

DSG CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2015/16

It has been, yet again, another busy year for members of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group, culminating with the good news that the Dounreay site budget remained at its current level following the Government's Corporate Spending Review.

This year, key activities included the continued scrutiny of the site's safety performance and nuclear material transportation both for the Dounreay site and Vulcan. The length of the PBO secondee roles at site was questioned in relation to the safety performance and as a result of discussions between NDA and the PBO longer secondments are now taking place.

I am pleased to see the NDA Archives making good progress and look forward to seeing the building once it is complete. This is something that will create jobs in the area and was clearly linked with the CNSRP programme.

Within the socio economic remit of the DSG, members continue to work with NDA and Dounreay to look at ways of maximising local benefit from site operations. To this end, we continue to explore with the site how local benefit can be provided through procurement activities. Updates on the Dounreay People Plan have been provided over the year and it was pleasing to see an increase in apprentice numbers as well as graduates and project control trainees.

While at times DSG looks at a broader remit of socio economic activity there are clear links into other groups/forums to ensure that the appropriate organisation is taking appropriate action and at times DSG will be involved by providing support as appropriate.

A round-up of DSG activities are listed below:

RESPONDING TO CONSULTATIONS

- Scottish Government's higher activity waste consultation
- Dounreay Socio Economic Plan, 2015
- NDA Draft business Plan, 2016 onwards
- NDA Draft Strategy III

DSG PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation on Vulcan fuel movements, January 2016
- Unirradiated Fuels Characterisation Facility
- HAW Implementation consultation presentation
- NDA draft strategy III presentation
- Vulcan fuel movements

EXTERNAL VISITS/MEETINGS

- Scottish Government Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy Project Board
- Scottish Government Scottish Nuclear Sites Meeting
- DSG members visit to Dounreay
- Engineering Policy Group Scotland - Edinburgh
- NDA National Event
- NDA SSG Chair's Forum
- European conference on radioactive waste, Brussels
- Nuclear Industry Association conference on nuclear decommissioning/new build

DSG ad hoc meetings

- Steve Firth / Simon Tinling, Ministry of Defence: Meeting with Chairman
- DSG observer at Vulcan emergency exercise
- Meeting with Japanese representative on stakeholder engagement
- Discussions with Canadian Council members on experience of NDA model of contracting sites
- DSG/DSRL discussions on procurement
- Meeting with HC Leader, Margaret Davidson
- NDA Archives sod cutting / commence of construction ceremony
- Discussions with Crimson (NDA Archives)
- Meeting with David Batters, NDA Chief Financial Officer, John Thorpe and James Osborne of the National Audit Office.
- Visit to the NDA Archives during construction.
- Discussions with Simon Bowen, Cavendish Nuclear Managing Director
- DSG reps meeting with Fergus Ewing, Minister for Business, Energy and Tourism

DSG REPRESENTATION AT OTHER MEETINGS

- CNSRP Advisory Board
- Caithness transport Forum
- North Highland Regeneration Fund
- Scottish Government Higher Activity Waste Project Steering Board
- Caithness & North Sutherland Fun
- LEADER (Highland).

As Chairman of DSG, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have supported DSG activities throughout the year. The DSG has an important role to play in oversight and scrutiny of both the site operator and NDA.

David Flear

Chairman, DSG

1st March 2016