGN aims to implement innovative strategies that remove obstacles, enabling individuals from all walks of life to achieve their full potential, and this strategic alliance arrives at a crucial time, with a General Election looming on Britain's horizon.

To learn more, visit: <https://www.fit-for-purpose.org/recent-stories/northern-gas-networks-partners-with-the-breaking-down-barriers-commission-to-foster-inclusive-opportunities>

## Get Involved

### Young Innovators Council Video



Check out our latest video featuring the brilliant minds of our Young Innovators Council (YIC). Watch as they share their innovative ideas and explain why it is important to inspire change for a brighter future.

Our YIC play a huge role in helping NGN to improve and make decisions that will deliver long term benefits to our customers.

**You can watch our new Young Innovators Council s video by clicking the image to the right.**

### Customer Panel Video



Our new Citizens Panel video is also live, featuring diverse perspectives with passion for change.

Customer don't have a choice when it comes to who distributes their gas, but they do have a say in how we shape our business.

We are currently planning for the next 5-year period of our business, and our customer panel will play an integral part in helping us to develop a business plan that not only satisfies the regulator, but also reflects everything that we have heard during our meaningful engagement.

**You can watch our new Citizens Panel video by clicking the image to the right.**

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