Dounreay Socio Economic Plan 2015/18

At the DSG Socio Economic Sub Group meeting held on 8 April 2015, the Dounreay Socio Economic Plan for 2015 – 2018 was discussed. A number of comments on the plan were raised.

The table below sets the responses to these comments.

DSG Comment	Response
Include bullet point on "support to Major Projects in the CNSRP Programme" eg. Wick Harbour, Scrabster Harbour, Community Sports Hub?	Appendix 2 will be revised to take account of the comment.
P6: "The socio economic activity will be to influence workforce development which will lead to a skilled workforce that can easily be transitioned into future employment in the area". What does this mean exactly?	The wording will be revised to make this clearer.
P6: "Direct funding where appropriate towards projects prioritised in the CNSRP Programme to include infrastructure development, skills development and business development" Needs a better explanation, does this help existing businesses, new businesses, etc. Needs to be made clear or may raise expectations	The NDA supports existing business by providing funding towards infrastructure required for local business development (for example Scrabster Harbour, Wick Harbour, North Highland College) which aligns to the CNSRP Programme and support to the development of a skilled workforce for all businesses to benefit from. Both the NDA and DSRL, along with other partners, were instrumental in revitalising the Caithness Chamber of Commerce to ensure that the business community has representation and the other benefits associated with a strong Chamber. The NDA tends not to provide funding to individual businesses. The text in the socio economic plan will be revised to make this clearer.
Table 1: Breakdown of the DSRL 2015/16 Socio Economic Budget	
Might help with an organisation chart to show who is doing what within the SE Plan delivery (staff costs).	The only staff costs relate to DSRL personnel only. These are the
	 DSRL Socio Economic Manager (Full time) 2 other staff providing support to the Socio Economic Manager to deliver the activities detailed in the plan.
	The total DSRL resource commitment is about 1.5FTEs.

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	Within the plan (Appendices 1 and 2), information is provided on the organisations (NDA, CDP, DSRL) which are involved with the various activities.
 Must be a better way of getting this across. If we can't understand it then it is doubtful that others reading it will understand. 	The table will be revised to make this clearer.
DSG members do not support staff costs coming from the £500K – they feel this should be provided from the site operations as it is part of their remit to do something.	The comment is noted, but is unable to be addressed.
	During the contractual process, the £500k identified for socio economic activities was interpreted by the PBO as including the DSRL socio economic staff costs for the duration of the contract. This was accepted by the NDA.
Comments on disproportionate time of staff	The comment is noted.
to 'do' socio economics against the external spend. As an example, they felt that procurement should not need £10K worth of socio economic staff costs given that this has been ongoing for the past year and it should now be part of normal business for commercial department. (A suggestion was that it would be better if resource could be used to help CH come up with a sustainable business plan.	 Approximately 20% of the socio economic budget is used for the delivery of the plan. The activity staff cost costs does not relate to the external spend. The external spend has been calculated best upon known and assumed expenditure. The internal costs are assumed to be areas where our staff resources will be focussed during the coming year. This may vary depending on economic priorities for the delivery of the plan or to support CNSRP. Within the internal staff costs (salary & employment costs – NI, pension etc) this equates to about 1.5FTE and excludes those on secondment to support other organisations. Resource time has been spent with Caithness Horizons (see below).
Caithness Horizons: members worry that the building will not be sustainable once funding is complete. They felt this was a legacy project set up in UKAEA's days and should not have to come from the SE budget given it was committed way before then.	 Caithness Horizons is a legacy project from commitments made by UKAEA in 2005. In 2010 DSRL clarified the funding to Caithness Horizons of £90k pa until 2018. Some advance payments have been made to Caithness Horizons to assist them with funding. DSRL has had a number of meetings with Caithness Horizons over the last few years regarding financial sustainability and we are await their business plan. Offers to reprofile the remaining funding to a lower level so

DSG Comment	Response
	 that it is available for a longer time have also been made. DSRL has 2 board members involved with Caithness Horizons and their time is not funded from the socio economic budget. The comment on funding from the socio economic budget is noted but cannot be addressed. During the contractual process, the £500k identified for socio economic activities was interpreted by the PBO as including the committed funding to Caithness Horizons. This was accepted by the NDA.

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