



Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

ADEPT President's Awards 2022

Entry form

Award category:	Delivering Clean Growth
Title:	Investing in Hydrogen – Decarbonisation of Fleet
Entrant:	St Helens Council
Main contact name:	Jonathan Edwards
Email address:	jonathanedwards@sthelens.gov.uk
Partner/s (if applicable):	
Headline summary (<u>150 characters</u>, c. 20-25 words) Deploying Hydrogen vehicle technology to decarbonise operational fleet whilst stimulating the local economy and creating green jobs for the future	

Please note we need **at least one supporting image** per award submission.
Supporting images should be attached separately as jpg or png files.

Please paste links to any supporting video evidence here

Link 1	FAUN BLUEPOWER - Alternative drive for refuse collection vehicles - YouTube
Link 2	



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500-word project outline (please ensure you do not exceed the word count and address all the judges' criteria – for more info see [here](#))

St Helens Council has recently purchased the UK's first custom built Hydrogen waste collection vehicle. Due for delivery in September 2022 it symbolises the Council's commitment to achieve net zero by 2040 and is part of a wider plan to decarbonise more than 100 vehicles over the next 12 months.

This project is however much more than just the purchase of a refuse vehicle. The vehicle is the catalyst to accelerate the deployment of Hydrogen technology across the region and to put St Helens in pole position to capitalise on new training / development opportunities and green jobs that will inevitably be needed as the UK transitions to alternative fuels.

The project represents a long term partnership between the Local Authority and Faun Zoeller UK. The partnership includes significant added value:

- Certified training to upskill council employed mechanics in hydrogen and electric vehicle technology.
- Work in partnership to engage with local businesses and St Helens Chamber to provide training and development of mechanics or organisations looking to enter the hydrogen vehicle space.
- Commitment to engage with local colleges and schools to offer training academy / apprenticeships / educational modules relating to alternatively fuelled vehicles.
- Work together to develop hydrogen supply chains so that the technology can be deployed and rolled out on a larger scale

St Helens college are also actively engaged with the Partnership. They are exploring formal training courses that could be made available to current and future students and will consider the development of a centre of excellence if further vehicles can be secured.

The project also demonstrates joined up working across the Public sector. Running concurrently to this project the Liverpool City Region is in the process of rolling out 25 Hydrogen buses. Working together, infrastructure to fuel the vehicles will be shared. This helps to reduce costs, generate economies of scale, and provide certainty to the Hydrogen fuelling industry that is currently still in its infancy.

The capital investment cost of a Hydrogen vehicle is currently 3-4 times the cost of a standard refuse vehicle. Traditionally, this would deter Local Authorities from making such an investment. However, the commitment to transition to Hydrogen has multiple



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wider benefits that over the next 5-10 years will generate the Local Authority and the wider Borough a significant return These include:

- Community leadership and to build trust/confidence in alternatively fuelled vehicles
- Protecting the Local Authority from spiralling and volatile diesel costs
- Shared costs with Bus operators for the installation of Hydrogen fuelling infrastructure
- Reduced carbon emissions
- A multi skilled workforce with recognised accreditation in maintenance of Hydrogen vehicles
- Catalyst to secure additional funding to further invest in Hydrogen fuelled technology
- Work with local companies to consider how a secure supply of green hydrogen can be developed to truly ensure a net zero fleet operation

The project is bold, pioneering and ambitious. It links extremely well with the Hynet programme that has secured £200m+ from central government as a Hydrogen cluster pilot and helps to position St Helens at the heart of the green industrial revolution.