

Meeting Date: 03/03/2021

Paper No: 1

Author: D Evans

Oil and Gas CPG - Meeting Minutes

12:00-1300

Attendees

Name
Beatrice Wishart MSP (Co-Convenor and Chair of meeting)
Maureen Watt MSP (Co-Convenor)
David Evans, External Affairs Adviser, OGUK – Secretariat
Jenny Stanning, External Relations Director, OGUK
Ann Johnson, Blaze
Dinker Bhardwaj, Scottish Government (Directorate for International Trade and Investment)
Reuben Aitken, Directorate for International Trade and Investment, Scottish Government
David Rennie, SDI (Energy)
Izzy Gaughan, Weber Shandwick
Karri Tough, BP
Andrew McCallum, Aspect Reputation Management

Apologies

Name
Alexander Burnett MSP
Lewis Macdonald MSP
Liam McArthur MSP
Maurice Golden MSP
Gwen Folland, Petrofac

Meeting Details

Item	Detail
01	Welcome – Beatrice Wishart MSP
02	Approval of previous minutes The minute of the meeting held 16.12.2020 was approved.
03	Overview of the Scottish Government Trade Vision (Reuben Aitken, Directorate for International Trade and Investment, Scottish Government) RA gave an overview of the Scottish Governments Trade Principles and vision going forward – championing Scottish Trade interests shouldn't be at the cost of our values – such as inclusive growth and the net zero economy (aligning trade and climate policies). Committed to end all trade support for trade based solely on fossil fuels by COP26, currently consulting industry and will look to align with UK policy.
04	Current support and future opportunities for oil and gas businesses (David Rennie, SDI) DR explained that SDI work with around 300 companies in the energy space providing assistance to find and win business overseas (inc. missions abroad and market research, building networks etc). 5 posts in the organisation in key energy markets (with ONE funding).

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DR advised that the face of Scottish Trade was changing – though there is still a heavy oil and gas focus. One such change – SDI will not be going to OTC in Huston as this is an oil and gas show.

Diversification and demonstrating the will to do so is important for their work going forward.

It is likely that decommissioning will likely still be supportable as well as health and safety, education and training. Also envisage that they may continue to support many of the companies they do, but perhaps in a different way.

05	<p>How will the oil and gas industry respond to the shift in policy (Panel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ann Johnson, Finance Director, Blaze Manufacturing Solutions Ltd Noted the importance of safe transition and the role of companies like hers in it. Praised SDI for support. Noted the lack of the work damaging businesses - that this change in policy is not something that business can respond to quickly and that changing to reflect policy would take time that many could not afford.• Jenny Stanning, External Relations Director, OGUK Noted considerable concern with rapid change in policy. Noted changes must reflect the spectrum of energy use and range of carbon intensity. Restricting what can be supported too much now could damage the energy transition. Also noted “tainted” perception of oil and gas involved industry. Regarding decommissioning, we need to maintain assets, not close off assets if we’re to realise that opportunity.
06	<p>AOB</p> <p>As Maureen Watt MSP and Lewis Macdonald MSP will not be seeking re-election in the Scottish General Election in May, Jenny Stanning thanked both for their service on the CPG and for supporting the industry during their time in the Scottish Parliament.</p>

All CPGs will cease to exist at midnight on 24 March 2021, the minutes of this meeting have been approved by correspondence. This CPG will seek to re-register after the 2021 Scottish General Election.