

NOTE FOR THE RECORD**DSG CHAIR / VICE CHAIR DISCUSSION WITH MARK ROUSE, MD DOUNREAY ON RESTART OF SITE OPERATIONS ON TUESDAY 9TH JUNE 2020.**

The meeting was a follow up to a previous discussion on the site's plans to cautiously start planning for a phased restart of site operations.

Mark Rouse outlined the following:

- A cautious approach was being taken to ensure the safety of the workforce
- Phasing would be in four stages (as outlined by Scottish Government guidelines).
- Essential maintenance had continued throughout the Covid-19 restrictions in a controlled way

While essential short-term maintenance has been carried out since the beginning of lockdown the preparations needed for moving into phase 2 means that more needs doing and it is therefore expected that there will be around 120 people regularly on site to carry out these functions (double that on the Wednesday "maintenance day").

Prior to moving to phase 2 there has been a number of facility trials, new signage, installation of screens and briefing material developed to ensure guidance to those returning to site is clear. Senior Managers, TU and Safety Representatives have been on site to test out the new systems, ensuring signage is clear and those returning to work have a good understanding of the processes.

At this time there was no specific guidance from Scottish Government regarding people who would need to travel into the area to recommence work. Clarification of this was being sought and once received would allow site to take on board this guidance to mobilise some of the contracting companies who will be required to travel back up to the area to commence work.

No dates have been provided for each phase as this will depend on emerging Scottish Government guidance (expected to hear more on 18th June) and a cautious approach will be taken. The NDA has been very supportive and are content that the site is taking a slow/steady approach to restarting.

Cllr Struan Mackie noted the One NDA was looking at 5 steps of a continuity plan which a re-imagine phase and asked what the foundation blocks were in terms of this. Mark Rouse responded that the NDA were keen to co-ordinate and leverage any positives from Covid-19 and that learning across the NDA estate should be shared. As an example, having proven it is possible to work remotely there was the potential to look further into flexible working arrangements whether that be in terms of working from home or different working hours.

Davie Alexander noted that it had been brought to his attention that NBC Environment (contracted to provide bird management services on site) had provided an exemplary risk assessment and had acted in a very professional manner ensuring guidance was being adhered to while carrying out their work. Mark Rouse agreed that NBC's risk assessment was a model for others and the site had been very impressed with their professionalism while carrying out this job.

It was agreed that a follow up meeting would take place in around two weeks' time.

Of more general note:

- A recent job advert for a Dounreay Transformation Manager had raised concerns amongst the workforce due to the job description covering a range of topics including redundancy management. Mark Rouse stated that this post had been identified prior to March 2020 and would report to the Organisational Excellence Director to support the development of the People Plan and the Transformation Plan that will be required as the site progresses the decommissioning. It was not the intention that this post was being brought in to specifically look at redundancies but due to the nature of the decommissioning the reality was that this would need to be managed in the longer term and was therefore a valid component of the job description. Mark did note that the job advert should not have been placed; the words used were actually part of a justification process being worked on with the NDA and was never intended to form part of an advert.
- While the performance plan had been agreed with NDA for this year (2020/21) discussions were ongoing on the overall plan. It was Mark's intention to ensure that the long term plan aligns with One NDA as Dounreay had a lot to offer and receive in shared lessons for other sites.

DSG additional updates

- Struan Mackie (DSG Chair), Peter Faccenda (CNSRP Programme Manager) and Trudy Morris (CEO, Chamber of Commerce) took part in an initial market engagement day for MOD Vulcan. The event was held virtually with a number of companies registering to take part. MOD provided an introduction to the Vulcan decommissioning project and what the procurement will encompass. DSG/CNSRP/Chamber provided details to all companies on the remit of the DSG, the wider CNSRP activities and opportunities going forward with the Chamber providing outline to the local supply chain capabilities and where the Chamber can provide support. A follow up market engagement day will take place something in Quarter 1 of 2021 (ie April to June 2021).
- It was also noted that Dounreay had provided £100k funding to the Caithness Business Fund to support local business as they start to look at the requirements needed to restart their business whilst applying social distancing and other restrictions. The fund was launched on Friday and was temporarily suspended on Monday due to the large volume of applications received.

Dounreay Stakeholder Group
10th June 2020