

## IKIGAI AND DNV GL APPOINTED AS HYDROGEN CONSULTANTS FOR THE THAMES ESTUARY

We are delighted to announce that Ikigai, supported by DNV GL, have been appointed to deliver a Hydrogen Investment Strategy for the Thames Estuary.

In November 2020, our Hydrogen Summit revealed significant interest in the development of a hydrogen ecosystem in the Thames Estuary. The anticipated demand driven by a move away from fossil fuels along with the Estuary's location and capacity to deliver at scale presents an extremely compelling case for investors.

Ikigai and DNV GL will create our roadmap to realising this transformational opportunity. They will evaluate and identify the potential for investable hydrogen generation, distribution, storage and usage infrastructure within the Estuary, helping us to meet the commitments made in our ambitious action plan '[The Green Blue](#)'. This includes driving green growth and spearheading the development of a hydrogen ecosystem to enable the greening of our transport on land and water and accelerating decarbonisation.

Ikigai is a Net Zero Bankability Consultant focused on supporting cities, industrial clusters and energy intensive consumers to identify practical, integrated decarbonisation solutions which improve resilience and competitiveness and align with Government policy objectives to attract private and public sector capital. DNV GL is an independent international technical and engineering adviser, expert in risk management and quality assurance, with market-leading expertise in hydrogen networks.

**Devrim Celal, Thames Estuary Growth Board Joint Lead for Hydrogen, said:** "This joint bid showed an impressive and comprehensive understanding of our hydrogen ambitions, recognising opportunities for investment and providing clear steps to achieve them."

**Gavin Chapman, Thames Estuary Growth Board Joint Lead for Hydrogen, added:** "This appointment is another significant step towards realising the enormous potential of the Thames Estuary. Ikigai and DNV GL bring invaluable insight and expertise to our hydrogen strategy and we are hugely looking forward to working with them to drive good, green growth."

"We are so excited to be part of such a key project for the Thames Estuary, with lessons to be learned for clean growth across the whole of the UK", **said Helena Anderson, co-founder of Ikigai.** "Hydrogen is a key element of the energy transition because of its versatility and application in the hardest to decarbonise sectors: foundational industries, shipping, aviation, railways and the gas network. We can't wait to start stakeholder engagement - with Government, industry, prospective investors, delivery partners and local developers. We are confident that, working with Thames Estuary Growth Board and hydrogen techno-economic modelling specialist, DNV GL, we can translate the Green Blue action plan into billions of Net Zero investment into the south-east."

The Hydrogen Investment Strategy will set out how investment in hydrogen infrastructure will have wide-reaching benefits across the Estuary. This will provide benefits such as carbon reduction, opportunities for skills and training, employment opportunities, improved health outcomes as well as delivering a strong return on investment.

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## **Notes to the Editors**

### **About the Thames Estuary Growth Board**

In 2018, The Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission published an ambitious vision for growth in the area of east London, north Essex and south Kent to unleash its potential. An exciting and ambitious vision, it is regarded as integral to the future of the UK economy.

Kate Willard OBE has been appointed by the Government to drive this vision, leading a dedicated Thames Estuary Growth Board. The Growth Board has set out its action plan, entitled "[The Green Blue](#)", to realise the amazing potential of the Thames Estuary. With plans for developments over the next two years, looking ahead across the next ten, The Green Blue is about making great things happen.

We call our plan "The Green Blue" because we are creating good, green, sustainable growth using the important, blue waterway of the Thames that connects the UK with the rest of the world.

The Thames Estuary Growth Board will deliver and support existing projects which will lead to job creation; housing solutions; new transport and digital infrastructure, ultimately contributing billions to the economy by 2050.

For more information on the Thames Estuary and to read The Green Blue in full, please visit the Thames Estuary's website: [www.thamesestuary.org.uk](http://www.thamesestuary.org.uk)

### **About Ikigai**

Ikigai is a boutique net zero consultancy firm, focused on making Net Zero investable. We do this by bridging the gap between the key stakeholders in delivering the energy transition - investors, consumers, the public sector and innovators - to create bankable decarbonisation projects, platforms and technology companies.

Ikigai Capital is part of a wider group of companies whose complementary activities help in delivering a sustainable future. Ikigai Energy is a co-development and financing platform for behind-the-meter energy projects and Ikigai AXL is a bankability accelerator for cleantech enterprises looking to commercialise their proven technologies.

For more information please visit: [www.ikigai-capital.co.uk](http://www.ikigai-capital.co.uk)

### **About DNV GL**

DNV GL is the independent expert in risk management and assurance, operating in more than 100 countries. Through its broad experience and deep expertise DNV GL advances safety and sustainable performance, sets industry benchmarks, and inspires and invents solutions.

Whether assessing a new ship design, optimizing the performance of a wind farm, analyzing sensor data from a gas pipeline or certifying a food company's supply chain, DNV GL enables its customers and their stakeholders to make critical decisions with confidence.

Driven by its purpose, to safeguard life, property, and the environment, DNV GL helps tackle the challenges and global transformations facing its customers and the world today and is a trusted voice for many of the world's most successful and forward-thinking companies.

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