

DOUNREAY SOCIO ECONOMIC UPDATE*current as of 12 July 2023*

NDA Social Impact and Communities Strategy

In June the NDA socio economics team visited Dounreay to meet with staff and stakeholders. The visit was, in part, to consult on a refresh of the NDA Social Impact and Communities Strategy, with the team meeting the DSG Chair and Vice Chair, Socio Economics Sub Group, and members of the Focus North Delivery Group. Discussion on social value, with social impact representation from Sellafield, was held with Dounreay's commercial team.

Dounreay Socio Economic Strategy

Dounreay is aiming for publication of a refreshed socio economic strategy in October. The DSG will be consulted as part of this process with input from the NDA consultation also included.

Grant funding

An annual socio economic review for FY 2022/23 is nearing completion and will be due out shortly with a refreshed format.

Dounreay continues to provide pre-application support for socio economic funding with several groups and organisations are in active discussion on potential funding for 2023/2024.

The continued governance of socio economic grant funding activities is recorded in Appendix 1, with new projects funded in the previous quarter found below:

- Wick PSO Study - £25,000. Study on impact of price as driver of demand on Wick- Aberdeen Air Services
- Caithness Chamber of Commerce Options Appraisal - £6,500. Options appraisal on governance model/s for industry member
- Thurso Community Café - £5,000. Community clothing project

Other socio economic activities

- The Dounreay Sustainability and Socio Economic team, alongside a representative of the commercial team, presented on sustainability and social value at a supply chain engagement event held at UHI North Highland in June.
- The Dounreay Sustainability and Socio Economics Team presented on Dounreay innovation in sustainability and socio economics at the NDA Innovation and Technology Roadshow. Representatives of the DSG were also in attendance.

Procurement

- Contracts were awarded to 11 Caithness suppliers in Q1 23/24
- There were 45 respective contracts to a value of £1.43M
- Two of these were reserved procurements

There has been increased work this quarter by the socio economics and commercial team at implementation of Public Procurement Note 06/20 on Social Value. In parallel there is a body of work being undertaken to further target social value interventions to area needs, in part through the work of Focus North.

Staffing

Recruitment continues to be carefully managed. Dounreay shares full details of all internal and external recruitment with the DSG business group to ensure transparency. In the last quarter there has been very little recruitment activity, however in the previous week a number of vacancies were approved to proceed, and a report sent to the DSG.

Recruitment of early year's careers has concluded for 2023 with final figures summarised as:

- 14 Graduates (12 Dounreay and 2 NDA)
- 10 Engineering apprentices (1 Design, 4 Electrical, 2 Instrument, 2 Mechanical)
- 1 Scaffolder apprentice
- 1 Joiner apprentice
- 5 Business apprentices
- 15 Summer students

STEM

Planning of STEM events/activities to be rolled out during academic year 2023/24 has commenced with a review of the Key STEM Ambassadors is being undertaken during the summer break.

Early discussion with UHI's STEM Development Manager on re-establishing the North Highland STEM Hub Group and how UHI and Dounreay can work together going forward. This will be developed further once UHI's STEM Coordinator, based in the Thurso Campus, is in post in August. Event highlights include:

- Dounreay's STEM Ambassadors supported the Science Skills Academy's "Up in the air with numbers" module to Thurso High School pupils in mid-April. Dounreay has arranged for their flight simulator to be set up in ETEC during the summer holidays to allow apprentices to be trained and any other individuals identified for training. Three UHI lecturers will be trained on their return after the summer break.
- First Lego League Challenge North Highland Tournament was held on 3 May at ETEC. 8 teams participated in the day where they presented their Innovation Project and Robot Design to a panel of judges. The feedback from

the schools and pupils has been excellent and now organisers (Dounreay, DYW North Highland and UHI) are planning next year's challenge and tournament..

- STAR Crest Award has been completed by pupils at Noss Primary School and Thrumster Primary School. The pupils had to complete 8 different activities to complete their award, with all activities being delivered by Dounreay STEM Ambassadors.
- A STEM day was held at Noss Primary School on 9 June. All pupils attended with each pupil participating in two different activities delivered by Dounreay STEM Ambassadors.



Visits to Dounreay



- In May Buldoo residents visited the Low Level Waste Vaults.
- In June the NDA socio economics team visited with representation from Sellafield's social impact team.

**Magnus Davidson,
Dounreay, a division of Magnox Ltd
12 July 2023**

Appendix 1

Funded Project	Completion date	Progress	Comments
FR-000001122 CNSRP (Focus North) support hub	30 March 2025		Funding commitment: 3 years Total cost: £487,000 Yr 2(23/24): £154K Underspend due to not having staff in place which has now been rectified by the appointment of a business manager. Spend going forward has

Funded Project	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			been reprofiled with on target plan to utilise underspend on new projects.
FR-000000224: Caithness Transport Forum	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £30K Yr 3 (23/24): £10K £30K paid to date.
FR-000000225: Chamber of Commerce business mentoring	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £100,000 Yr 3 (23/24): £35K £100k paid to date.
FR-000000272: North Coast Visitors Attraction (former Caithness Horizons)	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £225K Yr 3(23/24):: £75K £150k paid to date.
FR-00000279 CNSRP (Focus North) Programme Manager	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: Up to £120K Yr 3 (23/24): Up to £40K £68,079 paid to date.
FR-000000280: CNSRP (Focus North) Independent chair	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £27,900 Yr 3 (23/24): £9,300 £18,300 paid to date.
FR-000000327: Venture North Destination Management Organisation	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £97,040 Yr 3 (23/24): £34,595 £62,445 paid to date. Early discussions have taken place around the funding profile of the year 3 payment to enhance the sustainability of project outcomes.
FR-000001071: Transport for Tongue	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £30K Yr 3 (23/24): £10K £30K paid to date.
FR-0000001170: PSO Contract Manager	31-Mar-2025		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £90K Yr 2 (23/24): £30K Yr 3 (24/25): £30K £37500K paid to date.
STEM activities	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £75K

Funded Project	Completion date	Progress	Comments
			Yr 3 (23/24): £25K £19,061 paid to date. STEM spend has historically been under budget year on year and school activity has not yet returned to pre-covid levels. Underspend in this budget has been used for direct STEM funding in 22/23
Dounreay Community Fund	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 3 years Total costs: £75K Yr 3: £25K £50K paid to date.
FR-000001413: Royal British Legion Hall	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 1 year Total costs: £27k Yr 1: £27k £27k paid to date.
FR-00000161: Home Start Caithness	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 1 year Total costs: £58k Yr 1: £58k £58k paid to date.
FR-000001619: Friends of North Baths	31-Jul-2023		Funding commitment: 1 year Total costs: £4,760 Yr 1: £4,760 £4,760 paid to date. Works completed awaiting final report.
FR-000001642: Forss Road Signs	31-Mar-2024		Funding commitment: 1 year Total costs: £18,655 Yr 1: £18,655 £18,655 paid to date. Delay in works completion. Wider study deadline on target.
FR-000001595: STEM Lego Kits – Thurso High School	29-May-2024		Funding commitment: 1 year Total costs: £4,739 Yr 1: £4,739 £4,739k paid to date. Kits bought read for new term. Report on activity due next year after full year's use.