

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of the DSG Business Meeting held on Tuesday 18 August 2020 at 0930 hours by Teams meeting.

Present: Struan Mackie DSG chair
 Davie Alexander DSG vice-chair (socio economic sub group chair)
 Gillian Coghill Site restoration sub group chair
 June Love DSG secretariat

In addition: Steve Young Organisation Excellence Director, Dounreay
 David Wallace NDA Stakeholder Relations Manager
 Adreain Gill Interim End State Delivery Team Manager
 Colin Munro Interim End State Delivery Team

MINUTES

1. WELCOME

Cllr Struan Mackie, DSG Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those attending to discussion specific topics for sparing the time to take part.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Willie Mackay, Roger Saxon and Ron Gunn.

3. NUCLEAR SERVICES HUB UPDATE

Steve Young, Organisation Excellence Director provided a brief overview on the commitment of CDP to develop a business case for the potential for an Engineering Hub in Caithness post Dounreay. The initial discussion on this had resulted in a wider discussion around the potential to deliver other nuclear services from a base in Caithness. Therefore, it was agreed that this should be changed to Nuclear Services hub to take on board other potential services.

During the time of discussions, the NDA then announced the site's transition back to the NDA that would take place at the end of March 2021. It was then recognised that the operating model for a nuclear services hub would need to be refreshed in that the PBO would not be in existence to drive this forward.

Because of Covid, earlier discussions on NDA worker mobility had now extended into work mobility and there had been very early discussions about the potential for a nuclear services hub in Caithness that could provide services across the NDA estate. Therefore, the discussion had changed to explore how much of the NDA Corporate Centre services could be provided from Caithness.

The focus of driving this forward had been on the potential opportunities rather than the operating model that would need to be put into effect.

Discussions then covered:

- Window of opportunity to develop pipeline opportunities
- Consideration of office accommodation off the Dounreay site (for short term requirement due to Covid) that could evolve into a long-term vision of a new build for the hub.
- Requirement for joint approach for a nuclear services hub with NDA, DSRL and CNSRP in the mix to help develop this as a real opportunity.
- Skills audit for DSRL and for wider Caithness and North Sutherland.

- For the DSRL skills audit, discussions had taken place with SDS who had agreed to support this by providing a proposed scope for the audit.
- It was expected that a small pilot project for DSRL skills would commence to ensure that the output provided information that was useful for the wider socio-economic agenda as well as for site needs.
- Once the pilot project was completed and output agreed as relevant the skills audit would be rolled out across the site.
- Potential for R&D work in Caithness involving North Highland College and ERI. Discussions had commenced.

David Alexander noted that while all this sounded very good, but he had heard it all before. June Love noted that the programme of socio-economic activities for the nuclear partners was nearing completion. This programme would be included in the overall CNSRP programme, as the nuclear partners contribution to support socio economics. Once the programme was finalised it would then form the basis of reporting progress across the various strands of activities. 2

Davie Alexander asked whether NDA were content to that the concept of a nuclear services hub forward. David Wallace responded that while it was early days the NDA was committed to continue to explore this concept.

There being no further discussion, Steve Young left the meeting.

4. INTERIM END STATE UPDATE

Colin Munro provided a short update on the progress of the interim end state review. DSG(2020)C040 refers.

DSG Business meeting members welcomed the update, noting that members of DSG will have the opportunity to get involved in the various reviews going forward and looked forward to getting involved at the appropriate time.

There being no further discussion, Adreain Gill and Colin Munro left the meeting.

5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Cllr Struan Mackie noted that the minutes of the last meeting – DSG/BM(2020)M004 – had been endorsed by correspondence shortly after the meeting held on 17th July. These minutes had been circulated to all DSG members to ensure they were kept up to date while meetings were not being held.

6. ACTION STATUS

The status of actions was reviewed. Members noted the progress being made in closing out some actions that had been held up due to Covid. These were now being taken through the DSG business meeting until such times the sub-group meetings started to meet again.

7. FORWARD PLANNING – SEPTEMBER MEETING

It was agreed that the September public meeting would not go ahead as it was still difficult to enact social distancing in a way that would make it safe for individuals. Paperwork for the September meeting would follow the same protocol as for the June public meeting.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following was raised:

- David Wallace noted the visit of Allan Cummings and Gareth Taylor to site week beginning 24th August. A small stakeholder dinner had been organised to allow DSG Chair and vice-chair to

meet. It was agreed that the topics to be discussed would be focussed and concentrate on the airport and urgent need for the PSO, Skills and R&D.

- Dave Wallace noted that NDA would hold a virtual SSG forum on 18th September and invites would be provided to DSG chair and vice-chair. Main topics of discussion would be NDA strategy 4, continued decommissioning activities and socio economics.
- Davie Alexander noted he had attended the Caithness Transport Forum meeting and the airport and urgent requirement for the PSO had been discussed.
- Struan Mackie noted that questions had been raised of how much The Highland Council had contributed to the CNSRP.
- Davie Alexander noted the proposal of the change of HC ward boundaries.
- Struan Mackie stated he had held discussions on the re-opening of Caithness Horizons and asked DSRL whether their funding commitment reduced because the facility had not opened as expected in April 2020. June Love noted that DSRL had committed 3 years of funding of £75k per year. She had already projected that first year funding would not be spent fully and confirmed that a total of £225k had been committed and if the funding was staggered over 4 years instead of three this would still be honoured as long as The Highland Council continued to fund as well.

There being no further business, Cllr Struan Mackie thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting.

Cllr Struan Mackie
DSG Chair
21 August 2020