

DOUNREAY SOCIO ECONOMIC UPDATE
current as of 3 October 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.

The NDA Economic Impact Studies have now been published. The Dounreay Impact Study is available via the link: [Dounreay socio-economic report - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk). Similar studies have been carried out for Magnox and Sellafield and these can also be found on the website.

Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics

Dave Calder took up the post of DSRL Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics on the 8th August 2022. Recruitment has been undertaken for a Sustainability Manager and a Socio Economic Manager and announcement of the successful candidates will be made shortly.

Dounreay Socio Economic Plan

The plan for 2022/23 and future years is currently under consideration in terms of joining sustainability and socio economics where appropriate. At the same time, CNSRP is currently undergoing a revisioning exercise and the DSRL plan will look to align to the CNSRP master plan.

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 • Seek alternative sources of funding • Develop sustainable business practices and revised business models

CNSRP funded activities	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting on progress is provided via CNSRP Programme Manager update reports. <p>These two posts are vacant at present. The Business Development post is currently being progressed. The CNSRP revisioning exercise will support the identification of what type of resource is required for 2nd post.</p> <p>In the meantime, a change of use for some of the funding has gone to support the CNSRP revisioning workshops held with a facilitator.</p>
FR-00000133: 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-00000224: 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-00000225: 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 September report received
FR-00000272: 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. Half funding released this fy Awaiting outstanding report on TOMs prior to releasing 2nd tranche of funding.
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"> CNSRP Programme Manager has been focussed on revisioning workshops and outputs during this quarter.
FR-00000280: 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.

CNSRP funded activities	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair has been involved in CNSRP revisioning workshops.
FR-000000327: Venture North Destination Management Organisation	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £97,040 Yr 2: £72,921 Yr 3: £16,4061 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 impacts reported in annual review Agree deliverables for year 2 funding in place.
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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year-end report just received.
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. David Swanson took up post early August 2022. Has spoken to a number of stakeholders Looking at ways to enhance flight offering
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 and being implemented. DSRL STEM Ambassadors involved in Caithness Science Festival
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.
North Highlands Women's Wellness Hub	July 2022		Funding commitment: 1 year Total cost: £6.8K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity based on funding application has now commenced.

Other socio economic activities

- NDA has now received the final application for potential support for Space Hub Sutherland. This application is now going through internal NDA due process.
- NDA, along with HIE, continue discussions with Wick Harbour Authority in relation to funding to support harbour developments and business growth.

Procurement

- A virtual supply chain event took place on Tuesday 6 September to engage with the market on a contract opportunity on the Shaft and Silo decommissioning project. The event was aimed at attracting those working in construction. The contract is for the construction of headwork facilities required for the Shaft and Silo, co-ordination of the installation and commissioning of additional equipment and systems that have been/are being procured separately and responsibility for the provision of mechanical, electrical and instrumentation services with the contract value in the region of £65m to £90m.

STEM

- **Caithness Science Festival:** 4 STEM Ambassadors visited 15 nurseries during the festival week to deliver activities to 201 children.

- **Caithness Science Festival Fun Day:** DSRL ran activities with the support of 5 STEM Ambassadors. This was the first face to face fun day since the pandemic. Around 1500 people attended the day.



- **First Lego League:** 12 teams from primary and secondary schools have signed up for the First Lego League Challenge North Highland Tournament. The challenge and event sponsored by DSRL and Developing the Young Workforce North Highland will run from now until the tournament in ETEC, North Highland College on 25 January. All the teams will be supported by DSRL STEM Ambassadors.
- **Flight simulator trial:** plans are underway to deliver a pilot Science Skills Academy's "up in air with numbers; an airy adventure" module with Golspie High School on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 October. DSRL STEM Ambassadors have been trained on the simulator and on the day they will teach the children how to fly and complete the flying part of the module. It is proposed to roll this out to other secondary schools throughout the academic year.

Staffing

- The 2022 graduate development scheme cohort met together at Dounreay for the first time recently. The development scheme is an intensive 2-year programme where participants complete 6 month work placements on different projects around site and complete a package of additional training.



- Mark Rouse, Managing Director and Mick Moore, Operations Director welcomed the most recent intake of business and administration apprentices at the beginning of September. The apprentices have now all joined their teams, where they will gain valuable workplace experience at the same time as studying for a Scottish Vocational Qualification.

- In early October, seven apprentices received their indenture certificates from MP Jamie Stone and Mark Rouse, Dounreay MD. All seven are now fully qualified in their chosen fields, after up to four years of hard work and dedication. Jack Cormack was presented with the Director's Trophy and Neave Anderson was the winner of the Lachie Macmillan Cup.



- Three people from Dounreay are finalists in the Engineering Construction Industry Training and Development Awards. Holly Cunningham is shortlisted for the Apprentice of the Year Award, Stuart Crichton as Graduate of the Year and DSRL for the Large Employer of the Year.
- Dounreay received a Gold Award from the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board audit for our skills and training charter. This award demonstrates that Dounreay is investing in its employees by providing high quality, committed skills development and training.

Dounreay Heritage

- **Collection of objects:** No objects were collected during this quarter.
- **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. J Gunn interviewed and recorded June Love's Dounreay memories as a continuation of the oral history project. June retires in October 2022 with 43 years' service.
- **International interest:** J Gunn presented a paper on nuclear heritage at the 18th International Congress of The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH) in September 2022. It was held in the University of Quebec and Montreal (UQAM) in Montreal city centre and was attended by over 300 people from around the world. It covered Dounreay's heritage activities and the NDA's heritage initiative. The session covered heritage in the energy sector (oil, gas, coal and nuclear) and was very well received. Nuclear heritage is becoming increasingly recognised

amongst academics, historians and in industrial heritage circles.

- **Nucleus: The Nuclear and Caithness Archives:** Restore Digital at Nucleus have appointed an NDA Heritage Officer and the person is due to start the full-time position in late October 2022. J Gunn has acted as the NDA Heritage Officer since 2019 on a part time basis.

Nucleus completed installation (in August) of a set of 8 display panels covering the history of the civil nuclear industry. The 2m high monoliths are located in a line leading from the car park to the main entrance. J Gunn managed the activities covering the research and content finalisation. Feedback has been positive.

- **Community engagement:** A Dounreay heritage community project started on 30 Sep 2022. Four former employees and one spouse met in the North Coast Visitor Centre to have a chat about old times and to review photos on the subject of atomic housing. The aim is to enhance camaraderie and wellbeing and obtain better metadata for photos. The two hour event was very well received and another is planned. It is a joint initiative between DSRL, Highlife Highland, NDA and Restore Digital/Nucleus.

The old instrument cabinet in the Occupational Health Department (OHD) will be loaned to the Castletown Heritage Society (in October and November) for a prestigious exhibition organised by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh about medical care in remote communities. The cabinet has a collection of objects used by the department since the 1960s.

- **Dounreay history:** J Gunn gave a talk about the history of Dounreay to the new intake of graduates.

Visits

- Over the past couple of months we have had a number of visits on site as Dounreay continues to be the focus of interest. Visits over the last couple of months included:
 - ONR Chief Executive, Mark Foy
 - Maree Todd, MSP
 - DSG business group meeting with an opportunity to meet the Executive team.
 - Nuclear Safeguards Compliance team
 - David Peattie, NDA CEO
 - Jamie Stone, MP

Other Site Activities

- A key factor in the development of the Life Time Plan is to look at innovative ways of delivering some decommissioning activities. Key to this is working with Sellafield and Magnox to provide benefit in both innovation and decommissioning. This is providing a platform to share knowledge and experience and to work collaboratively on joint areas of interest thus avoiding duplication of work. During this quarter, the Innovation Team have:

- Developed an internal intranet page to communicate across the site.
- Set up an Innovation Centre which is being well utilised and is also used to arrange workshops on various topics to encourage the workforce to come up with ideas.
- The small team have got two graduates involved on a 6 month rotation.
- A new Dounreay Innovation Suggestion Scheme was launched at the beginning of September with a new panel created. Twelve ideas were received within the first month.
- Dounreay is supporting a cross industry learning event to be held by the Nuclear Industry Association, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and Decom North Sea, at TECA in Aberdeen on Tuesday 11 October. Organisations are encouraged to come along and learn about the challenges and benefits of working with Dounreay on the UK's largest nuclear decommissioning site.
- Utilising the LINC initiative to support the local supply chain demonstrations and innovation awareness. The supply chain will be invited on to site to demonstrate their solutions to some of the decommissioning challenges.
- Dounreay Employees Charity Fund donated £2,000 to the start-up costs of the Millbank Boating Pond junior parkrun. The inaugural junior parkrun was held on 21 August with 53 children running and walking the 2km route.
- Both NDA and DSRL sponsored the Mey Highland Games this year. DSRL also provided sponsorship for Halkirk Highland Games.
- Dounreay representatives attended the Thurso Community Development Trust first Net Zero Thurso Sustainability on Friday 7 October.
- The Dounreay Communities Fund helped 3 of the senior high school debaters take a trip to Holyrood to watch the finals of the Law Society's 'Donald Dewar' Debate on the changes of Scottish Parliament.
- The Dounreay Fire, Ambulance and Rescue Service intended to undertake a charity stretcher carry from the Dounreay site to Caithness General Hospital. Collection buckets were set up on site to 'guess the time' it will take them to make their journey and a Just Giving page has also been set up. Unfortunately this was due to take place on 16 September and was postponed due to the death of the Queen and the mourning period. It is intended to reschedule this charity event shortly.