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Collective action in partnership is key to accelerating green recovery.

Rachael Greenwood,
Midlands Engine



Midlands Engine

is home to more people than Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales combined.

The Midlands is at the heart of the UK transport network -



passes through our region and the environmental impact of our logistical strength needs accelerated mitigation at scale.

It has become clear that the need for digital skills are spreading across virtually every area.

Julian David,
D2N2 Local Partnership



Energy Generation and Storage



To serve the UK's power needs, accelerated and scaled up investment is needed in a broad range of energy technologies. A recognised centre of excellence for energy research and innovation, and with cross sector partnerships in place, the Midlands is ideally positioned to build rapidly on early successes and drive change at pace. Proactive planning for and active growth across diverse renewable energy technologies is essential if we are to succeed and achieve greatest impact.

Heat decarbonisation is one of the most serious challenges facing the UK. Ambitious policy levers, collective investment at scale and a shared delivery plan is vital if we are to enable the retrofit of housing stock in our region. Immediate action is also needed to ensure every new home in every part of our region is built efficiently and with low carbon heating. We must be ambitious. Incremental and steady change here over time will not suffice.

Transport Innovation



Multiple alternative fuel sources need to be developed in tandem in order to reduce CO₂ emissions as quickly and cost effectively as possible, for as many consumers as possible. Inter and intra-regional transport links need to be improved with sustainable connectivity in focus, which in turn will increase access to jobs, encourage use of public transport and move freight from road to rail, measurably reducing emissions: an estimated 76% reduction in CO₂ emissions is achieved with the shift of freight from road to rail.

A transport green recovery means more than a move to zero emission vehicles. Easy and affordable inter-regional journey planning, integration of transport systems and green modes of travel all have an important role to play - including walking, cycling and e-scooters.

Digital Connectivity to Power Growth



The shifts in ways of working forced by the Covid-19 pandemic have powerfully highlighted the environmental gain from enhanced digital connectivity and underlined the need for targeted, accelerated investment. World class digital connectivity and meaningful investment to expedite innovation across associated technologies will underpin green recovery in the Midlands Engine.

Investment must now follow, targeted on both accelerating infrastructure roll-out, and support for businesses and communities as they maximise potential for innovation-led growth, increased competitiveness and enhanced quality of life opportunities - which connectivity brings.

Skills for Business



Successful green recovery means a step change in the capacity and skills of the low-carbon workforce. One third of all jobs in the UK. Energy sector are here in the Midlands Engine today, and our region has long been responsible for meeting a significant proportion of the power generation needs of the whole of the UK. Transition to clean energy means a wholesale reorientation and reskilling of tens of thousands of employees, in order to meet the needs of our businesses.

World leading capabilities in offshore wind technologies, internationally recognised research centres, extensive academic resources to support skills transition and exemplary, innovative business leadership are just a few of the strengths found across Midlands Engine, and which underline our confidence for the challenge ahead.

Investment in supply chain resilience and certainty of long term pipeline opportunities must be committed now to ensure businesses and academic institutions working in partnership, have the confidence and capacity to lead and invest today, for the skills of tomorrow.