

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 1900 hours in the Pentland Hotel (Ballroom), Thurso.

Present:	David Flear	DSG Chairman
	Cllr Roger Saxon	Highland Council / DSG Vice-chairman
	Alastair MacDonald	DSG Honorary member
	Bob Earnshaw	DSG Site Restoration sub group chairman
	Jean Lipa	Association of Caithness Community Councils
	Thelma MacKenzie	Thurso Community Council
	Mike Flavell	NHS Highland
	George McDougall	Caithness West Community Council
	John Deighan	Dounreay Unions
	Eann Sinclair	CNSRP
	Trudy Morris	Caithness Chamber of Commerce
	Brian Mutch	SGRIPD
	Tor Justad	DSG member
	Roy Blackburn	DSG member
	David Broughton	DSG member
	Cllr Matthew Reiss	Highland Council
	Cllr Maurice Davidson	Orkney Islands Council
	June Love	DSRL, DSG Secretariat
	Mark Raffle	NDA Programme Manager
	Phil Craig	Dounreay Managing Director
	Cdr Ken Dyke	MOD, Vulcan
	Charles Stewart-Roper	Scottish Government, Radioactive waste team
	Bill Hamilton	NDA Head of Stakeholder Relations
	Sheila Hutchison	ONR, Dounreay
	Iain Davidson	ONR Inspector, Transport (agenda item 5).
	Stewart Ballantine	SEPA
	SI Martin O'Kane	CNC

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David Flear, DSG Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the following:

-) Bill Hamilton, NDA Head of Stakeholder Relations
-) Charles Stewart-Roper, Scottish Government Radioactive waste team
-) Iain Davidson, ONR Inspector, Transport

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following:

-) Derrick Milnes Wick and Thurso Trade Union Council
-) Roy Kirk HIE
-) Cllr George Farlow Highland Council

)	Cllr Willie Mackay	Highland Council
)	Yvonne Hendry	Caithness Voluntary Group
)	Sandy Mackie	Scrabster Harbour Trust
)	James Bryson	DNSR (Vulcan)
)	Alun Griffiths	ONR (Vulcan)
)	David Mudie	Highland Council, Planning

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

David Flear noted that the previous minutes had been circulated to members in advance – DSG(2016)M002 refers. There were no corrections to the minutes and therefore these were taken as a true reflection of the meeting. The minutes was proposed by Alastair MacDonald and seconded by Tor Justad.

Tor Justad asked if NDA had received a response from the Highland Council. Bill Hamilton responded that he had written to all local MP, MSPs, local authorities etc providing an update on the nuclear materials transportation and had indicated that the NDA would be happy to discuss further if required. No response had been received from Highland Council.

David Flear noted that the letter had been as a follow up to an earlier NDA meeting relating to site clean-up criteria that the Highland Council had been unable to attend. He felt it would be useful to write to the Highland Council to encourage them to respond to the NDA.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A001: David Flear to write to Highland Council encouraging them to follow up on NDA letter regarding nuclear material transport.

David Flear noted that he had watched the Panorama programme relating to Sellafield. He had found it very interesting.

David Flear also noted the recent ruling of the judge to the court case involving NDA and Energy Solutions with regards the Magnox competition. While he appreciated that the judge was still to identify the potential costs associated with this case it would appear that the NDA would have to find a considerable sum of money for this. David Flear stated that he wished to place on record that whatever the outcome of the hearing was he hoped that this would not impact on the budget for the Dounreay site.

Bill Hamilton acknowledged there had been a judgement made against NDA in relation to the Magnox sites competition. The NDA had taken the decision to appeal the judgement and the NDA's legal team were putting together the case to seek leave to appeal. Although the original judgement had ruled against the NDA there had been no sum of money allocated to that ruling. Further hearings would be required before a judgement on costs would be made and as this was a complex legal argument it would be unlikely to have a ruling on cost damages until around autumn 2017. Given the NDA was appealing against the original ruling this may take longer.

In summary, NDA did not have the quantum and have since then decided to appeal the ruling. In terms of timescales it was unknown what the quantum would be until the back end of 2017. He could not give a commitment that the site budget would not be affected if the appeal and ultimate quantum ruling was against the NDA. At this stage it was far too early for the NDA to consider such things.

David Flear responded that it would have been wrong of DSG not to flag this up as a concern regarding the site's budget for future years.

David Flear also noted recent correspondence received by DSG by a person who had raised concerns about the site's waste practices. Phil Craig, Dounreay Managing Director, responded that he had received the letter from DSG. The author had alleged that the site was not commensurate with waste practices and waste hierarchy, citing that some waste with very low levels of radioactivity was being disposed of in the low level waste vaults which could have been disposed of through clean waste routes. On receipt of the letter he had commissioned a full investigation with an independent member of the site who was looking to move into the waste area (but had not been working in the waste area at the time of these allegations). The individual had carried out a thorough investigation and had reported back. The report was a detailed one and the conclusion was that the site had good practices for waste hierarchy. He noted he would formally respond to DSG to allow a response to be returned to the author of the letter.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A002: Phil Craig, Dounreay Managing Director, to respond formally to letter received from DSG regarding waste hierarchy.

In relation to a question raised on the Scottish Government's higher activity waste strategy, Charles Stewart-Roper indicated that he remained hopeful that the strategy would be published by the end of this calendar year.

Tor Justad noted the last report from DRS in relation to the route strategy plan which was published at the end of June. Trudy Morris provided an update from DRS.

Following the last update on Georgemas Railhead in June, DRS continue to support the NDA with their mission to deliver 'safe and sustainable solutions to the challenge of nuclear clean-up and waste management of the UK's nuclear legacy'.

Discussions are ongoing between Restore, Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd and DRS in relation to the transport of archive materials from various nuclear facilities to Wick. All three parties continue to explore opportunities and benefits of a shared rail service.

Civil works at Georgemas Railhead, costing £152,000, have been completed and has included the drainage installation of 160 metres of a new trackside drain that runs alongside the main line at Georgemas Junction. This will improve the drainage capability of the existing systems at the terminal, siding and mainline as the outflow has been increased. The installation has improved the rail infrastructure around Georgemas Junction and will reduce maintenance costs for Network Rail in the long term.

As detailed in our last update, DRS along with other operators supported Network Rail and Transport Scotland to produce a long term route strategy for the Scottish rail network which will help maximise the potential for the facility. Following the public consultation period (December 2015 to June 2016) the 'Final Scotland Route Study' document was published in June. This document highlights upgrades required to the Network until 2043.

DRS have also been working with Network Rail and stakeholders creating a paper for the Scottish Government outlining the investment choices for the funders and the Far North line are featured in this.

As an open access terminal, DRS would welcome approaches from any operator with commercial opportunities which do not conflict with the terminal's prime purpose. Since our last update we have not been approached by any other operator.

Trudy Morris responded that, through the Caithness Transport Forum, they were trying to bottom out – hard to demonstrate the commercial feasibility.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A003: June Love to circulate Route plan for Network Rail in Scotland to DSG members.

David Flear noted that there had been a planning application for a biomass plant at Georgemas but had lost sight of the outcome.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A004: June Love to send update on planning application for biomass plant at Georgemas to DSG members.

4. STATUS OF ACTIONS

David Flear noted that an update of the status of actions had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Progress on all outstanding actions was being made and he invited members to raise any issues or questions. No issues were raised.

5. PRESENTATION ON REGULATION FOR NUCLEAR TRANSPORTS

David Flear thanked Iain Davidson for attending the meeting. He handed over to Iain Davidson for the presentation - DSG(2016)C029 refers.

After the presentation was made, David Flear thanked Iain Davidson for his input and asked if the presentation could be circulated to members. Iain Davidson responded that he was happy for his presentation to be circulated.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A005: June Love to circulate copy of presentation (Regulation for Nuclear Transports) to all DSG members.

David Flear then opened up the discussion to questions from members.

Cllr Maurice Davidson noted that within the presentation it was mentioned there had been over one billion moves per year. Iain Davidson responded there had been one billion safe moves made worldwide over 50+ years (the length of time the IAEA Transports Regulations have been in place).

Cllr Maurice Davidson asked how many moves of nuclear material had been made by air. Iain Davidson responded on the civil side there had not been very many of nuclear material but quite a lot of non-nuclear, eg radiopharmaceuticals with short half-lives. Those that had been executed had been transported safely.

Cllr Maurice Davidson asked whether ONR ensured that operators of the transport of nuclear material consult with public bodies and the public on these requirements. Iain Davidson responded that there was no legal requirement to consult with the public.

Mark Raffle, NDA added that in terms of route the NDA and other organisations involved are constrained legally in terms of consulting with the public as it was imperative that the route used was secured. Therefore it was impossible to consult on timings and routes of nuclear transports.

Cllr Maurice Davidson responded that he was asking these questions as the Orkney Islands Council had a policy for no transport by sea through Orkney waters. However, in all earlier discussions there had been no mention of potentially using air as an alternative. Mark Raffle responded that the

transport of materials is safe and is carried out in accordance with legislation. David Flear added that this had not been first time that material had been flown out of Wick John O'Groats airport.

Cllr Maurice Davidson responded that he was still concerned that during earlier discussions and documents being received by DSG there had never been mention of potential air transports. It appeared there had been no consultation carried out on this at all and while he acknowledged that the NDA had visited Orkney to discuss nuclear transports air had never been mentioned at that time.

David Flear noted that at a pr² h av i t s b a t O)

David Broughton noted that the presentation, in relation to assessment of containers, had made mention of elapsed time of 1000 hours in about 20 weeks. He asked how many people had been involved with the assessment. Iain Davidson responded that he thought it was around 5 or 6. Roy Blackburn asked who the responsible body was for making decisions on permissioning the transport mode and route. Sheila Hutchison responded that ONR approves the transport security plans.

Tor Justad noted that he had provided a number of written questions in advance of the meeting and asked how these would be addressed. It was noted that a written response would be provided.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A006: June Love to co-ordinate written response to questions on nuclear material transports raised by Tor Justad.

Tor Justad stated he had listened to the previous questions and answers and continued to be appalled at the inactivity of the public relations in this respect. While NDA had talked about the small amount of material being transferred by air putting this into context they were talking about 750kgs while 30kgs of highly enriched uranium was required to make weapons. This was highly dangerous material and while we are told this was to ensure that this material will be made safe there was absolutely no way of knowing what this material would be used for. David Flear said it had been reported that some of the material would be turned into medical isotopes. Tor Justad responded that he simply did not believe that and that there was no shortage of medical isotopes around the world. David Flear invited Charles Stewart-Roper from Scottish Government to respond.

Charles Stewart-Roper stated that the responsibility for the Exotic fuel rested with the UK Government and fell under UK legislation and not directly by Scottish Government. UK Government ministers make the final decisions in this respect. There was an inter-government remit and Scottish government had been supportive of this programme to move the bulk of the fuels to Sellafield. There is no long term plans for these to be managed at Dounreay with the bulk of the material owned by UK Government being sent to Sellafield. It may be very many decades before there was a GDF and it seemed that a programme of consolidation of fuels was the right thing to do.

Tor Justad noted there had been very little mention of testing containers destined for sea transport and asked what testing had been carried out on containers. If an accident occurred and these containers ended up at the bottom of the sea how long would it take to recover before these corroded. Iain Davidson responded that the containers were regulated under international standards and included immersion testing up to 200m deep. Tor Justad asked whether there was evidence that these tests had been carried out. Iain Davidson responded that the testing could be carried out utilising a pressure vessel, ramping up the applied pressure to 2MPa. He stated that he would seek out further information on this as he had not been involved personally and would respond in writing. Phil Craig, Dounreay Managing Director, noted that in order to have a package licensed for fuel movements it would have to have passed these tests.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A007: Iain Davidson, ONR to provide information on testing of containers used for fuel movements at sea.

Cllr Matthew Reiss stated that it was good to hear a robust challenge to the work that Dounreay does which was a good example of democracy. However, he felt there was two sides to every story and noted that he had been many years in the Northern Police based in Thurso and especially when he was the Thurso Inspector at a time that nuclear movements from the site took place. He wanted to assure members that the meticulous planning for security and contingencies should be seen as

highly reassuring and he voiced his confidence in this vital but obviously not fully public area of work.

Cllr Reiss continued that as a Councillor he and his colleagues adhere to the Councillors code of conduct which tells Councillors to “represent all our constituents conscientiously” and that sometimes includes restricting information only when the wider public interest clearly demands that. All four of the landward Caithness Councillors are non-political independent members and before the meeting Cllr Reiss had checked with his colleagues regarding any contact made by members of the public on these fuel movements. No complaints had been received by any of the landward councillors, unlike the complaints made with regards the wind turbines transportation, but there had been positive comment made on the investment at the airport and indeed Cllr David Bremner had recently commented at the Caithness Committee that the county would welcome new nuclear work. People tell the elected councillors that they recognise the long term economic benefits of Dounreay, the excellent results at Thurso High School especially in the Science subjects and the financial security of many hundreds of jobs. This vast benefit for the area should not be overshadowed by criticism, if it is inaccurate or disproportionate. Criticisms are heard regularly but it would be useful for everyone to remember the long list of huge benefits that Dounreay has brought to Caithness and North Sutherland.

Cllr Roger Saxon also noted no-one had raised any concerns with him. On the basis that it did not go unchallenged he asked NDA whether they could confirm that the material that had been transported from site was not weapons grade material. David Flear responded that this has been discussed at previous meetings and could not be responded to under security regulations. Tor Justad stated that the information he had seen had showed that it was.

Tor Justad noted ONR’s annual report and accounts which had not made for dynamic reading. ONR appeared to be showing a shortage of inspectors with people retiring and the recruitment of 26 new people. He asked whether there was an impact on some of the work that ONR should be doing. Iain Davidson responded that from a personal point of view this had not had an impact within his area. It was important to carry out this work within a timescale and the team currently there was staffed up to do this work. There was no shortage of transport inspectors. Sheila Hutchison added that there were a number of professional disciplines in ONR. There was over 300 inspectors currently working across programmes and workloads were prioritised.

Cllr Maurice Davidson noted the benefits Dounreay had brought to Caithness and Sutherland but stated that, being from Orkney his interest was to be able to attend and ask questions of the NDA and the regulators. He stated that representing the islands his concern was if a ship with nuclear containers went down then it would go down to around 100 metres deep in the Pentland Firth and no information was made available about this in corrosion testing. He asked what time it would take to find these containers and more importantly to retrieve them. Iain Davidson responded that before any shipments would take place an emergency plan was put in place and was the responsibility of the Maritime Coast Guards. He re-iterated that these containers underwent high specification testing and they would not easily corrode. If something like this was to happen the clean-up would be led by Maritime Coast Guards but with a multi-agency approach.

Cllr Davidson asked for clarification regarding corrosion tests and whether testing on how long a container would last underwater had been carried out. Iain Davidson responded that there was no regulation covering corrosion testing as it was unlikely that containers would not be left for any length of time without being recovered. Cllr Davidson stated that this appeared to mean that ONR could okay the transport but could not assure anyone that the containers would last underwater. Sheila Hutchison responded that the containers were made from robust material and would not

degrade quickly. Cllr Davidson said while that was all very well there appeared to be no time limit and given this was the Pentland Firth it would not be that easy to find or recover. Given the regulators remit Cllr Davidson felt that there should be a regulation to give members of the public robust assurance of safety. Tor Justad stated that as seen by the recent grounding of an oil rig there was always a potential for something to happen.

John Deighan noted Cllr Davidson's comments on the benefits of Dounreay in Caithness and Sutherland. He reminded Cllr Davidson that Orkney had also benefited with the recruitment of apprentices for a number of years which included a number of youngsters from Orkney.

Bill Hamilton stated that he needed to make it clear that he had to challenge the comments made regarding not getting answers to the consequences of a ship going down and containers would end up at the bottom of the sea for a long time. In the extreme event that this scenario was to happen a recovery operation would be led by INS with multi-agencies playing their part. INS would be at the heart of that with their headquarters providing in-depth backup with experience to handle an emergency globally. He suggested that if it would help NDA would ask for an INS representative to attend a meeting of DSG to present how they would deal with emergency responses.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A008: NDA to provide information relating to INS in relation to emergency planning arrangements for sea transports.

David Broughton echoed John Deighan's comments regarding apprentices from Orkney. He had been on the Apprentice Board at Dounreay for many years and there had been a steady stream of young Orcadians going through their apprenticeships at Dounreay.

David Broughton also noted that from an engineering point of view, the thickness of a flask is the outcome of the design process. Also the seals will have been part of that design. It should be relatively straightforward then to work out the length of time a flask could sit on the seabed before corrosion or seal leakage was a problem.

David Broughton also noted that he and Tor Justad had visited the Ocean Pintail in Barrow. During that visit they had been able to question the Captain who had been very open with them about contributing to transport and emergency plans. David Flear noted that DSG was happy to support members to facilitate such visits.

There being no further questions or comment from members David Flear asked whether any members of the public wished to raise anything. Nothing was raised.

David Flear thanked everyone for their contribution to this discussion, with special mention to Iain Davidson for providing the presentation.

6. VULCAN UPDATE

David Flear noted that the Vulcan update was provided at the Site Restoration Sub Group meeting. Written reports are now being received. At the last sub group, held on 13th July, Vulcan reported the following:

-) No lost time accidents or injuries since 30th July.
-) No RIDDOR incidents had occurred.
-) No environmental non compliances.
-) Behaviour safety continued to be a focus for the site.
-) SEPA were currently reviewing the letter of agreement for the site.

-) Decay heat reduction continues in the shore test facility.
-) ONR had received the site's hazard identification risk evaluation.
-) Lonestar 2016 exercise had been successful.

The sub group had also received an offer from the SEPA inspector for Vulcan to attend a sub group meeting if the group felt this would be useful.

Simon Tinling and Wendy Newton of MOD had also attended the sub group meeting as a follow up to previous discussions on the options for the future of the site. Simon Tinling had provided an update of the progress being made there. DSG members had made it clear that they wish to see the community involved at an early stage when considering the options and that it would not be acceptable to come forward with a preferred decision without any local input.

David Flear then invited Commander Ken Dyke to provide a verbal update.

Commander Dyke responded that the position was exactly as summarised. The site had not had any lost time accidents since the report had last been made. He also acknowledged the discussion on the options for the future of the Vulcan site and the desire to input into all options at an early stage.

7. SUB GROUP UPDATES

Site Restoration Sub Group

Bob Earnshaw, Site Restoration sub group chairman, noted that the sub group had met on 13th July – DSG/SRSG(2016)M002 refers. The minutes had been circulated in advance to members. At that meeting a number of written reports had been provided:

-) Dounreay update – paper 13 refers.
-) SEPA report – paper 14 refers.
-) ONR report – paper 15 refers.

In summary, discussion at the sub group included the following:

NDA:

-) Additional funding for the Dounreay site over the next two years.
-) Magnox sites consolidation progress.
-) We also discussed the potential significance of the Brexit vote.

Dounreay:

-) Progress with the Dounreay Improvement Team activities
-) Ongoing work to complete the new decommissioning programme.
-) Progress in decommissioning activities
-) Organisational changes within the site.
-) Environmental projects including site end state and the remediation of the liquid effluent discharge system.

SEPA:

-) Approval of the site's application of its corporate radioactive waste advisor arrangements.
-) The ongoing investigation into the Krypton 85 discharges.
-) Particles Retrieval advisory group final report.

The sub group was also informed that the Scottish Councils Committee on radioactive substances (SCCORS) had changed their remit which had previously concentrated on radioactive waste and would now consider all nuclear materials.

ONR:

-) ONR had deemed the site's emergency exercise as adequate.
-) Joint inspections by ONR nuclear inspector and transport inspector had been undertaken looking at the management systems on site to confirm they were aligned to meet nuclear safety and transport requirements.
-) The Annual Review meeting held in April had been very positive.

Bob Earnshaw then invited the following to provide a verbal update:

Scottish Government Radwaste: Charles Stewart-Roper noted:

-) That other than the strategy for higher activity waste to be published at the end of the year there was nothing else to report at present.

NDA: Mark Raffle, NDA Programme Manager noted:

-) Additional funding for the Dounreay site had been reported at the last DSG meeting. At that time it was reported that £22M would be provided to DSRL this year with an additional £14M in the following year. £16M was to be provided direct to DSRL this year and £8M next year with a further £6M each year to be provided by NDA straight to another supplier, rather than through DSRL. Therefore the sums of funding discussed at the previous meeting were still correct it had simply been allocated differently.
-) The new management arrangements had also previously been reported and Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme had now fully relocated to Warrington to take over responsibility for both Dounreay and Magnox contracts.

Dounreay: Phil Craig, Managing Director reported:

-) After a good run of 145 days without a lost time accident we had a worker in PFR who stretched and pulled a muscle. The individual attended hospital, took painkillers and was absent the following day. He has since returned to work. As we stand today we have gone 23 days with a lost time accident. (29th August).
-) As reported at the last DSG meeting the site had an issue relating to Krypton 85 discharges. SEPA had been informed immediately and, at the last meeting, Stewart Ballantine had indicated that SEPA was currently looking into this. SEPA's investigation had now concluded and this had resulted in a final warning letter being issued to the site. While corrective actions had already been put in place the site takes this seriously and will continue to work with SEPA to ensure these improvements that are already in place continue to be effective.
-) This morning (Wed 21st Sept) everyone at the site stopped work, got together in teams to discuss safety trends and re-inforce expected behaviours. Teams undertook walk downs in their areas to spot potential hazards as well as discuss topics such as the Krypton 85 discharge release. These safety stand downs are part of Dounreay's continual improvement programme but also in response to some recent events to ensure the learning is captured, shared and re-enforced. An example of this was in the waste super compactor facility where a process had

not been correctly followed in response to a fault. On this particular issue, remedial action was taken and an investigation carried out with the conclusions shared with the regulators. ONR was taking a keen interest in this and had written to request further information on the actions to be taken to engender improvements and measure how effective these are. This was something that the site did not take lightly. The stand down also supported a new campaign to clearly communicate that all workers on the Dounreay site should stop work - and will be supported in doing so - if they think what they are doing, or what they see, is unsafe. Or has the potential to be unsafe.

-) The site was currently reviewing the new decommissioning programme and this is on track to submit to the NDA in October as reported at previous meetings.
-) The site teams have successfully completed two major milestones both contributing to significant hazard reduction. Projects to remove and make safe both Nak and DFR raffinate have now been completed. NDA noted this removed one of the highest hazards left in its estate. There was a lot of attention paid to the completion of these projects with coverage in newspapers and trade publications as well as being featured on STV news and BBC Radio Scotland. The STV news feature can be found on the Dounreay YouTube channel.
-) In addition to the priority for the fuels project, good progress continues elsewhere on site and more detail will be included in the next written report to the sub group.
-) Lastly, not many people can say they have a job for life. After more than 55 years at Dounreay, the site team took time out to wish Calder Bain a happy retirement. Calder was behind many of the innovative decommissioning approaches on site, such as the blu-tack. He was presented with a small gift to commemorate his years of service, having joined in 1961 as an apprentice. His family were on site for his presentation.

ONR: Sheila Hutchison reported:

-) ONR had written to Phil Craig outlining their expectations of how the site takes steps to identify underlying causes in site occurrences and to learn from these. ONR will be monitoring the site's response.
-) Since the last quarter interventions continued to plan. ONR had inspected training records for operators and decommissioning plants. The plant inspectors were able to see this in practice and found it met with expectations.
-) Pond inspections had also been considered satisfactory.

SEPA: Stewart Ballantine reported:

-) SEPA had sent site a final warning letter in relation to the Krypton 85 discharge following the conclusion of their investigation.
-) SEPA were currently undergoing an investigation into the bulging of HHISO containers which would be destined for the disposal facility. DSRL had been asked to look at this. Further information would be available at the next sub group meeting.
-) Looking forward, an update on the particles retrieval advisory group would be provided by January 2017. A SEPA expert group are scheduled to have discussed the Dounreay site prior to

that meeting. If Paul Dale was not available to attend the January sub group an updated report would be provided.

CNC: Martin O’Kane noted:

-) CNC supported stakeholders and operators on a full time basis.
-) Twelve new recruits had successfully graduated with a further 11 undergoing training at the moment.
-) In developing relationships with the local community, Pete Shewell had been appointed as community liaison officer. Positive feedback had been reported back from community members, Balmore and from local Councillors. Work will continue to develop these relationships as it was important to continue to receive positive feedback.

Bob Earnshaw then invited questions from members.

David Broughton noted that the cementing of the DFR raffinate had now been completed. He asked what the timescale was to modify the cementation plant to be able to accept PFR raffinate. Phil Craig said he did not have the timescales to hand but would be happy to clarify outside the meeting.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A009: Phil Craig to provide timeline for modifications to cementation plant and programme of cementing PFR raffinate.

Tor Justad noted at the sub group meeting there had been a discussion the Euratom’s role in light of the Brexit vote. He asked if further information had been received on this issue. Mark Raffle responded that his understanding was that the UK would continue to apply EU rules or it would convert to IAEA surveillance. At present there was no clear way forward but it was clear that the sites would be subject to surveillance by one of these organisations. At present the site continues to deal with Euratom.

Matthew Reiss noted he had received positive comments from constituents regarding CNC presence around the area. A few weeks ago he had spoken to a resident about an abandoned caravan which had been removed following support from the CNC liaison officer.

David Flear noted he would be meeting with Cllr Gillian Coghill as she had agreed to take over the independent chair of the Buldoo Residents Group and it was useful to work closely with DSG.

For completeness the actions raised at the Site Restoration sub group are recorded here:

DSG(2016)M003/A010: June Love to pass Information on timber haulage to the Caithness Transport Forum.

DSG(2016)M003/A011: Stewart Ballantine to discuss with SEPA rep regarding an update/presentation for a future restoration sub group meeting on the particles project.

DSG(2016)M003/A012: DSG secretariat to seek approval for SCCORS to visit site and to provide DSG meeting dates for proposed visit.

DSG(2016)M003/A013: DSG Secretariat to raise CNC update at next business meeting.

DSG(2016)M003/A014: DSG secretariat to contact DNSR with a view to receiving written updates in time for site restoration sub group meetings.

DSG(2016)M003/A015: DSG Secretariat to enquire whether Rolls Royce has a graduate programme.

DSG(2016)M003/A016: Wendy Newton to liaise with June Love to agree appropriate sub group meetings to provide update on the future options of the site.

There being no further issues or questions raised, Bob Earnshaw thanked everyone for their input and handed over to Cllr Roger Saxon.

Socio Economic sub group

Cllr Roger Saxon noted that the socio economic sub group meeting had met on 13th July 2016 – the minutes of the meeting had been circulated to members in advance – DSG/SESG(2016)M002 refers.

Before continuing he noted he would like to add his congratulations to Calder Bain on his recent retirement.

From the sub group meeting, Roger noted the following had been discussed:

-) A written report had been received which covered the activities of the Dounreay Socio Economic Alliance which includes the NDA, Cavendish Dounreay Partnership and DSRL. The report was a full one and included updates on a number of projects. Of note:
 -) Good to hear that the NDA had approved that the site can now carry over £150,000 of socio economic funding from one year to the next. This means that the funding can be carried over if projects run slightly late and into the next financial year.
 -) The Communications team were looking at ways of enhancing local stories in relation to the Dounreay Community Fund.
 -) An update on the Community Sports Hub project has been requested for the next sub group.
 -) The NDA Archives was progressing well – the presentation provided at the June meeting outlined the positive progress on this project.
 -) A number of tenders had been issued requesting a local community benefit plan. While still early days, the next step will be to see those companies being held to their plans and how these are measured. This is starting to move forward positively.
 -) Positive comments from the North Highland College regarding the site's willingness to work together.
 -) Renovation of the offices above Dounreay.com was progressing well. Once complete they will provide accommodation for the Human Resource and Training staff.

Roger Saxon then invited the following to provide an update:

NDA: Mark Raffle, NDA Programme Manager, reported:

-) The construction of the archives was nearing completion and would be then handed over to Restore who has the responsibility of setting up and running the archives. There had been a slight delay in the construction but this would not impact significantly the opening date.
-) The Caithness and North Sutherland Fund has appointed Cllr Gillan Coghill and David Glass as Directors. The Fund had recently seen the largest assessment round since its launch with £165K awarded. Their AGM would meet on 28th October at 1400hrs in Caithness Horizons.
-) NDA were also continuing to work with CNSRP.
-) NDA, along with DSRL, were also in discussion with North Highland College regarding potential safety case authoring courses. Consideration was being given as to whether there was a sustainable model that could be developed.
-) NDA had around £0.5M available for PhD funding with applications being encouraged with ideas that would directly support NDA's mission.
-) A supply chain event would take place on 3rd November in Manchester.
-) NDA had hosted the Japanese Ambassador to the Dounreay site. The visit was facilitated by Dr Paul Monaghan, MP and they were also introduced to a number of local businesses in the area.

Dounreay: Phil Craig reported:

-) The site had welcomed Eann Sinclair CNSRP Programme Manager over the last few months to provide lunchtime presentations on the projected future job opportunities. Three presentations have been done with an invitation for Eann to come back to site to continue to update our workforce on the regeneration activities of the partnership.
-) Cavendish Nuclear continue to second Shona Kirk to Wick harbour authority – Shona has been and continues to provide support to assist with the harbour's business plan and the ongoing development of SSE's operations and maintenance base for their Beatrice offshore wind project. It was good to hear that the contract between the harbour and SSE was signed off on Friday last week.
-) While not directly involved, although other CNSRP partners have been, it was good to see the TV coverage of the Meygen project launched by the First Minister on the 12th of this month. This project would also see benefits coming to this part of the county.
-) Simon Middlemas and June Love have been providing support to HIE on various activities but especially the vertical launch project which is still at a very early stage. If this does get off the ground (if you excuse the pun) this will be a major boost for the Caithness and North Sutherland area.
-) Dounreay Socio Economic funding had been provided to North Highland College who were the hosts for the Scottish Engineering Craft competition this year. Dounreay also sponsored the prizes for this competition. It was good to see Michael Mowat, one of Dounreay's electrical apprentices winning gold. This just demonstrates the calibre of young people that the site has

recruited and credit must also be given to North Highland College for the hands-on training they provide as part of the apprentices learning.

-) As Dounreay Managing Director, it was a pleasure to welcome the new intake of apprentices –10 apprentices have been taken on this year and this is the 61st year of the site's involvement with apprentice training. Recruitment of a further 10 graduates is now complete following the successful graduate recruitment last year. These young people are the workforce of the future and the site management team are proud to be part of developing these skills within the industry. A facebook page had been set up where the new apprentices and graduates introduce themselves and this will be followed up over time with their progress as they settle in to life at the site.
-) Since the focus is on young people a number of site personnel will gather on Friday night to celebrate the indentures of apprentices this Friday. The 4th year apprentices will come out of their time and this is a great opportunity to recognise their achievement and congratulate them on successful completion of their apprenticeship.
-) Stephen Adamson has recently taken over from Ken Linn as Head of Commercial. There were a number of contracts going through due process at the moment and these have included the requirement to submit local community benefit plans. The tender submissions coming through have embraced this and by the time we meet next the due process will be complete to allow more detail to be provided.
-) One contract that is ongoing is the site's Guardforce run by Profile Security Services Ltd. Since their contract begun they have worked with Job Centre Plus to attract those looking for employment to initially come to site for work experience. This scheme has successfully recruited 4 people over the couple of years since the guardforce has been in existence. The Magnox site is looking to implement this scheme following the success of this at Dounreay.
-) And last but not least, while the site continues to be of interest to a number of visitors notably it had been a pleasure to support the NDA in welcoming the Japanese Ambassador to the UK to Dounreay as part of a wider visit to the area. The Ambassador along with other colleagues visited the site as part of a two day visit to the north of Scotland as a guest of Dr Paul Monaghan, MP. While on site the group toured the Prototype Fast Reactor as well as having wider discussions on the skills at Dounreay. Following the site visit the group also went to Janetstown to see JGC's facilities and to hear how local companies were supporting the work at Dounreay.

Roger Saxon thanked both Mark Raffle and Phil Craig for their updates and opened up the discussion to members.

Trudy Morris asked when the last intake of apprentices would now be. Phil Craig said they were looking at this in the context of the change of date for interim end state. He said he did not have the exact detail to hand and would respond following the meeting.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A017: Phil Craig Dounreay Managing Director, to provide dates for the last intake of apprentices to the Dounreay site.

Roger Saxon noted that CNSRP had also provided a written update to the sub group meeting and invited Eann Sinclair to provide an update. Eann Sinclair, CNSRP Programme Manager, noted the following:

-) The BOWL (Beatrice Offshore Wind Ltd) contract had been signed off last week. BOWL also held a public event last week where they outlined proposals to spend multi-millions to restore two derelict buildings at the harbour. This was a change from the previous proposal but had gone down well with those who had attended the event. This project had the potential to create 90 direct SSE jobs which would be created over the next 2-3 years. Advertisements for these job vacancies have been published. The planning application had been submitted to Highland Council last week.

The work undertaken to secure the contract for the operations and maintenance base at Wick harbour should not be under-estimated. Shona Kirk, seconded from Cavendish Nuclear, had been pivotal to supporting this.

In parallel, MORL (Moray Offshore Renewables Ltd) are continuing their work and while they did not have their Contract for Difference from UK Government it was hopeful that this would be secured this year. They are also looking at the potential to create their operations and maintenance base from Wick. Both Wick Harbour Authority and CNSRP partners are discussing this with MORL. MORL's project is about twice the size of the BOWL development.

-) The Scottish Government First Minister launched the start of the Meygen project at Nigg early in September. The jack-up barge installation is now in progress at Scrabster and the orange shaped ballasts which can now be seen at the harbour were manufactured by JGC at its facility in Janetstown. The ballasts are the bases for the tidal devices.

Roger Saxon then invited others round the table to provide updates. The following was reported:

Caithness Chamber of Commerce: Trudy Morris, Chief Executive:

-) Echoed Eann Sinclair's comments on BOWL and Meygen adding that it was good to see local companies getting involved with these projects. SSE was also considering the use of the airport for part of their operations and it was hoped that further announcements for development would come to fruition.
-) Through the Developing the Young Workforce, the chamber continued to work with schools and the North Highland College and were looking at a number of initiatives with the six schools especially with their 6th year pupils.
-) The business mentoring support project, funded by NDA and Dounreay, continues and some of the people involved have been successful in securing funding through the Caithness Business Fund. The Chamber continues to work with two STEM-ets from Wick High School to develop an app and support is being provided to help with Scottish Funding Council applications to receive Innovation vouchers.
-) The Chamber was currently looking at The Highland Council procurement policy and had been in touch with HC representatives to voice concerns. It is hoped that the HC Procurement team will visit Caithness to speak to local suppliers and to allow suppliers to outline how these policies can disadvantage local companies.

Association of Community Councils: Jean Lipa noted:

-) The Village Officers scheme which will cover all 12 community council areas to ensure the village gardens are kept tidy. The funding for this comes from the Highland Council discretionary

budget.

-) Recent discussions with Scotrail/Abellio confirmed that they did not purchase the land adjoining the railway station for a car park. It had also been confirmed that the area outside the station had been examined and had confirmed that the little round-about would be sufficient for vehicles using to exit Lovers Lane, Ormlie Road and Castlegreen Road. London and Scottish Investment Company confirmed this and also confirmed that they own the whole of the Mart site.
-) A one way system in Shore Street will commence once the street has been tarred over.

Highland Council: Cllr Roger Saxon reported:

-) The Caithness Area Committee had begun to develop the Caithness vision and had intimated the desire to work in partnership. He had sent the vision to the DSG secretary and this would be circulated to members.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A018: June Love to circulate the HC Caithness Vision to DSG members.

NHS Highland: Mike Flavell noted:

-) A newsletter had been developed to ensure updates were available to those interested. This had been sent to the DSG Secretary for distribution to DSG members.

Action: DSG(2016)M003/A019: June Love to circulate the NHS newsletter to all DSG members.

-) The Caithness Redesign reference group met last week.
-) Partnership working continued with Scottish Ambulance and the Red Cross.
-) Scottish Fire Services have become an emergency responder to support NHS.
-) A number of changes are being made to the number of health facilities within the area.
-) Working with GPs to improve ways of working. Two GP practices in Caithness (Riverbank and Riverview) now have an advanced pharmacist practitioner who can take over medication reviews at the practice.
-) Two mental health support workers have been appointed in east and west Caithness. They will work alongside the existing three community psychiatric nurses and will work in both the community and hospital settings.
-) Caithness General Hospital is undergoing a multi-million pound upgrade. The Rosebank wing has been converted into an acute assessment unit and work has also been completed on creating an ambulatory care unit. Further work is continuing.
-) In response to local feedback and in a bid to raise the profile of the Caithness General Hospital a separate website has been created to feature services and vacancies at the hospital. Information can be found at [http:// www.cgh.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.cgh.scot.nhs.uk)

John Deighan noted that the NHS was under a lot of pressure and had been over the last few years. He asked what NHS Highland was doing to safeguard Dunbar hospital. Mike Flavell responded that he could clarify that Dunbar hospital was not closing but that NHS needed to change how they deliver the services going forward. NHS was looking to enhance community services and was working to ensure that people could be cared for within their homes. By putting more emphasis on care at home means that there should not be a need for so many beds within the hospital.

Thelma Mackenzie asked what was happening with the maternity ward as it appeared there was also a reduction in beds within this service. Mike Flavell responded that the beds had been reduced from 6 to 3 but that this was because of the 50% occupancy of the maternity ward. Maternity services at Caithness General Hospital was consultancy led.

David Flear added that the newsletter would be circulated to members as previously mentioned and that it would be useful to wait for reports coming through from the redesign committee. He noted that DSG member, Ronnie Johnston who was not in attendance tonight, was a member of the redesign group and could provide an update at the next sub group meeting.

8. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

David Flear noted that members of the public had been invited to ask questions under the specific agenda items. He asked whether anyone wished to raise anything that had not been covered. No issues were raised.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Before opening up to the members, David Flear noted he would be attending meetings as follows:

-) Dr Paul Monaghan, MP on Thursday 22nd September 2016.
-) Scottish Government Scottish Sites meeting on 29th September.
-) Nuclear Industries Association on 1st December.

David Flear invited members to raise any other business. No further business was raised.

10. CLOSE

As there was no further formal business, David Flear thanked everyone for their input and formally closed the meeting.

David Flear
DSG Chairman
25th September 2016

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG(2016)M003/A001: David Flear to write to Highland Council encouraging them to follow up on NDA letter regarding nuclear material transport.

DSG(2016)M003/A002: Phil Craig, Dounreay Managing Director, to respond formally to letter received from DSG regarding waste hierarchy.

DSG(2016)M003/A003: June Love to circulate Route strategy plan to DSG members.

DSG(2016)M003/A004: June Love to send update on planning application for biomass plant at Georgemas to DSG members.

DSG(2016)M003/A005: June Love to circulate copy of presentation (Regulation for Nuclear Transports) to all DSG members.

DSG(2016)M003/A006: June Love to co-ordinate written response to questions on nuclear material transports raised by Tor Justad.

DSG(2016)M003/A007: Iain Davidson, ONR to provide information on testing of containers used for fuel movements at sea.

DSG(2016)M003/A008: NDA to provide information relating to INS in relation to emergency planning arrangements for sea transports.

DSG(2016)M003/A009: Phil Craig to provide timeline for modifications to cementation plant and programme of cementing of PFR raffinate.

DSG(2016)M003/A010: June Love to pass Information on timber haulage to the Caithness Transport Forum.

DSG(2016)M003/A011: Stewart Ballantine to discuss with SEPA rep regarding an update/ presentation for a future restoration sub group meeting on the particles project.

DSG(2016)M003/A012: DSG secretariat to seek approval for SCCORS to visit site and to provide DSG meeting dates for proposed visit.

DSG(2016)M003/A013: DSG Secretariat to raise CNC update at next business meeting.

DSG(2016)M003/A014: DSG secretariat to contact DNSR with a view to receiving written updates in time for site restoration sub group meetings.

DSG(2016)M003/A015: DSG Secretariat to enquire whether Rolls Royce has a graduate programme.

DSG(2016)M003/A016: Wendy Newton to liaise with June Love to agree appropriate sub group meetings to provide update on the future options of the site.

DSG(2016)M003/A017: Phil Craig Dounreay Managing Director, to provide dates for the last intake of apprentices to the Dounreay site.

DSG(2016)M003/A018: June Love to circulate the HC Caithness Vision to DSG members.

DSG(2016)M003/A019: June Love to circulate the NHS newsletter to all DSG members.

DSG(2016)M003/A020: June Love to explore options with Paul Hetherington, Dounreay Head of Communications, with reference to photographs and publicity for Dounreay Community Fund projects.

DSG(2016)M003/A021: June Love (Marie Mackay) to review the guidelines for the Dounreay Community Fund to include criteria which precludes funding going to events which donates funding to charity.

DSG(2016)M003/A022: June Love (Marie Mackay) to provide a summary of all organisations that have benefitted from the Dounreay Community Fund over the last five years.

DSG(2016)M003/A023: Shona Kirk to provide a written update on the Community Sports Hubs Project for the next sub group meeting.

DSG(2016)M003/A024: Eann Sinclair, CNSRP Programme Manager to provide the CNSRP high priority programme pipeline for projects for the next three years at next sub group meeting.

DSG(2016)M003/A025: DSG to write to Highland Council (Bill Fernie) asking for clarification on their commitment to Caithness Horizons.

DSG(2016)M003/A026: June Love to include budget and current spend in the next socio economic sub group written report.

DSG(2016)M003/A027: Eann Sinclair to feed comments on tourism into CNSRP for discussion.

DSG(2016)M003/A028: June Love to extend invitation to all DSG members to attend November Socio Economic sub group to see the CNSRP presentation on future job projects.

DSG(2016)M003/A029: Derrick Milnes to make contact with local GMB representative to explore whether a meeting with GMB officials and the Trades Council was being considered.

ACTIONS ONGOING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

DSG(2014)M003/A009: Emma Forbes, Highland Council Planning, to look into the issue of excessive noise at the CNC Firing Range and report back to DSG. **Action ongoing:** Environmental Health is content that there is no breach of Planning conditions. The nuisance aspects have not been able to be verified. On 19th March Environmental Health had posted out noise recording sheets to four of the residents but none have been returned so far. (These will be posted out again). Based upon the monitoring that has been undertaken to date, the conclusion is that there is no noise nuisance for Environmental Health to address. This action is ongoing has it transpired that there was a misunderstanding of whether the noise sheets distributed to neighbours were being collected or not. The noise sheets will be redistributed to neighbours and collected three weeks following receipt. **Update:** Noise sheets were distributed in November and contact was made in December to ask if the forms were ready for return but no-one had completed forms.

DSG(2016)M001/A019: June Love to look at DSG website and identify the information being accessed.

ACTIONS COMPLETED SINCE LAST MEETING

DSG(2015)M003/A010: June Love to speak to Dr Monaghan's Chief of Staff to identify a convenient date for a meeting with Dr Paul Monaghan, MP. **Action complete:** Meeting scheduled for 22nd September 2016.

DSG(2016)M002/A001: Mark Raffle, NDA Programme Manager to provide information relating to the Record Retention Schedule for the repository of documents. **Action complete:** As part of the answer to the query on what will be held in the Archive, please see the link below to the NDA's Record Retention Schedule, openly available on our website. NDA also requires the sites in its estate to use this schedule as a minimum requirement. The document specifies categories of information, their retention period, basis for keeping the information (such as relevant legislation) and action at the end of the retention period - which will normally be

archive or destroy but in some cases may be further review.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nda-records-retention-schedule>

DSG(2016)M002/A002: DSG Secretary to invite ONR to provide a presentation on the regulation of nuclear transports at the next DSG meeting (September 2016). **Action complete:** presentation on 21st September 2016.

DSG(2016)M002/A003: June Love to request a visit to the archives for DSG members. **Action complete:** invitation sent for event on 12th July 2016.

DSG(2016)M002/A004: June Love to contact all DSG attendees (observers and members) to ask for specific topics (members) and short updates (observers). **Action complete:** action related to this minute (DSG(2016)M002).