

Samuel Knight International challenges Port of Sunderland's statement on offshore wind project

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Following a recent announcement that the Port of Sunderland is “ready, willing and able to deliver” on the offshore wind project after a long-awaited Government investment, Samuel Knight International has warned that while the port is perfectly positioned to provide support, it must have a talent strategy in place to deliver the outcomes needed.

The energy and rail recruitment specialist has urged the organisation to take action and make talent acquisition a priority. It can't be ignored that the energy sector is already suffering from a dearth of skilled workers and while this Government investment in the tools needed to drive change is welcome, the correct workforce must first be in place.

The Port of Sunderland says that it can succeed in supporting this project thanks to its location being a “fantastic natural asset” and being “agile enough to make decisions”.

Commenting on this news, Darren Williams, Business Development Manager for Renewables, said:

“While it's fantastic news that investment has been made in the North East to support clean energy, we can't forget about the core factors needed to deliver outcomes. Although the Port of Sunderland believes it is ready, it must ensure it has the capacity and ability to attract workers in this talent-strapped industry. By taking action now and focussing on employer brand, it will be able to source the people it needs to support the investment and see progression.”

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