



5<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
Ref: DSG(2009)C082  
Councillor Heddle  
Orkney Island Council  
School Place  
Kirkwall  
Orkney  
KW15 1NY

**Please respond direct to:**

**June Love**  
**DSG Secretariat**  
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Dear Councillor Heddle

**Dounreay Stakeholder Group**

It has been brought to the attention of members of the DSG that you recently carried out an interview on Radio Orkney regarding representation of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group.

For the record, when the DSG was set up in 2005 an invitation was sent to the Chief Executive of Orkney Island Council inviting the Council to put forward a representative who could attend DSG meetings and indeed since its inception Orkney has had a nominated representative. How representation was agreed by your Council is a matter for you to take up with them.

When DSG started a website was set up and all paperwork for DSG, and sub group meetings, are published to allow anyone with an interest to be kept updated. In addition, DSG meetings are open to the public.

DSG also operates a cascade system where member organisations should be kept updated with the main issues discussed at DSG meetings. After each meeting, and before the minutes are drafted, a summary of the main topics is distributed to all members. The summary should then be cascaded to member organisations to allow any feedback or issues raised to be taken back to the DSG for discussion. It appears that there is a breakdown in communications internally within the Orkney Island Council if this is not happening.

The DSG are happy that a representative from Orkney Island Council sits on the group but how that representative is selected is a matter for the Council and not for DSG.

We look forward to hearing how your concerns are addressed and look forward to a continuing working relationship with Orkney Island Council.

Yours sincerely

**Alastair MacDonald**  
**DSG Chairman**

cc: Mr A Buchan, CEO