

CONSTRUCTION

Green Skills Project

Key Partners: South Thames Colleges Group (delivery); Association of Colleges (co-ordinating); JP Morgan (funder)

South Thames Colleges Group

South Thames Colleges Group (STCG) is one of London's largest providers of post-16 education and training and is an ongoing and significant contributor to its local communities. STCG was created by a merger in 2017 and operates from four main College campuses located at Carshalton, Kingston, Merton and Wandsworth spread across four London Boroughs. STCG has established itself as one of the top Colleges in London having made impressive progress since its creation, and the Corporation is keen that the College will continue making this progress.



Carshalton
College

Kingston
College

Merton
College

South Thames
College

Aims and objectives of the project:



- To provide participating Level 2 construction students with green and wider employability skills, which can support their progression into Level 3 study and/or into higher skilled, better paid and more stable employment in the Construction & Built Environment sector.
- To identify the green skills required at Level 2 for successful progression into Level 3 study and green jobs. Add emphasis, add new content
- To improve students' understanding of the career opportunities and progression routes into green jobs in the homes and building sector.
- To support staff to improve their skills and knowledge in a range of green skills.
- To improve local workforce planning across Greater London. The Project requires collaboration with employers, providers and other key stakeholders.

STCG green construction/skills offer

We offer a wide range of Construction/Vocational courses which can be folded into the Project's remit and address the GLA's green priorities around sustainability and net zero.

- Multiskills (L1 & L2)
- L2 in Electrical Installations and in Plumbing
- L3 Civil Engineering Apprenticeships
- HNC/D Civil Engineering
- L3 BTEC in Engineering
- L3 Award – Elec & Hybrid Vehicles
- Mixed BTEC with Architecture Pathway
- Series of short courses (see image) involving: retrofit, solar panel fitting, air source heat pump installation, and so forth

South Thames Colleges Group

As green jobs are forecast to vastly increase in the coming years this is a great time to train for a career in Green Skills. At STCG we want to continuously foster sustainability across the curriculum and enable learners at all levels to grow as individuals ready for work in a sustainable environment.

COURSES INCLUDE:

- Introduction to Solar Technology
- Introduction to Green Climate Change and Environmental Awareness
- Introduction to Electrification of Cars
- Introduction to Heat Pumps
- Introduction to Retrofit
- Introduction to Waste Management
- Introduction to Sustainable Fashion
- Introduction to Green Skills Careers and Jobs

Scan or click the QR code for more information

Project has three phases across its three-year life-span

- Phase 1 (04/23-08/23): map current offer against existing and future green skill requirements. Identify CPD requirements and points of curriculum development. Start building collaborative networks
- Phase 2 (09/23-12/23): awareness raising within cohort. Bookended by surveys
- Phase 3 (01/24-06/25): delivery of/continue to develop enhanced curriculum



Key developments & learning points (1)



- Low awareness of green issues in cohorts. Dropping in short interactive 'green' activities helped to change this. Focused visits (both ways) also very useful (UK Power in to take through apprenticeship routes).
- Added a Level 2 Retrofit Award to Multiskills provision – formal structural change to curriculum. Looking to add laddered retrofit pathways up to Level 5. '66,000 person years required to fulfill retrofit requirements in South London alone' (sub-regional skills improvement plan)
- Invested in training bays for: air source heat pumps; solar panel installation; electrical storage, including EV charging. Live systems, fault finding Enrich 16-18 curriculum and facilitate discrete courses for adults (only 5% of plumbers trained to install heat pumps)

Key developments & learning points (2)



- Supported development of key partnerships: retrofit mapping exercise with University of Roehampton; insight days with FE providers; employer panels; updates at key conferences; hosted Solar Careers Fair on behalf of the Government's Solar Taskforce Group (aiming for 70GW of solar generation by 2035)
- Feeds into ongoing discussions with employers around curriculum offer – get the supply/demand balance right. Possibly: more insulation installation courses; mechanical ventilation (see Grosvenor Report on decarbonising heritage buildings) provision; tied to regulations (PAS2030, PAS2035, PAS2038, as examples)
- We will chart destinations, keep surveys going, keep staff upskilling process rolling.



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Colleges Group**

