**2021/22 - Q2 October 2021**

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

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

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| **Headlines:** * **Capital Build -** Siemens work to complete the residential smart meters is still ongoing having been frustrated by a number of technical and supply chain issues. A completion programme has been agreed with sub-contractors which targets completion by the end of October. SAT testing on the Smart Meter app is scheduled for early October and this will enable final configuration of the communications between meters and SEND systems. The enhanced OM Platform system has been deployed, site tested and demonstrated. Siemens have cleared a number of “snagging" items and continue to support the early operational phase of the system. Renewable energy construction is progressing well with generation from the PV array being achieved early in September and construction of the wind turbines is in progress.
* **3 Year Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) Projects –** In the majority of cases project extensions have been granted to enable the research to be completed following delays caused by Covid19. All industry project reports are being prepared and are planned to be complete by 31st Dec. 2021.
* **3 Month RD&I Projects –** Thirteen, 3-month projects have now completed, a further 6 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 completed all the contracted 217 assists to Staffordshire SME’s.
* **Media and Publicity** – A promotional leaflet has been prepared. A telemarketing campaign to support lead generation will launch in Q4 to support the programme extension.
* **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 has been recognised as the top university in the world for sustainability at a prestigious awards ceremony celebrating sustainability in higher education.Building on its success at the UK and Ireland Green Gown Awards earlier this year, where Keele took home the [**coveted title of Sustainability Institution of the Year**](https://www.keele.ac.uk/discover/news/2021/march/green-gowns/sustainability-institution-award.php), the University has now been recognised internationally by winning Global Sustainability Institution of the Year at this year’s International Green Gown Awards too. The SEND project was a contributing factor in securing the award.
* The renewables construction, with 2 wind turbines and 12,000 solar panels being installed on the Keele University campus is progressing well. Generation from the PV array was achieved early in September 2021. Wind turbine construction is in progress and the project remains on target to achieve full generation late October/early November. Integration of the renewable energy generation assets with the Smart Energy Network Demonstrator will follow completion of the installation of the assets. **Renewable generation has commenced and the full anticipated carbon savings will be realised in 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 level of interest in 3-month research projects has also increased and currently there are 19 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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**Stoke-on-Trent District Heat Network**

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| **Overall RAG status:** | **Green** |
| **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.
* **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** are now complete
* **Gas connection** at Squires View complete
* **Mains water connection** at Squires View complete

**Planned activity for next quarter:*** Connection of Priority Works and College Road Works – December 2021.
* Stoke Town Advanced Feasibility Design Works in progress – January 2022

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 Scquires View; CHP at Civic Centre, Fenton Manor, operational. |