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23 July 2025

Dear Edward,

OIL AND GAS TRANSITION TRAINING FUND LAUNCH

I am writing to update you on the new Oil and Gas Transition Training Fund (TTF) which launched this morning.

Background

The UK Government's Office for Clean Energy Jobs (OCEJ) are making [regional skills pilot funding](#) available to four different areas in the UK which they have identified as key growth regions for sustainable energy; Aberdeen/Aberdeenshire, Cheshire, Lincolnshire and Pembrokeshire. For Aberdeen/Aberdeenshire, OCEJ has made the funding available to the Scottish Government.

The amount available from OCEJ is up to £900,000 for the financial year 2025-26. Working with OCEJ and delivery partners Skills Development Scotland (SDS), the Scottish Government have developed the Oil and Gas Transition Training Fund (TTF) to deploy this funding.

SDS are contributing resources to the delivery of the fund and SG are contributing towards the administrative costs of the fund.

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The Oil and Gas Transition Training Fund

The Oil and Gas TTF will support eligible offshore oil and gas workers and those working for the associated supply chain with funded training to build the skills required for Scotland's evolving sustainable energy sectors. Tailored advice will also be provided to ensure applicants consider their options based on their current skill set, experience, aspirations and the energy jobs market.

Applications for the Oil and Gas TTF are open to individuals who either live or work in Aberdeen City or Aberdeenshire, and are currently working in the oil and gas industry or have worked in the industry in the last two years.

Rationale

The Scottish Government believes that a successful energy transition requires the skills and expertise of Scotland's highly valued oil and gas workers. A Robert Gordon University report showed that up to 90% of the UK's oil and gas workforce have medium to high skills transferability and are well positioned to work in adjacent energy sectors, although in many cases an element of upskilling will be required.

Working in conjunction with OCEJ and SDS, we are aiming to support a just transition for workers by supporting them to upskill their existing expertise. This will allow workers to work flexibly across sectors as our energy mix becomes more diverse.

The Oil and Gas TTF adds to and compliments the wider toolkit of support available for oil and gas workers in Scotland, for example, the initial version of the Energy Skills Passport which was launched in January this year.

Officials have consulted with trade unions, Offshore Energies UK and the relevant local authorities on this fund with their input and feedback incorporated as part of its development.

Evaluation and Monitoring

As well as supporting oil and gas workers, the pilot will provide essential insights into the training and reskilling needs of the oil and gas workforce of the North East, as well as the current energy job market. This learning will be captured and used to inform any potential future schemes in this policy area. Once the monitoring and evaluation has been completed we will be happy to share it with the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

GILLIAN MARTIN

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