

# **Early Engagement**

To

Identify organisations who may be interested in collaborating to establish a National Fusion Skills Hub (NFSH)

For

**The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority** 

On behalf of UKAEA Skills Team

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#### 1. Introduction

The UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) seeks interest from organisations wishing to contribute to the design, development, delivery and / or governing of a National Fusion Skills Hub. The NFSH aims to create a scalable, future-proof digital platform supporting the skills and capability development required for the UK's emerging fusion energy sector. It will link learning with jobs, signpost training and career pathways, support policy and employer needs, and drive national and regional transformation through innovation and collaboration in skills.

This is your opportunity to input your ideas and expertise to help shape how we deliver this important national initiative from the ground up.

#### 2. Scope

The National Fusion Skills Hub will be a digital gateway for fusion skills with a potential focus on:

- Signposting career pathways and training provisions in the UK fusion sector
- Fusion skills delivery (online/hybrid) and its alignment with future roles
- Labour market integration (job-matching, employer engagement)
- Skills tracking and progress dashboards as resources for employers
- Enabling collaborations with employers, educators, government and innovators.
- Establishing a trusted source of information and expertise for insights and skills data that informs policy.
- Creating a future-proofed infrastructure that is accessible, inclusive and designed to meet diverse needs of learners, prospective career seekers, educators, employers, and the public.

#### NFSH Objectives Training & Resources Data & Reporting Cohering the sector by signposting Data collection online training materials ۵۵۵ Sector level skills mapping/monitoring Collect fusion body of knowledge · Produce reports Guide job/training seekers in fusion pathways **Digital Presence & Outreach** Must have digital presence National Value & Benefits Coordinating outreach across **Fusion Skills** · Provide value to employees the sector Provide value for academia Drive up accessibility Hub Provide value for employers awareness of fusion Leadership & Sustainability Provide onwards national leadership Converse across the sector · Create support to nurture networks · Establish independent funding · Signpost events Establish independent voice on fusion

We envisage a co-developed digital platform underpinned by collaborative governance, where learning content, labour market data and inclusion initiatives are co-designed and integrated with the needs of its users.

The NFSH is part of the wider Fusion Opportunities in Skills, Training, Education & Research (FOSTER) programme, a central pillar of the Fusion Futures programme. If you would like further information on this programme, please see FOSTER homepage: FOSTER | UKAEA Fusion Energy

# 3. Objectives

This Early Engagement looks to engage external organisations to:

- Identify prospective collaborators at project outset and understand their strengths and capabilities
- Understand the feasibility, risks and attractiveness of various delivery options and collaboration models available.
- Inform future operating models through feedback
- Encourage early-stage input from interested parties to shape this initiative including identifying potential governance models to ensure independence and long-term sustainability of the platform.

# 4. Participation Criteria

Responses are welcome from (but not limited to)

- Education institutions and training organisations
- Digital and Educational Technology platform providers
- Employers and employer groups, e.g. fusion industry, suppliers
- Local or Regional Authorities
- Skills networks and non-profits
- Policy, research or advisory bodies
- Start-Ups focused on fusion adjacent technologies
- Chartership and accreditation bodies
- Philanthropists

#### 5. Why Get involved?

- Be part of what promises to be a high impact initiative and help shape the future of fusion skills in the UK
- Collaborate with cross-sector organisations
- Showcase your innovation and capability, and extend your reach

#### 6. Information Requested

Interested parties should complete a brief question set on MS Forms. Template provided below.

# 7. Next Steps

We welcome responses from organisations of all sizes and from all sectors. Whether you're ready to lead, contribute, or simply explore possibilities, we encourage you to get involved.

Response Deadline: 10th October 2025.

We are in open discovery phase and the responses to this engagement will directly shape what comes next. The Authority reserves the right to engage with one or more representative organisations to explore themes in more depth.

We expect to review responses and share the results of the information that comes back and next steps in the autumn. This is likely to involve co-design or workshop sessions.

If you have any questions, please contact nfsh@fusionskills.ukaea.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

#### 8. Disclaimer

Please note that:

- The information provided in this document represents the Authority's current understanding and plans. No warranty, express or implied, is offered in respect of this information, which is subject to change in any respect and without notice.
- Funding for this work is subject to confirmation through the current Government Spending Review Processes and is subject to future decisions.

#### 9. National Fusion Skills Hub - Response Template

#### 9.1 Organisation Details

- 9.1.1 Organisation Name
- 9.1.2 Lead Contact Person
- 9.1.3 Job Title
- 9.1.4 Email Address
- 9.1.5 Phone Number (optional)
- 9.1.6 Website (if any) (optional)
- 9.1.7 What type of organisation are you part of? (Select one)
  - Further Education Institution
  - Higher Education Institution
  - School
  - Independent Training Provider
  - Ed Tech or digital platform provider
  - Employer or Employer Group in the fusion sector
  - Employer or Employer Group outside the fusion sector
  - Local or Regional Authority
  - Skills Network or non-profit
  - Policy, research or advisory body
  - Philanthropic organisation
  - Other (Please specify)
- 9.1.8 What is the approximate size of your organisation?
  - < 10 employees</li>
  - 10-49 employees
  - 50-249 employees
  - 250+ employees
  - Prefer not to say

# 9.1.9 Geographic Reach

- Local
- Regional

- National
- International

# 9.2 Strategic Fit

9.2.1 Could you briefly describe your organisation or work and its relevance to the Fusion skills landscape?

### Strategic Fit (optional)

- 9.2.2 How does your organisation's mission or strategy align with the goals of the National Fusion Skills Hub? (optional)
- 9.2.3 Please share any relevant capabilities, innovations or services you would bring to the collaboration. (optional)
- 9.2.4 Do you have experience delivering similar projects, or collaborations. If so, please provide brief examples or case studies? (optional)
- 9.2.5 Are there examples of good practice or innovation you'd like to share that could inform the Hub's development? (optional)
- 9.2.6 Do you collect or hold any insight or data relevant to fusion skills demand or supply (e.g. workforce analytics, learner progression, employer engagement)? If so, please specify. (optional)

#### 9.3 Areas of Interest

- 9.3.1 What excites you about the National Fusion Skills Hub? What need would it address for you or those you support?
- 9.3.2 What aspects of the National Fusion Skills Hub are you most interested in contributing to? (select all that apply)
  - Skills delivery
  - Awareness raising and outreach
  - Co-design learning content
  - Platform provision or testing tools
  - Inclusion and access initiatives
  - Championing & Advocacy
  - IP/licensing
  - Advisory or innovation design role
  - Fusion Adjacent technologies

- Governance or Sustainability models
- Other (please specify)
- 9.3.3 Who are the primary users or beneficiaries you serve or support? (select all that apply)
  - Learners/ School leavers
  - Undergraduates, Graduates or early careers
  - Mid-career upskillers / reskillers
  - Apprentices or trainees
  - Underrepresented groups
  - Employers
  - Employees
  - Educators / training providers
  - Policymakers / funders
  - Other: [free text]
- 9.3.4 Do you have any initial thoughts or considerations on how the Hub can ensure accessibility and reach underrepresented or priority user groups? (optional)

# 9.4 Proposed collaboration and Delivery Model

- 9.4.1 Would you be interested in collaborating with UKAEA and others in the development and/or delivery of the Hub?
  - Yes
  - No
- 9.4.2 How would you expect to collaborate with others in the development or delivery of the Hub?
- 9.4.3 Tick the models you are open to considering:
  - Lead delivery organisation as part of a multi-party collaborative effort
  - Non-lead collaborator on a specific workstream
  - Joint Venture with government or third parties

- Subcontractor/specialist partner
- Other. Are there innovative models or approaches you'd like to explore through the Hub?
- 9.4.4 Are you open to contributing resources (financial, in-kind, human resources) to support the Hub's development or operations? If so, are you able to specify?

# **Proposed collaboration and Delivery Model (optional)**

- 9.4.5 Are there any key stakeholders or networks you would involve?
- 9.4.6 Are there other organisations you think we should connect with?
- 9.4.7 Have you any thoughts on how the Hub would remain scalable and sustainable (financially and operationally)?

#### 9.5 Engagement in co-design and Discovery

- 9.5.1 Would you be interested in participating in co-design workshops to shape the Hub's development? (multiple choice)
  - Yes
  - No
  - I require more information before answering

#### 9.6 Risks and Final comments (optional)

- 9.6.1 Have you identified any risks, barriers, or dependencies that could affect participation in a collaboration with a government funded organisation?
- 9.6.2 Do you have any further ideas, insights to share at this stage?
- 9.6.3 Are there any questions or support we can help you with or you'd need to be answered immediately before becoming involved?

Thank you for your interest we look forward to exploring how we might work together.