**2021/22 – Q1**

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| **Overall RAG status:** | **Amber** |

**Keele Smart Energy Network Distributor (SEND)**

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| **Headlines:** * **Capital Build -** Siemens have completed the original contract works, with the previously reported exception of residential smart meters. The smart meters were installed in June and final configuration of the communications between meters and SEND systems is ongoing. Deployment of the enhanced OM Platform system commenced in June and is scheduled for completion in July. Renewable energy construction is progressing well.
* **3 Year Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) Projects –** Close monitoring of existing projects is continuing with an emphasis placed on understanding the impact of COVID-19 on businesses and what the University and partners can do to provide support as and where necessary. In the majority of cases project extensions have been granted to enable the research to be completed. All projects will complete by 31st Dec. 2021.
* **3 Month RD&I Projects -** Eight 3-month projects have now completed, a further 9 projects are active and being delivered by Keele researchers, 2 new projects are in the process of being contracted with Staffordshire SME’s.
* **Supply Chain Development (SCD)** – The SCD component of the programme has now engaged with the full 217 local businesses planned at the outset. Dialogue is now ongoing with respect to how the SCD initiative can be built upon.
* **Media and Publicity** –Further publicity and promotion of the renewables has taken place and new billboards for the project are currently being developed and will be installed in a prominent location on site. Thrive marketing have also been engaged to target Staffordshire SME's in AI and Smart Energy Sector through Linkedin in profiling. A tender opportunity has been raised to seek support from Marketing Agencies qualified to support lead generation for the 3-month projects.
* **MSC Smart Energy Management** - Keele University has launched a new M.Sc. programme on Smart Energy management, a truly interdisciplinary course that combines cutting-edge data science and energy system technologies with knowledge of sustainability and strategy management.
* **RAG Status Commentary** **–** Whilst the capital elements have progressed well and the revenue elements are in train the project has been RAG assessed as amber due to the risk of achieving the job creation target as a direct result of the global pandemic.
* **SEND Extension –** The SEND Programme has been extended by MHCLG to 30th September 2023. The extension adds to the delivery of 3 month research and development projects to support a further 21 Staffordshire SME’s.
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| **Progress/delivery update:*** **Keele University and Siemens have been shortlisted at “The Energy Awards 2021”** in the category of “Energy Efficient Partnership of the year”. The shortlisting again supports Keele’s commitment to embedding sustainability across all of its campus operations, including in its research, education, operations and community engagement. It also demonstrates the strength of the partnership between Keele and Siemens developed in the delivery on the Smart Energy Network Demonstrator.
* **The renewables construction, with 2 wind turbines and 12,000 solar panels** being installed on the Keele University campus is progressing to plan. Some delays in importing of materials and equipment have to date been mitigated and the project remains on target to start generation (PV) in August 2021. Integration of the renewable energy generation assets with the Smart Energy Network Demonstrator is scheduled for Q4 2021. Renewable generation is scheduled to commence from August 2021 with anticipated **carbon savings to be realised towards Q4 2021**.
* Demand for short sharp business assists to provide advice and roadmaps to a zero-carbon future still remains high. This has come from all sectors micro to large businesses. The University has applied to the Community Renewal Fund as an option to deliver this alongside supply chain partners.
* The level of interest in 3 month research projects has also increased and currently there are 17 active or completed projects with 2 further projects in the process of contracting.
* The negative implications of Covid-19, remains a challenge on business growth. The effect of this on the Programme on job creation is to be further understood.
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| **Overall RAG status:** | **Green** |

**Stoke-on-Trent District Heat Network**

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| **Headlines:*** Second phase of the network around the University Quarter is now completed. Interconnector between Priority Works and College Road Works of the network with temporary heat solution to be constructed. Further defects have been identified and a programme to remedy those is being established.
* Ongoing commercial activity in progress with key customers of buildings with a heat and power offer around University Quarter. Micro CHP agreed for Civic Centre, Fenton Manor and Dimensions.
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| **Progress/delivery update:*** **Priority Works defect repairs** on Ashford Street and Squire Views pipework complete.
* **Contractor to bring gas supply on Squire View** commissioned. Meter now installed awaiting testing and commissioning dates
* **Water service pipes in place on Squires View**, waiting for Severn Trent Water to connect to the main in the coming weeks.
* **Ongoing circulation of College Road Works**. Contractor in place to carry out the connection with Priority Works once the latter completed.
* **Micro Combined Heat & Power (CHP) engine installations on programme**. Pause for redesign of Fenton Manor CHP due to heat pump installations. Installation at Fenton Manor now remobilized due for completion in September.
* University colleagues supplied information for the design of a CHP supply option and sizing of CHP engine option for Staffordshire University now complete.
* **Defect correction of Surveillance system** on Priority Works now complete.

**Planned activity for next quarter:*** Gas connection at Squires View – September 2021.
* Mains water connection at Squires View – August 2021
* Connection of Priority Works and College Road Works – September 2021.
* Micro-CHP’s DNO witness testing – July 2021.

By 31,12/21, main spine around University quarter should be completed; 1st customers signed up; 1st building connection works scheduled; interim heat provision scheduled (CHP) on Acquires View; CHP at Civic Centre, Fenton Manor, operational. |