

DOUNREAY SOCIO ECONOMIC UPDATE
current as of 5 July 2022

Introduction

With DSRL now part of the NDA Group, representatives from NDA and DSRL work as one team to provide support to the socio economic agenda for the area.

Dounreay Socio Economic Plan

The plan for 2022/23 is under development and awaiting the outcome of the CNSRP visioning work currently being developed to ensure the alignment of the vision for the area.

Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics

Dave Calder has recently been recruited to DSRL to become the Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics. His role will consider the implications and impacts of sustainability, social value, and socio economics across the site, on businesses and in the wider community. Dave will take up his new post on 8th August 2022.

Socio Economic reporting

DSRL programme activity that could provide benefit to the wider community will be developed through this coming financial year to allow reporting against programme activity next financial year (2023/24).

Support to CNSRP will continue to ensure where there is a potential to align site activities with the CNSRP vision going forward.

Grant funding

The continued governance of socio economic grant funding activities is recorded below. The decision making process and governance arrangements is the responsibility of the DSRL Socio Economic Funding Group. The information below has been updated to reflect the commitments for grant funding for 2022/23. Further updates will reflect progress on the impacts of these projects.

CNSRP funded activities	Completion date	Progress	Comments
FR-000001122 CNSRP support hub	30 March 2025		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total cost: £487,000 Yr 1: £179K Yr 2: £154K Yr 3: £154K</p> <p>Following the successful pilot project funding to support two new recruits to CNSRP to programme manage and accelerate development of further opportunities agreement was reached to continue to fund this activity for the next 3 years.</p> <p>The rationale for providing additional support resources to CNSRP was to develop additional capacity in light of the impacts of BREXIT and COVID-19 to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase project development and implementation • Intensify the attraction of inward investment

CNSRP funded activities	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek alternative sources of funding • Develop sustainable business practices and revised business models • Reporting on progress is provided via CNSRP Programme Manager update reports.
FR-000000133: Strathnaver museum development	30-Mar-2022		<p>£80K one off payment in 2020/21.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final impact report due in December 2022.
FR-000000224: Caithness Transport Forum	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £30K Yr 2: £10K Yr 3: £10K</p> <p>Supported by DSRL and The Highland Council the Caithness Transport Forum continues to progress connectivity in all transport routes.</p>
FR-000000225: Chamber of Commerce business mentoring	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £100,000 Yr 2: £25K Yr 3: £35K</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly reporting of activities
FR-000000272: North Coast Visitors Attraction (former Caithness Horizons)	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £225K Yr 2: £75K Yr 3: £75K</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding commitments for 2021/22 are still outstanding but this is due to the late opening due to Covid. • Prior to release of funding for this financial year agreement of TOMS is required.
FR-00000279 CNSRP Programme Manager	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £120K Yr 2: £40K Yr 3: £40K</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently awaiting objectives for this financial year.
FR-000000280: CNSRP Independent chair	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £21.3K Yr 2: £6K Yr 3: £6K</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Middlemas has been appointed as CNSRP Chair and took over from Ian Ross in June 2022. • Chair's objectives outstanding
FR-000000327: Venture North Destination Management Organisation	31-Mar-2024		<p>Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £97,040 Yr 2: £72,921 Yr 3: £16,4061</p>

CNSRP funded activities	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 impacts reported in annual review Discussions to agree deliverables for this year.
FR-000001071: Transport for Tongue	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £30K Yr 2: £10K Yr 3: £10K To support students with connectivity for further education at North Highland College, UHI.
FR-000000159: NHI Covid recovery funding	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £30K Yr 2: £10K Yr 3: £10K
FR-0000001170: PSO Contract Manager	31-Mar-2025		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £90K Yr 1: £30K Yr 2: £30K Yr 3: £30K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSO Contract Manager appointed. Due to take up post on 1st August 2022
Space Hub Sutherland Secondment via CNSRP	23-Oct-2022		Commitment: 0.5% FTE secondment Secondment to support SHS stakeholder engagement continues. The secondment is due to end in October 2022 with HIE local office taking over this role.
STEM activities	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £75K Yr 2: £25K Yr 3: £25K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme of activities for 2022/23 now developed.
Dounreay Community Fund	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £75K Yr 2: £25K Yr 3: £25K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSRL provide admin support DSG socio economic sub group consider and approve applications.

Other socio economic activities

- DSRL recently approved a funding application for £6.8K to support the North Highlands Women’s wellbeing hub. The funding will allow the group to have a bigger reach across Caithness & NS in terms of meeting hubs and printed (and social media) messaging with a number of activities being organised.
- NDA continue to review the business case for Space Hub Sutherland. Discussions with HIE continue and at present NDA is awaiting responses to a number of questions.

- NDA, along with HIE, continue discussions with Wick Harbour Authority in relation to funding to support harbour developments and business growth.
- The NDA recently published its Sustainability strategy.
- Social Impact studies for all sites across the NDA estate has been completed. This was carried out as a result of an action from the Public Affairs Committee. The reports will be published and available in the summer.
- CNSRP representative met with NDA (Neil Smith) to discuss examples of partnership working in other areas.
- A working meeting between DSRL and the Caithness Chamber of Commerce has been set up to look at procurement and how to support the local supply chain.

Staffing

- A 3 month pause has been put on recruitment after which time the arrangements will be revisited. The OED and Finance Director will review all current vacancies within the system. This will not apply to where there is a known specific skills or role shortage which cannot be recruited internally or to graduates and apprentices.
- Recruitment for a new Human Resource Manager (following Graham Cameron's retirement) has now concluded. A preferred candidate has been selected.
- As part of an integrated group-wide approach to improve Project and Programme Management across the NDA a Group wide forum has been set up. As part of this approach, the Nuclear Project Management Mentoring Programme was launched on 20 April with a total of 15 mentees and 11 mentors from across the group are taking part.

Dounreay Heritage

- At the beginning of May, Mark Rouse presented at a conference in London the public value that was derived from Dounreay in the early years of the atomics. At the conference, organised by the Lancaster of University, he talked about the associated benefits brought to the area by Dounreay.
- **Collection of objects:** One object was collected. A fridge magnet with UKAEA coat of arms.
- **Recording memories:** A process to capture the memories of those leaving the site is in place. A form with 5 questions is sent to leavers, but not everyone completes it. One form was returned.
- **International interest:** A three year international research project about nuclear heritage has recently started. Entitled NuSPACES (www.nuspaces.eu), it is led by senior academics from the UK, Sweden and Lithuania. A workshop with 25 people was held in Cumbria in May 2022 and James Gunn gave a presentation on the Dounreay heritage work. Dounreay is regarded as a pioneer for nuclear heritage.

James Gunn will be presenting a paper at an international industrial heritage conference in Montreal in August 2022. It will cover the work by Dounreay and the NDA on nuclear heritage.

- **Nucleus: the Nuclear and Caithness Archives:** Highlife Highland based at Nucleus have regular on-line talks entitled “Learn with Lorna” and a recent one was called “Dounreay atomics”. It was about the effect of Dounreay on Thurso and Caithness. The talk is available to view on their Facebook page.

Restore Digital at Nucleus will be advertising a new job in the coming months. It will be for a Heritage Officer, responsible for the heritage work of the NDA estate.

- **Dounreay Castle:** An inspector from Historic Environment Scotland visited Dounreay to view the two ancient scheduled monuments, the castle and the chambered cairn “Cnoc na h’Uiseag”. These inspections occur roughly every 5 years. The castle is showing significant deterioration and some parts will crumble and collapse in the near future.

Visits

- Japanese representatives from TEPCO and Marubeni visited site on 25 April 2022. The visitors had a tour of PFR and met with project managers from around the site.

Other Site Activities

- The Dounreay Communities Fund approved an application to support three Thurso High school pupils to visit Scottish Parliament as part of the final of the Law Society’s ‘Donald Dewar’ debate in the chamber. Thurso High School had reached the semi-finals and as a result had been invited down to watch the finals being held. While not involved in the final debate the pupils did raise points during the floor debates. Thurso pupil, Innes Morgan was chosen as one of the two winning ‘floor speeches’. During their time in Parliament they also got the opportunity to meet with MSP, Maree Todd and discuss local issues including potholes, nuclear power and hospital provision in the north.
- Representatives of the Magnox project management community visited Dounreay on 28 April, giving an opportunity to share experience. There were visits to PFR, DFR, shaft and silo, waste pits, DCP-SE and parts of the FCA. Magnox has 3 main delivery programmes (as Dounreay will have in the future) and 2 of the programme managers presented lessons learned to the project forum. Areas of project governance, project controls and upskilling were discussed as common areas to enhance in our respective organisations.
- Students aged 14-19 in the Caithness & NS area were given an opportunity to attend a 5 week virtual work experience. The event led by young graduates and apprentices from Dounreay provided students with an opportunity to speak with professionals across a broad range of disciplines and learn about what it is like to work at Dounreay.

- Dounreay's Gordon Tait gave a presentation at the Nuclear Engineering International's virtual event "Nuclear decommissioning: International perspectives" on 17 May. This virtual event allowed the sharing of some of the technical developments, innovations and lessons learned from decommissioning and radioactive waste management projects around the globe.
- Dounreay's Green Network recently won the Sustainability Trailblazer Award at the NDA Network Awards.

Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd
5 July 2022