

**DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SOCIO ECONOMIC SUB GROUP**

Minutes of the DSG Socio Economic Sub Group held on Wednesday 19 October 2022 at 1330 hrs In the Pentland Hotel, Thurso / via Teams.

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| Present: | David Alexander | Wick and Thurso Trades Council (chair) |
| | Trudy Morris | Caithness Chamber of Commerce |
| | Ron Gunn | CHAT |
| | Eann Sinclair | HIE Area Manager, C&S |
| | Gillian Coghill | Buldoo Residents Group |
| In addition: | June Love | Socio Economic Manager, DSRL |
| | Dave Calder | Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics, DSRL |
| | Jeremy Gilmour | SE Business Development, NDA |
| | Dawn Clasper | DSG Minute Secretary, Dounreay |

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David Alexander welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Jeremy Gilmour who had recently taken over the NDA business development role from Neil Smith. He also introduced David Calder, Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics, DSRL.

Jeremy Gilmour stated that he was pleased to be meeting with DSG members and that he had stepped in because Jamie Reed was unavailable. He had recently just taken up the role from Neil Smith and was looking forward to visiting Caithness as soon as possible.

David Alexander also noted that two new Councillors had been nominated to attend DSG but at this point it was not clear which sub group they would sit on. Given both were not in attendance it was agreed that the DSG Chair should reach out to clarify this situation.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A001: Cllr Struan Mackie to clarify with Cllr Karl Rosie and Cllr Andrew Jarvie which sub group both will attend.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Roger Saxon DSG Site Restoration sub group chair
- Giles Huby UHI North Highland
- Sandy Mackie Scrabster Harbour Trust
- Cllr Struan Mackie Highland Council (DSG Chair)
- Dave Wallace NDA Stakeholder Lead, Scotland
- Jamie Reed NDA Director of Socio Economics
- Murray Lamont North Highland Tourism
- Peter Faccenda CNS Regeneration Partnership (Deputy sub group chair)

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

David Alexander noted that the minutes of the last meeting – DSG/SESG(2022)M002, July 2022 – had been circulated to members in advance. He stated that given the public meeting in September had been cancelled these minutes had not been ratified.

Endorsed on 7th December 2022

He invited members to raise any changes to the minute. The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting. This was proposed by Trudy Morris and seconded by Eann Sinclair.

No issues were raised from the minutes.

4. STATUS OF ACTIONS

David Alexander noted that the status of actions had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Of note and relating to the socio economic sub group the following actions were discussed.

- DSG(2022)M02/A07: June Love to ask about progress in identifying a new DSG secretariat with Mark Rouse MD and Josh George Organisation Excellence Director. It was noted that Gail Ross was in the process of re-organising the Communications Team and the stakeholder role would fall under Gail's responsibility. Tina Wrighton had been identified to take on this role.

Members voiced their concern of the lack of handover or succession planning for this role noting this should have been in placed much earlier. It was agreed that a meeting would be held with Gail Ross so that she could outline how the role was going to be taken forward.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A002: Gail Ross to meet with DSG Business meeting to discuss the change-over in roles to support the DSG.

- DSG(2022)M02/A14: Jamie Reed to report back on the extent that NDA uses fair trade across the NDA estate.

It was noted that this action was ongoing.

Gillian Coghill said she had some sympathy for the NDA in collating these figures at the moment and wondered if there was a different question to ask which was to provide DSG (at the appropriate time) with a sustainability policy that demonstrates the types of sustainable product that could be purchased across the sites. Having such a policy would allow NDA to start collating the information so that future questions such as this could be responded to in a quicker timeframe. Jeremy Gilmour said this would be helpful recognising there was some 'fair trade' items purchased but it was proving difficult to get this information across all the sites.

Members agreed to supersede the action with a new one relating to the policy.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A003: Jeremy Gilmour, NDA to speak to appropriate people in NDA to consider a policy on buying 'fair trade' in terms of sustainability to allow the collation of figures from across the site.

From the last sub group meeting it was noted a number of actions had been closed out and the following was discussed.

- DSG/SESG(2022)M02/A002: June Love to invite William Lindsay to next DSG Socio Economic sub group meeting to provide a briefing on Fit for Future. William Lindsay was not available to attend this meeting so it will be held over to the January sub group.

David Alexander noted that he had already received updates from Mark Rouse on FFF. He wondered, at this time, whether this was a useful update or should it be deferred until another time.

Following discussion it was felt that at this time there were bigger issues to deal with and unless there was anything meaningful to update on it was not worthwhile at this time adding this to

January agenda. It had been worth noting that there were levels of cynicism around the development of the lifetime plan alongside Dounreay/Magnox joining and future funding for the site. Therefore it was agreed that FFF would not be included in the agenda for update at this time.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A004: June Love to close out action for FFF update in January 2023.

Following on from the discussion on FFF, it was agreed that a meeting would be requested with Dounreay representatives to ensure the site was aware of the depth of feeling in terms of the site progress, supply chain issues and continued recruitment.

David Calder said he would take back these messages to site so that they were aware.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A005: June Love to set up a meeting between DSRL and DSG representatives to discuss supply chain and recruitment issues.

5. COMMUNITY FUND REQUESTS

David Alexander noted that the Community Fund report had been circulated in advance. He reminded members to declare any conflicts prior to discussion on any of the applications.

Funding applications were reviewed and following discussions, decisions were made on each application.

6. DOUNREAY SOCIO ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

David Alexander stated that a written update (DSG(2022)P026) had been received from Dounreay. Before handing over to June Love to outline the key highlights he asked Jeremy Gilmour if he wished to provide an NDA update.

- Jeremy Gilmour noted that a funding application had now been formally submitted for Space Hub Sutherland. There had been quite a lot of dialogue leading up to the submission of the application and at this stage NDA were carrying out their due diligence and full governance process. There was a meeting with HIE this week to raise some questions and get clarity to allow the process to continue.

David Alexander invited June Love to provide a high level update of the written paper. Of note:

- All funding applications were on track to deliver conditions of funding with one exception:
 - The CNSRP Support hub was slightly delayed due to the need to carry out recruitment. At the time of application there were people in these posts who had since moved on. At present a change of use of some of the funding to support the CNSRP revisioning exercise had been agreed.
- PSO contract manager was now in position and funding would be drawn to support the project manager's costs.
- The Space Hub Sutherland secondment would come to an end and local area office would take over the responsibility at present for the Community Liaison Group.
- There had been two new funding applications received for socio economic funding which were currently going through review. Updates would be provided once the review was

completed. It was suggested that one of the funding applications should also consider looking to the Halkirk Windfarm funding to help support.

David Alexander invited questions from members.

- Trudy Morris asked when the Nucleus contract was due to be renewed. Jeremy Gilmour said he would find out and respond.

Action: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A006: Jeremy Gilmour to provide a response to when the Nucleus contract was due to be renewed.

David Alexander asked David Calder if he wanted to report anything.

David Calder responded that he had recently taken over the role as DSRL's Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics noting that there was now an alignment between both topics which were integrally linked. He had recently met with Alan Cummings (NDA) and Davide Stronati (NDA Sustainability Director) and feedback had been positive with regards aligning these topics. The Sustainability Manager had been identified and would be an internal appointment starting on 1 December while the Socio Economic Manager was an external appointment and it was hoped that their start date would also be at the beginning of December.

- David Alexander asked whether David Calder would be the person to come to for questions relating to sustainability or socio economics. David Calder confirmed this was the case.

David Calder noted that his previous role had been as Business Development Manager for CNSRP and therefore had a good understanding of the requirements for the county. He saw his role at Dounreay to provide support to the CNSRP agenda and looking at the site activities to see where wider benefits could be realised.

Within the few weeks he had started the post at Dounreay work was ongoing to develop a procedure for the social value within contracts. Over the past weeks there had been a small number of contracts and was now involved in the setting of questions and criteria into procurement for social value.

While funding was allocated to support socio economic funding for the community there would also be funding available to undertaken sustainability initiatives on site and it was hoped there was an opportunity to aggregate these to ensure there was benefit to both site and wider community.

7. UPDATE ON SOCIO ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

It was noted that Peter Faccenda had tendered his apologies but had submitted a written update on CNSRP activities (DSG(2022)P027 refers). In Peter's absence, June Love noted that over the last few months work had concentrated on the CNSRP revisioning with a number of workshops held with the CNSRP Delivery Group. Trudy Morris noted that the CNSRP programme would be completely re-developed into a Master Plan for the area which would outline different opportunities.

8. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING

David Alexander noted the following correspondence issued since the last meeting. Of note:

- DSG(2022)C022 related to the information requested from Maree Todd. The information was provided by the UK statistics authority which did not break job numbers down into regions.

Endorsed on 7th December 2022

The DSG Business meeting had written to the CEO of the Highland Council in relation to the potential for Ward Manager areas to be extended. DSG(2022)C023 refers. The letter was to raise concerns that by doing so would provide a massive workload for an Area Manager if they were required to cover both Caithness and Sutherland. A response was still awaited.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Alexander stated that, as everyone was aware, the public meeting in September was cancelled due to the Queen's death. The business meeting, however, had held a number of meetings, continuing to meet on a fortnightly basis. Topics discussed at the business meeting included:

- DSG Review: It had proved difficult to co-ordinate a meeting for all DSG members to discuss in detail the review and the responses from the questionnaire. The Business meeting met and discussed this in detail alongside the responses received and have now developed an action plan to take some of the recommendations forward. David Alexander noted it was pleasing that some of the recommendations had also been enacted prior to the review being finalised. The business meeting would continue to take the action plan forward and update DSG members at sub group meetings or via correspondence.
- DSG(2022)C024 related to a UK Government consultation on REMA (Review of Electricity Market Arrangements). The business meeting had agreed to respond to this consultation and while it was quite a technical one responses were mainly limited to the unfairness of the pricing structure when living in rural areas. CNSRP had also responded and DSG's response mirrored CNSRP's views.
- The working group looking at Vulcan decommissioning met with Dale McQueen NDA in September. The group discussed a number of issues but mainly discussion centred around some key principles DSG would like to see considered when the option review for decommissioning was being developed. The letter – DSG(2022)C027 refers – was distributed last week.
- Following a discussion with Paul Vallance, NDA Director of Communications the potential for DSG to attend Scottish Party Political Conferences had been discussed. While NDA could not attend such conferences it was agreed that SSGs could. At the NDA Stakeholder summit in Edinburgh David Alexander had spoken with representatives from Chapelcross and Hunterston as it was felt useful if all Scottish nuclear sites were represented. The reason for attendance was to highlight the significant nuclear skills within Scotland and to highlight the impact (in terms of the decommissioning pound) that came into Scotland every year from decommissioning activities. A short proposal had been drafted and a meeting had been arranged to discuss with Chapelcross and Hunterston prior to making final arrangements.
- Following the Just Transition meeting with Richard Lochhead held in Caithness, CNSRP had written to the JT Commission with a proposal for some projects and an invitation for the Commission to visit the area to discuss these in more detail. DSG also wrote providing support to the CNSRP projects and encouraging the JT Commission to visit. DSG(2022)C025 refers.

David Alexander invited members to raise any further business. Of note:

Endorsed on 7th December 2022

- Ron Gunn noted that CHAT were due to meet with senior managers from Caithness General Hospital. A previous meeting had been cancelled due to Covid. There had also been positive correspondence from the Health Minister in terms of looking for locally based health services. A recent meeting had been held with Douglas Ross, MSP to update him on health service issues.
- Trudy Morris noted that with the pay deal and the increase in staffing she asked what the budget was for Dounreay and what their costs are before any decommissioning work are is carried out.

ACTION: DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A007: DSG to ask Dounreay what their costs are before any decommissioning work is carried out.

- David Alexander noted that this would be June Love's last socio economic sub group meeting and, on behalf of the members, he thanked her for her support over the years.

10. CLOSE

There being no further formal business, David Alexander thanked everyone for their input and formally closed the meeting.

David Alexander

DSG Socio Economic Sub Group Chair

22 October 2022

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A001: Cllr Struan Mackie to clarify with Cllr Karl Rosie and Cllr Andrew Jarvie which sub group both will attend.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A002: Gail Ross to meet with DSG Business meeting to discuss the change-over in roles to support the DSG.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A003: Jeremy Gilmour, NDA to speak to appropriate people in NDA to consider a policy on buying 'fair trade' in terms of sustainability to allow the collation of figures from across the site.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A004: June Love to close out action for FFF update in January 2023.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A005: June Love to set up a meeting between DSRL and DSG representatives to discuss supply chain and recruitment issues.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A006: Jeremy Gilmour to provide a response to when the Nucleus contract was due to be renewed.

DSG/SESG(2022)M003/A007: DSG to ask Dounreay what their costs are before any decommissioning work is carried out.