



27th April 2015
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Mr Mark Rouse
Managing Director
Downreay

Please respond to:

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Dear Mark

PHASE 2 OF LOW LEVEL WASTE VAULTS

At our last public meeting there was a discussion on the construction of the next phase of the low level waste vaults and subsequently there was an action placed on you to provide more detail which I am aware is being progressed through the appropriate Project Director.

At our last sub group meeting, we discussed this subject because following the delivery of phase 1 of the vaults questions had been raised by us asking what socio economic benefit came from this construction project. While a response was forthcoming it was clear that the socio economic benefit was mainly based upon the influx of workers into the area using hotels, restaurants, pubs and other local amenities.

Given that the next phase is moving forward it would be good to see if DSRL has learnt any lessons from the first phase construction and can think about how local socio economic benefit (ie local jobs, apprentices, more use of local supply chain) can be more prevalent in this phase.

Understanding there are rules and regulations over contract awards and OJEU requirements (if relevant) we believe some innovation thinking should be carried out to ensure there is real positive socio economic benefit for our community.

We also understand that under the EU Procurement and competition law there is a regulation which "reinforces the ability of procurers to make use of public procurement in support of common societal goals provided that these are relevant and proportionate to the subject matter of the contract". It further goes on to include incentivising investment in skills as part of the broader qualitative long-term benefits.

We also understand that Scottish Government has produced a report on developing young people and the Caithness Chamber of Commerce is currently looking to establish a group, alongside the college, to take some of these recommendations forward.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Sent electronically without signature

David Flear
DSG Chairman

cc. Nigel Lowe
Phil Cartwright
Ken Linn
Anna MacConnell
Ken Nicol