

CONNECTING THE REGIONS THROUGH CLEAN GROWTH

Clustering and the grand challenges

14th March 2019

One Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London

Understanding the National Context

In HM Government’s Industrial Strategy published last year the four Grand Challenges encouraged industry and government to come together to shape the UK’s future of infrastructure. Within the Clean Growth Grand Challenge, the Government reaffirmed its commitment to ‘move to cleaner economic growth’ through encompassing all non or low-carbon technologies. From nuclear, to off-shore, solar and more, national and international energy strategies are now fundamentally built around clean growth and building a more sustainable economy.

The Government is looking to maximise advantages for the UK as we shift towards clean growth initiatives through investing in developing, technologies, skills, innovation, and R&D. Established sectors such as nuclear decommissioning, waste management and transportation are experiencing investment and advancements on both a local and national level.

Most significantly however, new industry areas are being created to reflect the growing market, including the development

of the largest wind-farm in Europe, district heat networks and solar power innovations. The advancement of new technologies disrupting traditional working models means there are opportunities previously unattainable in existing industries.

Industry, local government, academia, and the wider public sector are coming together in regional clusters that build on the direction given from HM Government’s strategies. This is a once in a generation opportunity to benefit from a clean growth renewal, but it requires serious, conscious, and corporative work.

Our senior-level roundtable is aimed at demonstrating Cumbria’s potential in fulfilling these opportunities. The region is at the heart of the clean growth agenda and has the regional building blocks that can help this happen. Drawing from Government strategy and emphasising the importance of ‘place’ within the national context, our aim is to bring a regional proposition to government. It will have the thought and strategy but also the action plan of how this can happen.



Roundtable Chair

Tim Banfield, Former Director at the Major Projects Authority for the Cabinet Office, and DragonGate Associate. Tim has over 30 years of experience working in government and industry, including senior positions within Sellafield limited, the Cabinet Office, and the National Audit Office.

The Roundtable

Held under Chatham House Rule between 11:00am and 14:00pm in the heart of Westminster, this timely event will examine what next for the UK’s centre of Clean Growth. Hosted by BEC and with support of the Cumbria LEP, this event will provide the opportunity to:

- Get informed about Cumbria’s progress in its aim to tackle the government’s Grand Challenge around Clean Growth.
- Debate the background to, and recent developments in, the UK’s Clean Growth agenda.
- Address how to take practical steps towards enhancing skills through collaboration between industry, government and universities for wider mutual benefit.

Agenda

11:00	Registration and Refreshments
11:30	Opening Remarks
11:35	Case studies and Roundtable discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workforce transformation• Place and Infrastructure• Smart Supply Chain
12:55	Closing Remarks
13:00	Networking Lunch

Regional Building Blocks

Workforce: There are more than 65,000 jobs reliant on the nuclear sector, and more than 20,000 reliant in off-shore wind. There is an opportunity to harness this internationally envied portfolio of jobs and skills; skills that are transferable and expertise that can be exported. The session will discuss how best to capitalise on this valuable asset and bridge any skills gaps from within the talent pool. It will also look at what is required to make sure any potential is maximised in future markets.

Place and Infrastructure: One of the main goals of HM Government’s strategies is to promote a more even spread of resources across the regions. But Cumbria need to be ready for this. It is integral to have sufficient infrastructure – physical and digital – in place and ready. As Sellafield and other major industry players seek operational change, the agenda shifts too, and Cumbria needs to have a seamless digital operation in place. From fostering entrepreneurs, to modern working, to growing business, the appropriate infrastructure is essential.

Supply chain: 10,000s of jobs are dependent on a healthy and robust supply chain, often led by international organisations contributing heavily to the economy. But supply chains are changing and expanding, major industry also needs invest and encourage SME involvement more – how can they do this and what impact would it have?

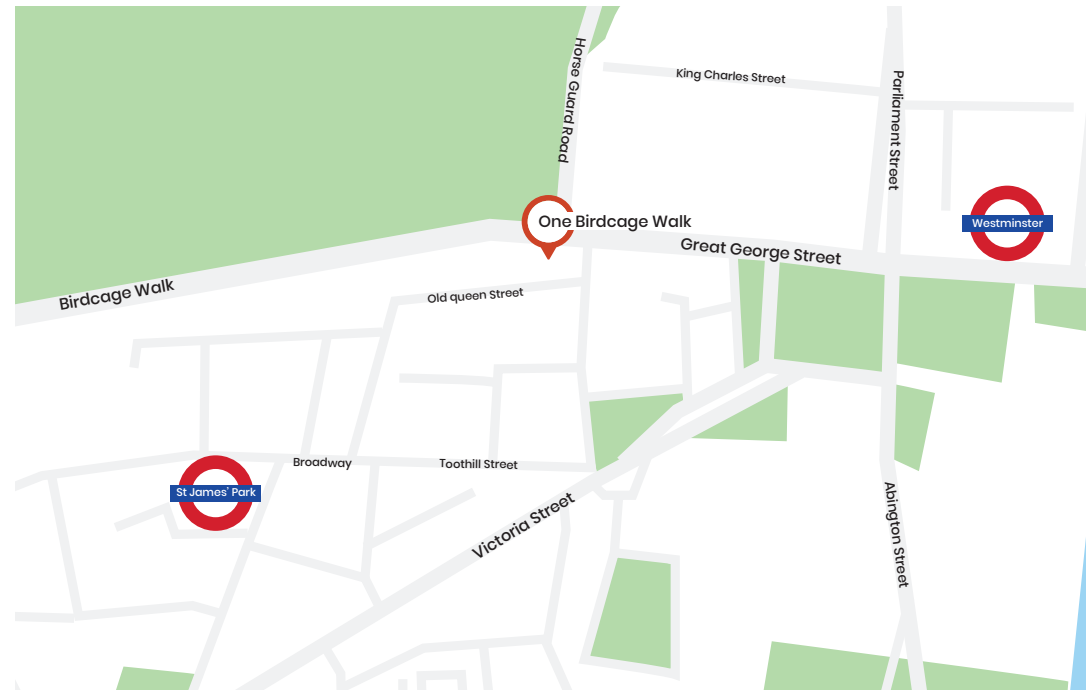
Location:

One Birdcage Walk

Westminster

SW1H 9JJ

One Birdcage Walk is an iconic building, home of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Two minutes walk from Westminster and St James Tube Stations, and a 15 minute walk from London Victoria and Waterloo, this fitting venue will host local authority, central government and clean energy experts.



DragonGate Market Intelligence are always keen to discuss our programme of projects and events. To find out more how you or your organisation can get involved, please contact:



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