

SUMMARY OF DSRL'S PROPOSED "SOCIO ECONOMICS – GUIDANCE ON TENDERING"

INTRODUCTION

Early this year discussions were held between DSRL Commercial Department, NDA and DSG representatives to discuss the requirements for tenders to consider the Socio Economic impact of their proposed activities locally and to present these as an integral part of their tender return.

DSRL's Commercial Department has considered the input provided and is in the process of formalising a document – Socio Economics – Guidance on Tendering.

AREAS OF SOCIO ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Areas where supply chain organisations should ensure that maximum Socio Economic benefit is gained by Caithness and North Sutherland include:

- Collaboration
- Education, Training and Development
- Local Supply chain
- Community Links
- Transition Activities

Collaboration

- Supply chain organisations should gain an understanding of the Socio Economic areas that Dounreay supports and identify opportunities.
- In order to facilitate dialogue and collaboration The Caithness Chamber of Commerce can organise events such as "Meet the Supplier" or procurement workshops.

Education, Training and Development

- A key requirement is to maintain existing resource and to develop upcoming resource in the area. The number of people undertaking training initiatives must be maximised. Formal initiatives such as apprenticeships, traineeships and graduate training/sponsorship will be strongly encouraged.

Local Supply Chain

- Supply chain companies will be encouraged to investigate the potential use of locally based companies, which may present a cost effective solution and assist with the maintenance of local infrastructure and services.

Community Links

- There are many ways in which work at Dounreay contributes to the wellbeing of the community.
- Consider membership of local business organisations and support to community projects.
- All supply chain organisations will be encouraged to consider participation in such activities and further encouraged to engage with groups as the Dounreay Stakeholder Group, The Caithness Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Transition Activities

- Supply chain organisations will be encouraged to identify and support initiatives where opportunities for transition arise and are encouraged to engage with organisations such as CNSRP or the Chamber.

SUMMARY

In order to actively encourage supply chain organisations to consider the SE impact of their proposed activities locally:

- DSRL Commercial Department personnel will actively consider SE impact when issuing tenders for contracts over a year in duration and/or with a value in excess of £1 million especially where supply chain organisations are based outwith the Caithness and North Sutherland area.
- The Commercial procedure will be updated to reflect the importance DSRL places on SE considerations. It will also reflect the need, where possible and in DSRL's best interests, to separate Framework Agreements/larger contracts into lots of encourage smaller, locally based suppliers to capitalise.
- Socio Economics will be added as a heading in all Acquisition Strategy documents, with an emphasis on providing justification when SE has not been considered.
- The questions relating to SE (for both PQQ and tenders) will be used as a checklist by both DSRL Commercial personnel and supply chain organisations to develop any proposals submitted in respect of work at Dounreay.

NEXT STEPS

The guidance note is currently being reviewed internally. It will then be formalised as part of the contract strategy to ensure Socio Economics are part of the considerations when reviewing site contracts.