

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP**Minutes of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group (DSG) public meeting held on Wednesday 7 December 2022 at 1900 hrs via MS Teams**

Present:	Cllr Struan Mackie (SM)	Chair (The Highland Council)
	Davie Alexander (DA)	Vice-chair (Wick and Thurso Trades Council)
	Tor Justad (TJ)	HANT
	Peter Faccenda (PF)	CNSRP Programme Manager
	Gillian Coghill (GC)	Buldoo Residents independent chair
	David Craig (DC)	Caithness West Community Council
	Trudy Morris (TM)	Caithness Chamber of Commerce
	Thelma Mackenzie (TM1)	Thurso Community Council
	Cllr Andrew Jarvie	Highland Council
	Roger Saxon	DSG Honorary Member
	Joanna Coghill	Assoc of Caithness Community Council
	Murray Lamont	North Highland Tourism

Attending:	Mac MacGill (MM)	DSRL Chief of Staff / Deputy Managing Director
	Mark Rouse (MR)	DSRL Managing Director
	Craig Brown (CB)	DSRL Head of Strategic Planning
	Gail Ross (GR)	DSRL Head of Communications
	Alan Mackay (SM)	NDA Site Facing Team
	SI Ian Davies (ID)	CNC
	James Francis (JF)	ONR
	Stewart Ballantine (SB)	SEPA
	Cdr Ian Walker (IW)	MOD Vulcan
	Laura Hogg (LH)	NDA secondee to SG radwaste
	Daniel Couldridge (DC1)	SG, Radwaste
	Tina Wrighton (TW)	DSRL stakeholder manager
	Jamie Black (JB)	Member of Hunterston SSG

MINUTES**1. Welcome and introductions**

SM welcomed everyone to the meeting. Due to the adverse weather the meeting was held through Microsoft Teams rather than face to face, and was recorded. SM understood that it was inconvenient and apologised for the need to hold the meeting virtually for safety reasons.

SM welcomed AJ and KR, MM, CB and TW; also DC, EK and MD. Last meeting was cancelled due to the passing of The Queen, and SM thanked those who represented the community following The Queen's passing and the ascension of King Charles III.

2. Scottish Government Radwaste update

LH gave a short presentation on the Higher Activity Waste Policy implementation including credible options for near surface disposal concepts, and stakeholder engagement.

The project is focused on the nuclear licensed sites in Scotland as the main radioactive waste producers, and the initial project will complete in 2023. Following a question, LH confirmed that there may be an opportunity for wider consultation.

3. Apologies

The following apologies were received:

- Abbe Luckock, Women in Nuclear
- Ron Gunn, CHAT
- Niall Watson, DSRL Unions
- Vik Winspear Roberts, ONR
- David Broughton, DSG
- James Bryson, DNSR
- Sandy Mackie, Scrabster Harbour Trust
- Eann Sinclair, HIE

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the last public meeting (DSG(2022)M02) held on 8 June were ratified - proposed by TJ and seconded by DC.

The minutes of the DSG socio economic sub group (DSG/SESG (2022)M03) held on 19 October were ratified, subject to reference to 6m2 boxes on pages 3 and 4 being amended to 6m3 – proposed by GC and seconded by TM.

The minutes of the DSG site restoration sub group (DSG/SRSG(2022)M03) held on 19 October were accepted – proposed by GC and seconded by DC.

The DSG business meeting continued to meet regularly and minutes are agreed by email.

TJ raised a number of questions on particles and fusion which were parked for discussion later in the meeting.

5. Status of actions

Members had received an updated status of actions. The majority of actions are raised through the relevant sub-groups. SM noted that some of the actions would require large pieces of work that would take time to conclude.

For completeness, the actions from the sub groups and business meeting are recorded here for ease of reference.

DSG(2022)M03/A001: June Love to arrange a working group meeting and to invite Cdr Ian Walker and Glen Dawkins.

DSG(2022)M03/A002: June Love to co-ordinate the DSG business meeting members to visit James Fisher Nuclear facility at Bower.

DSG(2022)M03/A003: June Love to draft questions for Scottish Government Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting (for Environment Minister) and issue to Business Meeting for final approval before circulating to DSG members.

DSG(2022)M03/A004: Dawn Clasper to look at using Survey Monkey/MS Forms to issue the questions to DSG Members.

DSG(2022)M03/A005: Business Meeting member to provide comments on the recommendations to June Love by Friday 22 July.

DSG(2022)M03/A006: Dawn Clasper to amalgamate the report and the comments received.

DSG(2022)M03/A007: Issue the DSG Review recommendations and action plan to the DSG members.

DSG(2022)M03/A008: DSG to write a letter of support to the Just Transition Commissioner.

DSG(2022)M03/A009: Peter Faccenda to provide a draft response for the REMA consultation.

DSG(2022)M03/A010: June Love to draft short brief for Scottish party political conference attendance.

DSG(2022)M03/A011: June Love to draft the key principles of the decommissioning of Vulcan.

DSG(2022)M03/A012: June Love to request a meeting between DSG Working Group and Dounreay to discuss supply chain issues, budget and skills.

DSG(2022)M03/A013: June Love to invite William Lindsay to next DSG Socio Economic sub group meeting to provide a briefing on Fit For Future.

DSG(2022)M03/A014: June Love to circulate update on progress for North Coast Visitor Centre.

DSG(2022)M03/A015: June Love to ask Commander Ian Walker to provide information on the value of Vulcan as it currently stands.

DSG(2022)M03/A016: June Love to ask NDA to meet with DSG working group to discuss timeline for outline and final business case product for Vulcan decommissioning.

DSG(2022)M03/A017: All DSG members to provide comment on the DSG review to DSG Secretariat no later than 29th August 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A018: DSG Chair to write to NDA to request clarity on flights to/from Caithness in terms of NDA's sustainability policy.

DSG(2022)M03/A019: DSG Socio Economic Sub Group Chair to write to Highland Council regarding the need to continue with Ward Managers for both Caithness and Sutherland.

DSG(2022)M03/A020: Craig Brown to respond to question on why columns in new low level waste facility were being grouted now.

DSG(2022)M03/A021: Craig Brown to provide the visit report of the recent visit to France.

DSG(2022)M03/A022: All DSG members to provide comment on the DSG review to DSG Secretariat no later than 29th August 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A023: June Love to issue the Vulcan principles letter.

DSG(2022)M03/A024: June Love to share the DSG Review and actions.

DSG(2022)M03/A025: Cllr Struan Mackie to clarify with Cllr Karl Rosie and Cllr Andrew Jarvie which sub group both will attend.

DSG(2022)M03/A026: Gail Ross to meet with DSG Business meeting to discuss the change-over in roles to support the DSG.

DSG(2022)M03/A027: 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(2022)M03/A028: June Love to close out action for FFF update in January 2023.

DSG(2022)M03/A029: June Love to set up a meeting between DSRL and DSG representatives to discuss supply chain and recruitment issues.

DSG(2022)M03/A030: Jeremy Gilmour to provide a response to when the Nucleus contract was due to be renewed.

DSG(2022)M03/A031: DSG to ask Dounreay what their costs are before any decommissioning work is carried out.

DSG(2022)M003/A032: Frederic Stalin to find out if GDF would accept the 6m³ concrete box.

DSG(2022)M003/A033: Frederic Stalin to share the Gate B paper with DSG members.

DSG(2022)M003/A034: Stewart Ballantine for get more clarity on the waste once Vulcan has moved from military site to a civil site.

DSG(2022)M003/A035: DSG to request a meeting with SEPA, DSRL and independent expert to provide information on the higher number of particles found.

DSG(2022)M003/A036: Cllr Struan Mackie to ask for a follow up meeting with the Business Meeting and Mark Rouse.

DSG(2022)M003/A037: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Josh George for a definition of what is a critical role.

6. Presentation

SM introduced CB who gave a presentation entitled "Fuelling innovation – new ideas in the Fuel Cycle Area (FCA)", previously presented at the NDA stakeholder summit (DSG(2022)C031). The FCA contains some of the highest hazards on the site, and innovation could help with the decommissioning challenges and the Life time plan. Dounreay can be a 'lead and learn' site for Sellafield, which would in turn drive innovation. Skills learned by workforce are transferrable and will benefit the community.

7. MOD (Vulcan) high level updates

SM invited updates and questions.

MOD Vulcan: IW reported:

- no safety or environmental issues since the last written report

- defueling of reactor was completed in August; the assessment of the feasibility of transferring the liability for decommissioning to the NDA continues to make progress
- the Vulcan annual demonstration of their emergency arrangements took place in December and was deemed an adequate demonstration, with some minor areas for improvement identified
- there have been positive visits by DNSC and the Scottish Government Radwaste Policy group
- following a question, it was confirmed that up to 12 shipments of spent fuel will take place within a timescale of up to 31 December 2025.

DNSR: No further update to the sub group report provided for October, and no issues were raised.

SEPA: SB confirmed there was nothing to add from the last update, apart from the fact that SEPA had participated in a recent workshop on the future of Vulcan and found it very useful.

No issues were raised.

ONR: JF confirmed, on behalf of VWR, that there was nothing further to add from the report. VWR had sent apologies, so nothing further was discussed.

No issues were raised.

8. Dounreay high level updates

SM invited updates and questions.

NDA: AM reported:

- NDA continues to use a hybrid working model mixing office-based and home-based working for its staff; and meets with its stakeholders in diverse ways according to the wishes of the stakeholders.
- the annual consultation on the NDA Business Plan will be launched in December and will last for 8 weeks
- NDA has updated its assessments of the economic impact of its activities, with reports being published on the Dounreay, Cumbria and Magnox sites
- NDA held a stakeholder summit in Edinburgh in September, at which the DSG was represented; group-wide programmes on social value, sustainability and skills were featured, and it was hailed as a very successful event

Dounreay: MM reported:

- during the pandemic DSRL came under new ownership, when the NDA cancelled the contract with the Cavendish Dounreay Partnership
- Dounreay is committed to continued safety and performance improvements, removing the blockages to mission delivery and continuing to deliver site clean-up, decommissioning and social value in spite of budget pressures
- the joining with Magnox continues, with TUPE letters now issued to staff; joining with Magnox will provide great opportunities for Dounreay staff and the community
- DSRL is creating an upgraded lifetime plan, or roadmap, to take it through from 1 April 2024; the organisation is being refreshed and strengthened in preparation through the 'Fit for Future' project, to enable delivery of the roadmap

After some discussion, the following points were noted:

- The subject of particles in the marine environment will be addressed in the appropriate sub group and DSRL will provide the necessary information
- The Caithness West Community Council has written to Marine Scotland with concerns relating to the Pentland offshore wind farm and radioactive particles
- TM noted that there were a number of issues related to Dounreay which have impacted the local supply chain and wider community that have reached crisis point during the year. These are centred around recruitment/poaching staff, reduction in work to the local supply chain and significant contracts being cancelled. She appreciates the fiscal challenges the site is under (along with many other government organisations) a new Life Time Plan and 'Fit for Future' process needs to be worked through, however the Chamber has called for some aspects to be expedited and as much to put out to the local supply chain. They also called for a recruitment freeze.
- MM confirmed that while there are fiscal pressures on DSRL, the site has £208m agreed for the next financial year, with the following 2 years of funding allocated in advance
- In response to a question, MM agreed to provide information on the cost of Fit For Future.

ACTION: DSG(2022)M03/A001: DSRL to provide information on the particles – through the sub group

ACTION: DSG(2022)M03/A002: MM to provide information on the cost of FFF.

SEPA: SB reported:

- Action from business group – response has been drafted and should be with the DSG soon.
- SEPA has responded on the Pentland Offshore Wind Farm as a regulatory body and raised issues with Marine Scotland; some of the questions relate to the risk to the environment and public health
- DSRL has provided an estimate of discharge from the sodium tank farm incident to enable SEPA to finalise its investigation, which should be available to share at the January 2023 sub group meeting
- In response to a question, SB confirmed that SEPA requires DSRL to provide adequate protection to the environment and the public, through beach monitoring and reporting, and PRAG(D) is the expert group that provides information to SEPA.

ONR: JF reported:

- the chief inspector and board had a successful visit to Dounreay to see decommissioning activities and engage with the workforce
- a Level 1 emergency exercise was held on site in early September which ONR rated as 'adequate', as it demonstrated the site's command and control and casualty management abilities.
- on the joining with Magnox, ONR is engaging with the site on re-licensing, and also engaging with site on road map – what end state of site looks like
- no issues or enforcement actions have been taken since June
- Following a question on the tank farm investigation, JF confirmed that details of the enforcement letter had been written (details available on the ONR website) and ONR had placed a regulatory hold point on the recommencement of the work on the tank farm and the PFR vessel. ONR continues to engage with DSRL on this.

CNC: ID reported:

- CNC continues to meet its service level agreement
- eight recruitment events have taken place around Highlands and Islands, this is an ongoing process
- CNC continues to support local policing activity without compromising its core activity of protecting nuclear material on the site

SM commented that he was aware that CNC had supported the lying in state of The Queen in September.

9. Any other business

SM noted the following:

- SM confirmed that he would chase the question on fusion raised during the last meeting, and a discussion on fusion would be tabled for AOB. DSG was supportive of the fusion issue but its bid had not been considered for short listing. SM confirmed that new build reactors are not part of the terms of reference of the DSG although have been considered from the point of view of the community, supply chain and skills. JB was interested in a discussion with PF on fusion, and a meeting would be arranged to discuss further.

ACTION: DSG(2022)M03/A003: SM to chase the question on fusion

ACTION: DSG(2022)M03/A004: PF and JB to arrange a discussion on fusion

- CNSRP is to be relaunched as Future North, continuing to pursue opportunities in the short to medium term, such as the Sutherland space port, offshore and onshore wind farm opportunities, and the development of engineering skills at Dounreay.
- Following the review of the DSG in 2021, SM confirmed that the issue of membership of the group will be addressed in March 2023.
- The NDA stakeholder conference demonstrated the different priorities of the SSGs across the country; socio-economics is a driving force in Caithness. There was a good demonstration of the work taking place at the site.
- DSG also played a part in a recent visit to the site and the community from a group of Japanese students, who were interested to see how the stakeholder group engaged with the site as no such forum exists in Japan. There are good opportunities for the UK to assist Japan with its nuclear decommissioning programme and stakeholder engagement.
- Following a question, SM confirmed that the decision was made to cancel the face to face meeting at relatively short notice due to the adverse weather warnings. However, the hotel and the IT support company will not be out of pocket because of the decision.
- GC conveyed the gratitude of a family living at Buldoo to members of the Dounreay Fire, Ambulance and Rescue Service who recently assisted with a medical emergency when no NHS ambulance was available.

There being no further business, SM closed the meeting.

Cllr Struan Mackie
DSG Chair
7 December 2022

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG(2022)M04/A001: DSRL to provide information on the particles – through the sub group

DSG(2022)M04/A002: Mac MacGill to provide information on the cost of Fit For Future.

DSG(2022)M04/A003: Cllr Struan Mackie to chase the question on fusion.

DSG(2022)M04/A004: Peter Faccenda and Jamie Black to arrange a discussion on fusion.

DSG(2022)M03/A015: June Love to ask Commander Ian Walker to provide information on the value of Vulcan as it currently stands. **Requested from Ian Walker.**

DSG(2022)M003/A038: DSG to write to observers to ask observers to provide written papers in a timely manner.

ACTIONS ONGOING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

DSG(2022)M03/A002: June Love to co-ordinate the DSG business meeting members to visit James Fisher Nuclear facility at Bower. **Action ongoing:** Request for DSG Business meeting to visit Bower facility was sent on 8 July 2022 – dates being looked at for visit.

DSG(2022)M03/A021: Craig Brown to provide the visit report of the recent visit to France. **Action ongoing:** Requested info from Graeme Carle & Charlie Graham on 4th August. Chased on 14th November.

DSG(2022)M03/A027: 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. **Action ongoing.** Jeremy Gilmour is engaging with NDA's Commercial Department to look at what data has already been collected in this regard and whether this would require any changes in their systems and policies. He will provide a progress update at the next meeting.

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)M003/A035: DSG to request a meeting with SEPA, DSRL and independent expert to provide information on the higher number of particles found. **Action ongoing:** Independent expert identified from ERI, emailed SEPA on 25 November

DSG(2022)M003/A037: Cllr Struan Mackie to write to Josh George for a definition of what is a critical role. **Action ongoing.**

ACTIONS COMPLETED SINCE LAST MEETING

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. **Action complete:** Head of Communications currently reviewing the team structure. The DSG role will be identified as soon as possible. In the meantime Dawn Clasper will provide full support. Tina Wrighton has taken over as Stakeholder & External Communications Manager.

DSG(2022)M02/A14: Jamie Reed to report back on the extent that NDA uses fair trade across the NDA estate. **Action superseded:** awaiting information from NDA Procurement

DSG(2022)M02/A20: Maree Todd to encourage SG to paint the picture of future renewable opportunities including opportunities around green hydrogen production. **Action complete:** Members might be interested to read the [Programme for Government](#) set out last month, which includes some info on hydrogen. Mr Matheson has since launched the Scottish Hydrogen Investment Proposition – see <https://www.gov.scot/publications/emerging-energy-technologies-fund-hydrogen-innovation-scheme-form-and-guidance/>

Below is an exchange in the Chamber between Michael Matheson and Liam Kerr on the 27 Sept relating to the hydrogen plan that might also be of interest.

Liam Kerr: *In your opening remarks, cabinet secretary, you said that the hydrogen plan was coming out in the next couple of months. Can you be any more precise than that?*

Michael Matheson: *It will be out by the end of this year—I cannot be any more precise than that.*

However, we also have our hydrogen investment proposition, which I published last week and launched at our hydrogen supply chain event for stakeholders in Edinburgh. The proposition is quite important, because a lot of the initial investment and opportunities around hydrogen will be driven largely by export potential rather than by domestic demand. There is huge interest in Scotland's capability to produce large quantities of green hydrogen not just for our own domestic consumption but for export potential. The UK Government has an objective of producing 5GW between now and 2030; Scotland alone is looking to do 5GW, and there is a lot of interest from mainland European countries that will need to import green hydrogen and are therefore looking at import opportunities.

The investment proposition and supply chain event were important in starting to set out Scotland's potential opportunity with regard to manufacturing and producing green hydrogen for our own needs and for export. We published the proposition last week, and I will publish the action plan by the end of this year. I cannot give you a specific date, but it will certainly be by the end of the year.

An invitation has also been extended to Ivan McKee to meet with the DSG.

DSG(2022)M03/A001: June Love to arrange a working group meeting and to invite Cdr Ian Walker and Glen Dawkins. **Action complete:** date set for Wednesday 13 July 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A003: June Love to draft questions for Scottish Government Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting (for Environment Minister) and issue to Business Meeting for final

approval before circulating to DSG members. **Action complete:** Questions were sent to Scottish Government Radwaste Team on 1 July 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A004: Dawn Clasper to look at using Survey Monkey/MS Forms to issue the questions to DSG Members. **Action complete.**

DSG(2022)M03/A005: : Business Meeting member to provide comments on the recommendations to June Love by Friday 22 July. **Action complete.**

DSG(2022)M03/A006: Dawn Clasper to amalgamate the report and the comments received. **Action complete.**

DSG(2022)M03/A007: Issue the DSG Review recommendations and action plan to the DSG members. **Action complete:** issued to all DSG members on 6 October 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A008: DSG to write a letter of support to the Just Transition Commissioner. **Action complete:** see DSG(2022)C025.

DSG(2022)M03/A009: Peter Faccenda to provide a draft response for the REMA consultation. **Action complete:** Received – see DSG(2022)C024

DSG(2022)M03/A010: June Love to draft short brief for Scottish party political conference attendance. **Action complete:** see DSG(2022)C026.

DSG(2022)M03/A011: June Love to draft the key principles of the decommissioning of Vulcan. **Action complete:** see DSG(2022)C027.

DSG(2022)M03/A012: June Love to request a meeting between DSG Working Group and Dounreay to discuss supply chain issues, budget and skills. **Action complete:** To be discussed at business meeting on 25th August where BM will meet the executive team.

DSG(2022)M03/A013: June Love to invite William Lindsay to next DSG Socio Economic sub group meeting to provide a briefing on Fit For Future. **Action complete:** Decision at socio economic sub group held on 19 October agreed to defer this until other issues had completed.

DSG(2022)M03/A014: June Love to circulate update on progress for North Coast Visitor Centre. **Action complete:** Circulated to DSG Socio Economic sub group on 4th August 2022.

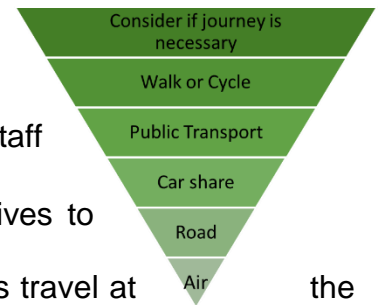
DSG(2022)M03/A016: June Love to ask NDA to meet with DSG working group to discuss timeline for outline and final business case product for Vulcan decommissioning. **Action complete:** Mtg took place on 15th September.

DSG(2022)M03/A017: All DSG members to provide comment on the DSG review to DSG Secretariat no later than 29th August 2022. **Action complete:** date for completion was extended and closed on 31 August 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A018: DSG Chair to write to NDA to request clarity on flights to/from Caithness in terms of NDA's sustainability policy. **Action complete:** The NDA supports all modes of transport, but our travel policy does give guidance to staff to consider the travel hierarchy set out below.

It is a government target that our travel policy offers alternatives to flying.

This policy aims to deliver environmentally sustainable business travel at the NDA and meet Government's expectations. We will keep this policy up to date as national policies and strategies on transport continue to develop.



DSG(2022)M03/A019: DSG Socio Economic Sub Group Chair to write to Highland Council regarding the need to continue with Ward Managers for both Caithness and Sutherland. **Action complete:** See DSG(2022)C023

DSG(2022)M03/A020: Craig Brown to respond to question on why columns in new low level waste facility were being grouted now. **Action complete:** The grouting around the containers (termed 'interstitial grouting') puts pressure on the vault walls and must be balanced by backfilling around the external of the vault. Stage 0 backfill around D3120 has been completed and have emplaced 2500m³ of backfill to 2.5m above the floor slab level. This will allow progress with the interstitial grouting. Prior to backfill the structural engineer undertook an inspection of the vault walls to confirm they were in a suitable condition to be backfilled against. The concrete walls were in good condition, but there was concern that the paint system on the steel columns had prematurely failed and there would be inadequate protection of the columns once buried by backfill. Having assessed the options it was concluded that encasement of the columns in concrete provide the quickest and easiest remedial solution to implement. This work has been undertaken in parallel with the backfill.

DSG(2022)M03/A022: All DSG members to provide comment on the DSG review to DSG Secretariat no later than 29th August 2022. **Action complete:** date for completion was extended and closed on 31 August 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A023: Just love to issue the Vulcan principles letter. **Action complete:** see DSG(2022)C027.

DSG(2022)M03/A024: June Love to share the DSG Review and actions. **Action complete:** Review and action plan sent to John McNamara and David Wallace, NDA.

DSG(2022)M03/A025: Cllr Struan Mackie to clarify with Cllr Karl Rosie and Cllr Andrew Jarvie which sub group both will attend. **Action complete:** Cllr Struan Mackie confirmed Cllr Karl Rosie will attend the Site Restoration subgroup and Cllr Andrew Jarvie will attend the will attend the Socio Economic subgroup.

DSG(2022)M03/A026: Gail Ross to meet with DSG Business meeting to discuss the change-over in roles to support the DSG. **Action complete:** Meeting held on 27 October 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A028: June Love to close out action for FFF update in January 2023. **Action complete.**

DSG(2022)M03/A029: June Love to set up a meeting between DSRL and DSG representatives to discuss supply chain and recruitment issues. **Action complete:** meeting held on 27 October 2022.

DSG(2022)M03/A030: Jeremy Gilmour to provide a response to when the Nucleus contract was due to be renewed. **Action complete:** The Contract for this work has been advertised on the Government 'Find a Tender' website at [Records Management and Archiving, Security and Facilities Management Services at NDA Archives Ltd - Find a Tender \(find-tender.service.gov.uk\)](#)

This notice states that the start date for the new contract is 1 July 2023.

DSG(2022)M003/A034: Stewart Ballantine for get more clarity on the waste once Vulcan has moved from military site to a civil site. **Action Complete:** If Vulcan moves to a civil site the requirements will be as they are for the Dounreay site and the other civil site across Scotland i.e. all waste will have to be managed in a manner that is optimised and represents BPM. The current arrangement with Vulcan is effectively the same, but on a voluntary basis under the Letter of Agreement (LoA) between SEPA and the MOD rather than via an EASR permit. At present the LoA's with the MOD mirror the permit wording and conditions that would be in place under RSA93 rather than EASR, which is a reflection of the MoU that was just been in place prior to EASR coming into force. That MoU has just been revised, so they may well be updated in the coming months. The main change under EASR in relation to management of waste is for radioactive substances (which includes waste) to be transferred to a person legally entitled to manage them in the UK subject to it being BPM to do so. Under RSA and therefore the current LoA for Vulcan is waste can only be transferred to named persons, which in the case of Vulcan is the Dounreay site. For ILW EASR allows transfer to any person in the UK provided the purpose of that transfer is treatment and any radioactive waste remaining following treatment is returned in accordance with Government policy. These are standard conditions under EASR, full wording and associated guidance is available at [Radioactive substances | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#) . Any additional bespoke conditions SEPA considered appropriate (i.e. discharge limits or site specific matters) would be added as part of the determination of the application for an EASR permit.

DSG(2022)M003/A032: Frederic Stalin to find out if GDF would accept the 6m³ concrete box. **Action Complete:** The 6m³ Concrete box is an approved Higher Activity Waste (HAW) package and part of the inventory for disposal in a GDF in England and Wales. The 6m³ Concrete box has been utilised at Sellafield (Windscale) and is now in wider use in Magnox.

The suitability is assessed through Nuclear Waste Services Disposability Assessment process to determine the acceptability of the Package and the waste inside. Dounreay has in the past fortnight, received a final Letter of Compliance (LoC) for the packaging of the DMTR Higher Activity Waste in a 6m³ Concrete Box. However, Scottish HAW will be disposed of to a Near Site Near Surface Disposal facility. At this time, following the LoC assessment process indicates that 6m³ Concrete boxes would be suitable for disposal in such a facility.

DSG(2022)M003/A033: Frederic Stalin to share the Gate B paper with DSG members.

Action complete: See Correspondence DSG(2022)M03/C031.

DSG(2022)M003/A036: Cllr Struan Mackie to ask for a follow up meeting with the

Business Meeting and Mark Rouse. **Action complete: Meeting held on 23 November.**

DSG(2022)M003/A039: Dawn Clasper to set up a meeting with Jeremy Gilmour and Cllr

Struan Mackie and Davie Alexander. **Action Complete:** Meeting held on 7 December 2022.