

Hinkley Point C Supply Chain Update



Delivery Partners for the Hinkley Supply Chain Team

February 2022

Dear



Welcome to the February e-newsletter from the Hinkley Supply Chain – the first for 2022 and the first from me, Emma Rawlings.

I joined Somerset Chamber of Commerce as Executive Director in December. The chamber oversees the Hinkley Supply Chain and I will be available to support you as part of the team going forward.

My role is both strategic and visionary, ensuring the Chamber is positioned and equipped to be at the forefront of business support across Somerset.

Previously, I worked as the CEO for a charity based in Swindon and was a director of a spiritual retreat near Bath. I also have extensive retail experience, including managing and opening new stores for a major supermarket chain and has worked in the education sector, too.

I am looking forward to meeting our many local and regional businesses, helping to create a vibrant economy across Somerset and the wider area and continuing the Chamber's successful partnership with EDF to ensure local and regional companies benefit from the legacy of Hinkley Point C.

In this edition of the newsletter, we have a case study from Somerset company The Design Hive in which they outline how they have helped one of the major contractors at HPC and a key group of business service professionals.

We also have news of a high-level Government visit to site, with Ministers able to see progress for themselves.

And finally, could I please ask you to update your registration if you have not logged-in for a while. Do you still have the correct contacts? Has your company gained capabilities or accreditations this year? All of this could be the difference between being considered or dismissed as a supplier.

**Emma Rawlings, Executive Director
Somerset Chamber of Commerce**

Project Update

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Kwasi Kwarteng MP, visited Somerset and toured HPC with the Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Helen Whately MP, to see for himself the huge progress being made at site.



They were joined by the Chairman and Chief Executive of EDF, Jean-Bernard Levy as they were shown around by the team building the UK's first new nuclear power station in a generation.

The visit follows Government commitments to new nuclear in its Energy White Paper and passage through the House of Commons of the Nuclear Financing Bill, which will help lower the costs of building new nuclear such as Sizewell C.

The Government has committed to putting nuclear at the heart of the UK's future energy mix, along with wind and solar. Hinkley Point C will be crucial in helping the country hit net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 – by moving the UK away from high-polluting fossil fuels.

The Ministers were shown how construction has maintained momentum, despite the challenges caused by the pandemic. Experience gained from building the first reactor unit has allowed teams to deliver the second more efficiently, such as the liner ring being built 25% quicker than the same part for unit 1.

Apprentices also met the Ministers and shared their experiences of gaining industry experience at Hinkley Point C. More than 850 have been trained so far, strengthening the UK's skilled workforce. The project is expected to reach its goal of creating 1,000 apprenticeships later this year.

Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng (pictured above and below) said: "The UK Government recognises that large-scale nuclear is the only technology available to provide continuous, low carbon electricity at scale. In order to strengthen Britain's energy security and reduce our exposure to volatile global gas prices, we are firmly committed to deploying new nuclear, as seen through the construction of Hinkley Point C.

"To build on Hinkley Point C's success, we're backing the next generation of projects through our landmark Nuclear Bill. With a new funding model on the statute books, we will be able to attract British funds and other institutional investors to lower the cost of



financing new nuclear power and, importantly, help to lower electricity bills for consumers and businesses.

“It has been remarkable to see how construction work is progressing and to meet with some of the workers driving forward one of Britain’s biggest infrastructure projects. New nuclear is not only at the heart of our plans to ensure greater energy independence, but to create high-quality jobs, boost apprenticeships and drive economic growth.”

Managing Director of Hinkley Point C Stuart Crooks said: “Hinkley Point C will be crucial in the fight against climate change, protecting the UK’s energy security and insulating British homes and businesses from volatile global gas prices. We are also changing lives for the better, training apprentices, creating jobs, and pumping billions into the economy.”

Chief Executive of EDF UK Simone Rossi said: “The building of a near-identical power station in Suffolk, Sizewell C, means the UK can continue this powerful legacy. Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C will be twin projects, but the ownership will be different: EDF is a majority investor in Hinkley Point C, but Sizewell C will be majority owned by British investors. Legislation to finance the project making progress through the House of Commons this week was an important step in securing the future of the UK nuclear industry and the country’s low carbon energy supplies.”

Main image: Nigel Cann (Delivery Director, Hinkley Point C) with Helen Whately MP, Kwasi Kwarteng MP and Jean-Bernard Lévy (Chairman and CEO of EDF).

Supplier Case Studies

Helping HPC suppliers stay on brand and digitally responsive



A multitude of local and regional companies are supporting those who are helping with the physical build and service elements of the Hinkley Point C project.

Highbridge-based The Design Hive (South West Ltd) is just one of them, supporting contractors and making sure they are able to deliver the best possible service by working on their branding and designing websites to ensure they are both customer-focused and user-friendly.

The Design Hive was founded in 2009 by Creative Director Melanie Downing and offers clients a complete creative package, from graphic design and branding to signage and Wordpress websites. Design Hive get you in front of your audience to help you be seen by anyone, anywhere, anytime.

They work with small to medium-sized businesses in the South West across all industry sectors, to help elevate their brand to the next level.

The studio is based within the signage company, Quicksign, and is made-up of handpicked creatives and web developers to provide clients with a full range of in-house design services.

To read more click [here](#).

HPC Community Fund



Did you know that Hinkley Point C supports local businesses and projects with its funding scheme managed by Somerset Community Foundation?

The HPC Community Fund Small Grants programme has funding available and applications for grants can be made at any time.

Charities, voluntary groups and social enterprises that normally operate on less than £100,000 a year can apply for grants of up to £5,000, though grants of up to £10,000 (over a period of three years) may also be offered in exceptional circumstances.

The funding is available to projects or initiatives that help mitigate impacts felt in the community as a result of Hinkley Point C's construction. Generally, decisions are made every six to eight weeks

More information can be found at hpcfunds.co.uk and if you have any questions, you can contact Peter Stolze on 01749 344949 or by emailing peter.stolze@somersetcf.org.uk.



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