

## DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

### Minutes of DSG Business Meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>ST</sup> March 2023 at 0930 via Microsoft Teams.

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr Struan Mackie	DSG Chair
	Davie Alexander	DSG Vice-chair & Socio Economic sub group chair
	Gillian Coghill	DSG Site Restoration sub group chair
	Peter Faccenda	DSG Socio Economic sub group deputy chair
	Roger Saxon	DSG Site Restoration sub group deputy chair
	Dawn Clasper	DSG Minute Secretary, DSRL

#### 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Cllr Struan Mackie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

No apologies were received.

#### 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Cllr Struan noted that the minutes of the last meeting – DSG/BM(2023)M002, 21 February 2023 – had been endorsed by members via email. Members agreed this was a true reflection of the meeting. These would now be circulated to all DSG members for their information.

#### 3. ACTION STATUS

Dawn Clasper provided an update on the progress of actions. Discussion focused on:

- DSG(2022)M03/A021: Craig Brown to provide the visit report of the recent visit to France. **Action ongoing:** An update will be provided shortly.
- DSG(2022)M03/A031: DSG to ask Dounreay what their costs are before any decommissioning work is carried out. **Action ongoing:** Emailed Neil Cook Finance Director.
- DSG(2022)M03/A041: Mac MacGill to provide information on the cost of Fit For Future. **Action ongoing:** Awaiting a written update.
- DSG(2022)M03/A042: Cllr Struan Mackie to chase the question on fusion. **Action complete.**
- DSG/SRSG(2023)M004/A003: Frederic Stalin to share the programme of medical radio isotope with DSG. **Action Complete:** The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) Materials Access project, that Dounreay is supporting is currently only funded for this FY. The NDA hope to have outcomes for the studies being undertaken by its Site licence Companies by the end of April. This

information will then be assessed using a demand outlined in the landscape review developed by The Department for Energy and Net Zero to identify potential radionuclides for which we could develop radionuclide specific studies. The timeline and funding for these potential studies has not yet been determined. As this is a DESNZ project, and the NDA is only supporting a small part, any further questions should be directed to DESNZ.

#### **4. CONSULTATIONS**

Cllr Struan Mackie noted that we have received the Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition consultation and also the Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances consultation.

##### **Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances consultation**

Cllr Struan Mackie noted at the SSG Chair and Vice Chair meeting on Friday 10 March they had requested a meeting with the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNEZ) to arrange a briefing session for the Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances consultation, and then take this to the subgroups for further comment.

Davie Alexander noted that a meeting has been arranged for next week for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNEZ) to discuss their current policy consultation with SSG Forum members.

Roger Saxon noted he has started on a draft for both consultations. He noted that he has found the questions in the Nuclear Decommissioning and the Management of Radioactive Substances consultation difficult to comment on as it requires one to have read both documents and have knowledge on the subject.

##### **Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition consultation**

Peter Faccenda noted that Focus North would be responding to the consultation, and he would circulate this to the Business meeting and sub groups for comments.

Cllr Mackie asked Peter if he could provide the draft and have this tabled as part of the socio economic sub group agenda.

Roger Saxon noted he has also started a draft response for this consultation that he would share with the Business meeting.

#### **5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The following was raised:

- Davie Alexander noted he had received an email from Elfriede Derrer-Merk, University of Liverpool, regarding social science research, asking if he could present to the DSG public meeting. It was agreed by Business meeting members

to invite him to present this at the Socio Economic sub group on 26 April as it was too late for the public meeting.

- Cllr Struan Mackie noted members may be aware of the Australia United Kingdom and United States (AUKUS) submarine deal. Previously MOD had been quite adamant that reactor monitoring technology R&D and etcetera, which was if it was ending in a physical state with the closure of Vulcan, but that the new digitized stress testing effectively kind of the virtual environment would be the way forward. There is a suggestion that Cardiff will be the new host of the submarine testing and that this is something that Vulcan is currently doing. He noted that skills are in short supply, and we are putting things in place that do not have the skill sets, and may have a detrimental effect in communities.

Roger Saxon noted that it was not clear if Cardiff was going to be a manufacturing centre but also noted that Rolls Royce was developing a small reactor for lunar exploration.

Cllr Struan noted that the Cardiff will be the digitalised version of Vulcan and that the DSG need to ask what they are doing to safeguard the jobs in our area.

**ACTION: DSG/BM(2023)M003/A001: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Commodore Elton Sharkey and Scottish and UK Governments.**

- Cllr Struan Mackie would like to extend an invitation to Andrew Bowie MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Nuclear and Networks) at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to meet with the DSG.

**ACTION: DSG/BM(2023)M003/A002: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Andrew Bowie MP inviting him to meet with the DSG.**

## **6. CLOSE**

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

**Cllr Struan Mackie  
DSG Chair  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

---

**ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING**

DSG/BM(2023)M003/A001: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Commodore Elton Sharkey and Scottish and UK Governments.

DSG/BM(2023)M003/A002: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Andrew Bowie MP inviting him to meet with the DSG.