



## **Just Transition Commission – Energy Institute Young Professionals Network event**

25 September, 18:00 – 20:15

### **Commission attendees**

Professor Jim Skea  
Lang Banks, representing WWF Scotland  
Colette Cohen  
Professor Mike Danson  
Charlotte Hartley, representing 2050 Climate Group  
Dave Moxham, representing STUC  
Kate Rowell  
Tom Shields

### **Event summary**

The Commission co-hosted an event with the Energy Institute Young Professionals Network the evening prior to their main meeting in Aberdeen.

The event allowed the Commission to hear directly from young people in industry regarding their aspirations and concerns related to energy transition. This helped inform the Commission meeting focussed on Oil and Gas held the next day.

Discussion at the event focused on the following themes:

#### **Sense of optimism around the future of the region and industry**

- There was generally optimism from the majority of guests regarding the outlook for both industry and the North East.
- However, there was also a feeling that both industry and Government could be doing more to plan ahead for the energy transition.

#### **Perceptions around the balance of opportunities and risks related to the transition**

- There was recognition of the opportunities in hydrogen/CCUS. Attendees also were attracted to the opportunity of being seen to work in the energy sector rather than identifying solely with oil and gas.
- However, energy transition was seen to bring with it risks, both in terms of the number of opportunities available and loss of the premium currently attached to oil and gas salaries.

#### **Engagement around energy transition**

- Agreement that there needed to be better engagement with the current workforce around any transition that industry may make in future.
- A perceived lack of awareness around opportunities relating to the transition needed to be bridged in order to secure buy-in from the workforce. The education system was noted as being one important channel through which the future workforce could be engaged on this agenda.