

FORTH GREEN FREEPORT

FIFE UPDATE - SUMMER 2025



|  |
| --- |
| ***Programme Update**** Forth Green Freeport (FGF) is open for business and actively seeking investment enquiries.
* Forth Green Freeport Ltd *(a company limited by guarantee)* is the operating company which will deliver the Forth Green Freeport programme, overseen by the Forth Green Freeport Board which has representation from consortium partners and UK and Scottish Government observers.
* Approval of the Full Business Case (FBC) anticipated to be imminent, will enable the release of

£25million from Government to be used as seed capital for agreed projects which have followed a rigorous assessment process. The seed projects are targeted to enable infrastructure and capacity building at strategic brownfield sites which will lead to accelerated re-development, investment and job opportunities. It is projected that the seed projects across the programme will attract an additional £164.2 million of private sector investment.* Fife has secured £13M of seed capital funding for 3 projects which are in development and expected to start September 2025. ***(please see page 3 below for detail)***
 |
| ***FGF Ltd – Programme Delivery Team*****Sarah Murray**, CEO of FGF Ltd, has recruited a four-person team to deliver the Forth Green Freeport programme with support from consortium partners including Fife Council. The team includes:* **Tom Morris** Trade and Investment Manager **-** leading joined up investment strategies
* **Rhona McMillan** Governance and Operations Officer **-** overseeing governance and operations
* **Sharon Pryde** Skills and Fair Work Manager **-** managing the FGF Fair Work and Skills Charter
* **Dr Isobel Marr** Innovation and Net Zero Manager **-** driving innovation and net zero commitments.
 |
| ***FGF Programme Strategic Alignment & Opportunities*****City Region Deal Edinburgh & South-East Scotland** **March 2025 - Forth Green Freeport** was highlighted in the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Innovation Action Plan. **Fife Focus:** The Port of Rosyth and the Arrol Gibb Innovation Campus being highlighted as critical assets in fostering innovation, skills development, sustainable advanced manufacturing and supporting the development of sustainable alternative fuels. |
| **The UK Modern Industrial Strategy****June 2025** - UK Government published the UK Modern Industrial Strategy. Freeports are now considered as being part of Industrial Strategy Zones (ISZ) meaning Forth Green Freeport is now part of a broader, unified framework under the ISZ banner. **Fife Focus:** Freeport integration with ISZ means that development at Port of Rosyth and Burntisland will benefit from playing a part in aligning local and national growth priorities which gives Fife’s strategic FGF tax sites and supply chain corridors:* Access to cross-government resources in planning, grid connectivity, skills development, and innovation.
* A more coordinated approach to unlocking investment and infrastructure.
* Access to programme and project funding at scale to support development leading to more businesses and jobs in Fife.
 |
| **Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm****31st July 2025** Scottish Government approves Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm which is significant for the Forth Green Freeport and strengthens the region’s role in the UK’s clean energy transition and industrial strategy. There is strong strategic alignment between FGF and Berwick Bank, located in the outer Firth of Forth, now set to become the world’s largest offshore wind farm.**Fife Focus:** Forth Green Freeport sites at Port of Rosyth and Burntisland are strategically positioned to support and benefit from this substantial offshore wind development.* The Fife FGF tax sites at Rosyth and Burntisland alongside the land and industrial units across Fife’s supply chain corridor will be attractive for investment from those looking to support Berwick Bank’s construction and maintenance activities.
* Between new investment in Fife to support Berwick Bank and existing industry operations who may gain contracts to support the Berwick Bank and other Firth of Forth, FGF developments means Fife can expect to see an increase in business start-ups, business sustainability, jobs and skills development across Fife’s communities.
 |
| ***Fife Update*****Invest Fife** as part of Fife Council’s Economic Development team have been working with FGF Fife tax site landowners and FGF Trade and Investment Manager to support several commercially confidential investment enquiries for the sites at Port of Rosyth and Burntisland.**Invest Fife** has developed bespoke proposals for these investment enquiries, delivered presentations and co-ordinated and hosted visits to relevant sites as well as providing a dedicated lead relationship manager to the potential investors to provide wrap around support to help secure investment in Fife.As part of supporting both the Energy and Manufacturing sector in Fife and the Fife FGF Tax sites. **Invest Fife** have developed and launched key assets such as:* **Energy Sector prospectus and video**

[Fife Energy Prospectus 2025](https://www.investfife.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/03378-IF-ENERGY-PROSPECTUS-v3-1.pdf) [Powering the Future: Fife’s Energy Transformation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O38-5ibluog)* **Manufacturing Sector video**

[Innovation in Motion: Fife’s Manufacturing Strength](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTNSCWxoP6w&t=54s)These assets support the awareness of these sectors in Fife and opportunities for investment at Fife’s FGF tax sites and supply chain corridors across Fife as part of continued sector development supporting local, regional and national economies.**Fife FGF Seed Projects** Fife has secured FGF seed capital funding for 3 projects which are in development and expected to start in September 2025. 1. **Arrol Gibb Innovation Campus** at Rosyth will create and deliver innovation and skills development infrastructure and programmes to support advanced manufacturing. Fife has a long history of innovation and manufacturing with products and process developed in Fife serving national and global markets. Manufacturing is a key priority sector for the Fife economy with circa 13% of Fife’s working age population employed in manufacturing and 12% of total Scottish manufacturing turnover being generated in Fife.
2. **Integrated Energy System Rosyth -** this will offer asustainable efficient solution onsite at Port of Rosyth to significantly reduce the reliance on grid supplied energy. The energy system will form part of the mix which will support future operational resilience for businesses across the port of Rosyth, therefore contributing towards overall energy security and stability across Rosyth and Dunfermline.
3. **Feasibility Rosyth Railway Restart – Freight Transport**– this feasibility project will consider, outline and cost the upgrade and re-utilisation of an existing (but dormant) branch line for rail freight movements at Port of Rosyth. This is likely to comprise locomotive led container units on low loader wagons to serve port volume logistics movements as well as future supply chain
 |
| ***Skills and Workforce Development***Forth Green Freeport is expected to generate circa 34,500 new jobs over the lifetime of the programme, many of which may be within Fife FGF Tax sites at Port of Rosyth and Burntisland which combined has around 200 hectares of brownfield development land available for employment related investment. Across Fife and in different sectors such as manufacturing, alternative fuels, warehousing/logistics and ancillary services, new jobs will be created, and existing jobs will be sustained as strong supply chain pathways will start to develop to support regional, national and global sector opportunities created by Forth Green Freeport activities.Skills and workforce development remain central priorities across the domains of education, employability, and career progression. To this end, Fife Council’s Economic Development and Employability teams are actively collaborating with partners and industry stakeholders to assess current and future skills requirements, including phasing and timelines.Ongoing engagement with education partners and providers ensures Culture of Enterprise engagement remains strong throughout Fife’s primary and secondary schools which is complemented by initiatives such as Developing Young Workforce and bespoke, employer-led programmes, including Fife Job Contract, Skills Academies, and Skills Bootcamps.Collectively, these efforts which are designed to enable individuals across Fife’s communities’ access employment, whilst assisting businesses secure a skilled, resilient, and agile workforce, contributing to Fife’s Economy and Community Wealth Building. |
| ***Promotion, Marketing and Communication***In late January 2025 Fife Council Economic Development Team, developed a Fife FGF Newsletter update. This gave the background to FGF and key messages about the programme and the designated tax sites in Fife at Port of Rosyth and Burntisland. This update was circulated to local elected members, MSP’s and Area Community Managers to aid conversations with constituents and community anchor organisations within South and West Fife Committee area. We have supported and facilitated ongoing FGF local dialogue as appropriate in line with programme development. The January update was also issued to key partners such as Scottish Enterprise, Business Gateway Fife and Fife Chamber, as well as across relevant Fife Council services.Since January 2025 through our **Invest Fife** branding, we have developed a Forth Green Freeport marketing and communication campaign. To date social media posts across all platforms have generated high levels of impressions and strong engagement, with a high of 14.5% engagement rate for the post about the FGF job opportunities. The FGF dedicated page on Invest Fife [Forth Green Freeport | InvestFife](https://www.investfife.co.uk/land-property/key-investment-opportunities/forth-green-freeport/) which focuses on the Rosyth and Burntisland tax sites has also seen good engagement with around 200 unique views.FGF is continually promoted at Fife events and conferences including, Fife: A Place for Energy Conference in June 2025 and Fife’s FGF tax sites will also be promoted at Invest Fife’s stand at Offshore Europe (Aberdeen) in September 2025 and Fife Business Week in November 2025. |
| ***Useful links*** [Forth Green Freeport | InvestFife](https://www.investfife.co.uk/land-property/key-investment-opportunities/forth-green-freeport/)[Home - Forth Green Freeport](https://forthgreenfreeport.com/)[Rosyth Tax Site](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6645cc0eae748c43d3793cba/Rosyth_Tax_Site.pdf)[Mid Forth Tax Site (Burntisland)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6645cc564f29e1d07fadc914/Mid_Forth_Tax_Site__Burntisland_.pdf)[Green Freeports - Planning and Other Consents: National Protocol - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/green-freeports-planning-and-other-consents-national-protocol/) |