

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Background

During 2011/2012 an external review of DSG was undertaken by David Collier (White Ox).

A formal report was submitted and a Working Group set up with the aim to develop recommendations that will be agreed and endorsed by DSG members and changes to the Terms of Reference adopted at the Annual General Meeting in March 2013.

The working group consisted of:

- David Flear (Vice-chair, DSG)
- Alan Scott (Caithness Contractors Consortium)
- Eann Sinclair (CNSRP)
- John Deighan (Dounreay Unions)
- Anne Chard (Caithness West Community Council)
- June Love (DSG Secretariat).

Way forward

The document was considered in full and a number of areas were identified for further consideration. In addition recommendations for improvements were made and these are outlined below.

OVERSIGHT

- Seen as having a 'light touch'
- Provide tougher oversight in future
- Ensure rigor of NDA and Regulator oversight
- Probe more into the detail

It was recognised that within DSG there are few members who have an in-depth knowledge of nuclear matters.

There is a capability for DSG to recruit 'members of the public' to DSG (ie those not representing an organisation).

Involving young people was also considered – it was agreed that to invite school pupils to DSG meetings was somewhat restricted. However project related work which could assist pupils with existing studies were discussed.

DSG Review Recommendation 1: DSG to advertise (via website) vacancies for member of the public to join DSG but focussing on those who have a background in health, safety, environment, waste and contractual matters.

DSG Review Recommendation 2: Identify project related work to get young people (school pupils) involved.

Next step

DSG, in parallel with NDA/DSRL, to discuss potential projects for school pupils to provide input (ie environmental project (how clean is clean), business related project (what could replace Dounreay), Energy related (future energy needs) or community project (landmark for Dounreay site)).

WORKING WITH REGULATORS

- Ask more questions of regulators
- Regulator reports need to be comprehensive
- Regulators must be seen to challenge site as well

The review group felt that questioning of the regulator was more robust at sub group meetings. However, it was recognised that more detailed explanations could be requested for full discussion at main DSG meetings.

Timely receipt of reports from Regulators would allow members to read papers in advance of the meeting and provide more time for members to consider questions to be raised.

DSG Review Recommendation 3: NDA, Site and Regulator's reports should be provided to DSG 10 working days before the sub group meetings.

Next Step

The Chairman to write to all DSG observers setting out a clear timeline for receipt of papers.

VULCAN

- Vulcan gets an easy side compared to Dounreay.
- Has major hazard
- Reports too brief

Need to discuss with Commander Dyke before recommendations are made.

DOUNREAY/VULCAN SITE RESTORATION PROGRAMME

- Site end state work for Dounreay is an important element.
- Future of the Vulcan site.
- Scottish Government's policy on higher activity wastes (ILW).

It was agreed that that the site end state should be a standing agenda item for the Site Restoration sub group meeting.

It was agreed that a clear understanding of how the Dounreay decommissioning programme affects the operational activities of the Vulcan site.

It was agreed that Scottish Government Radwaste team would be asked to set meeting dates (for Scottish Sites meeting and Higher Activity Waste meetings) on a yearly basis to allow better planning to take place within stakeholder groups. Further a request that paperwork is circulated in advance of the meeting (at least 12 working days before meetings) to allow paperwork to be circulated to members and feedback from members to be provided to DSG representative attending meetings.

DSG Review Recommendation 4: The Site End State will become a standing agenda item on the Site Restoration Sub Group.

DSG Review Recommendation 5: Request to Vulcan for a site visit and a presentation at a main DSG meeting.

DSG Review Recommendation 6: Scottish Government to be asked to set meeting dates on a yearly basis and ensure paperwork is provided to SSG's 12 working days before meetings take place.

Next Steps

DSG Secretariat to ensure site end state is a standing agenda item for all Site Restoration sub group meetings.

Chairman and Vice-chairman to discuss with Vulcan the possibility of a site visit for DSG members and the contents of a Vulcan presentation at the main DSG.

Chairman to write to Scottish Government Radwaste team outlining need for meetings to be set on a yearly basis and paperwork provided 12 working days before meeting.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

- Emergency planning for Dounreay and Vulcan

It was agreed that a detailed report should be provided by both Dounreay and Vulcan following an emergency exercise recognising that parts of the 'accident scenario' may be omitted due to security sensitivities.

DSG Recommendation 7: DSRL and Vulcan to provide written reports of the outcome of emergency planning exercises.

Next step:

Chairman to write to DSRL and Vulcan requesting detailed reports on the outcome of emergency exercises.

SUB GROUP WORKING

- Site Restoration sub group covers a wide range of topics – difficult to scrutinise so many projects.

It was agreed that the Site Restoration should remain looking at both site operations and environmental issues (as these go hand in hand). However it was felt that there was a need to be more selective on the agenda topics. A programme of presentations should be considered focussing on various different projects which should become clearer following Dounreay programme consolidation.

DSG Recommendation 8: To identify a rolling programme of activities identified to focus on for Site Restoration sub group/main DSG meetings (as appropriate).

Next step:

DSG Secretariat to work with DSRL to identify a rolling programme of activities (following programme consolidation)

SOCIO ECONOMICS

- Need to extend this to Vulcan as well
- Need to scrutinise and input into priorities of Socio Economic activities of NDA and PBO and how they link into CNSRP.

The group agreed that socio economics relating to the Vulcan site should be included in the Terms of Reference and that the DSG Socio Economic sub group

should focus on the NDA, PBO and DSRL deliverables but considering this in the context of the overall CNSRP programme. However, it was recognised that while overseeing the activities of socio economics within the Dounreay context this issue was much wider and discussion at sub group meetings should not preclude the wider regeneration programme.

DSG Recommendation 9: To revise Terms of Reference to ensure that socio economics at Vulcan is included.

DSG Recommendation 10: To focus on Dounreay Socio Economic Development Plan to hold NDA/Dounreay to account on deliverables, but not precluding the wider regeneration programme.

DSG Recommendation 11: To ensure CNSRP Programme Manager continues to provide over-arching document which demonstrates NDA/Dounreay deliverables fits into overall CNSRP programme.

SUPPLY CHAINS

- Dounreay and Vulcan contracts – more could be done to encourage local sustainable procurement.

The group agreed that there should be a standing agenda item (for large contracts) for Site Restoration and Socio Economic sub groups

DSG Recommendation 13: To put a standing agenda item for large contracts on both Site Restoration and Socio economic sub group meetings.

Next Step:

DSG Secretariat to put item on both sub group agenda as a standing item.

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

- Ensure members are representing DSG views and not personal reviews.
- Encourage better direct communication between various parties and community.

It was agreed that a guidance note would be produced to outline responsibilities of DSG representatives when attending meetings outside DSG. In addition, new members should receive an induction from Chair/Vice chair in regards roles/responsibilities.

The group felt that there had been events which had included better direct communication with third parties and agreed that this could be continued on a case by case basis dependent on subject matter. However, DSG could be more pro-active in communicating views and information.

DSG Recommendation 12: To provide a guidance note of the roles and responsibilities of members representing DSG on various meetings.

DSG Recommendation 13: Chair/Vice Chair to carry out inductions for new members.

DSG Recommendation 14: Communications to become a standing agenda item on the DSG Business meeting.

Next step:

Draft guidance note of roles and responsibilities of members representing DSG on various meetings.

Re-look at induction pack and revise as appropriate.

DSG Secretariat to ensure communications becomes part of standing agenda item for DSG Business meeting.

ARRANGEMENTS AND WORKING PRACTICES

- Main DSG meetings need to be less 'managed' and provide constructive challenge.
- Venue for meetings always in Thurso
- SSG Chair covering all tasks
- Capacity building
- Ensure all members feel able to voice opinions
- Terms of reference need revisited
- Meetings – need to get members to have advanced discussions on issues.

The group agreed that more topic driven main meetings may move towards a more constructive challenge type meeting. Recommendation 8 covers.

Roles of chair, vice-chair, secretariat and key members will be considered before AGM but noting that the roles of these roles may be informed by the personalities taking on these duties. It was felt that the Terms of Reference should not be too prescriptive of the roles as these may change on an annual basis but that when newly elected office bearers are endorsed the roles and responsibilities are agreed between them.

In addition to Recommendations 12 and 13 (which covers capacity building) site familiarisation visits will be extended as part of the DSG induction.

To enable members to feel able to voice opinions sub group chairmen should be mindful of encouraging this behaviour. This can be written into roles and responsibilities (Recommendation 12).

Terms of Reference would be revised dependent on outcome of members' agreement to recommendations, etc.

A suggestion was made that perhaps members of sub groups should meet half an hour before observers (ie NDA, site, regulators, etc) were invited which may provide time to discuss certain issues and come to a consensus agreement on how to take forward. It was agreed that this might be worthwhile trialling to see if it was worthwhile.

No Recommendations as these are covered above.

Next step:

To trial pre-meetings with DSG members only (for half hour before official start of sub group meetings) to allow advanced discussion with members before observers attend. This trial would take place in January and dependent on outcome would be adopted as a change to the Terms of Reference or revert back to same start time for all.

RECOMMENDATION TO DSG MEMBERS

The Business meeting have reviewed the suggestions taking forward and have agreed in principle to the recommendations and next steps identified.

DSG members are asked to endorse the Recommendations and next steps at the sub group meetings on the 7th November.

David Flear

DSG Vice-chair

16th October 2012

