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Rolls-Royce – Submarines Vulcan Business Operations Update: April 2024

Safety remains Rolls-Royce's number one priority with over four years since our last lost time injury on site.

Liam Hamilton will formally take over from Andy Maxwell as the Rolls-Royce General Manager of Vulcan NRTE currently planned to be the 10th June 2024. Andy has been in the role for four years and will take up an exciting opportunity in Austrialia as the Rolls-Royce in country lead on the well publicised AUKUS submarine programme. He clearly takes with him a comprehensive knowledge of the current and potential future capabilities and strategy of Rolls-Royce in Caithness and will look at any and all opportunies to provide support going forward. Liam is very much looking forward to his new role and working with the Dounrey Stakeholder Group (DSG) in the near future and to maintain the constructive relationship.

We continue with flexible working practices, allowing those whose jobs allow to attend site for a minimum of the equivalent of three days a week with the remainder worked from home if that is the individuals preference. We continue to see a low level of absence, and very few cases of COVID but we remain vigilant to any changes in this regard.

We continue to provide support to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in the review of the process, schedule and operating model options of the potential transfer of the Vulcan site decommissioning accountabilities to the NDA. We are also committed to continuous review of future business opportunities. Clearly, we have a fantastic Rolls-Royce and wider team at Vulcan with unique capabilities which could be potentially utilised in a number of programmes and projects. The scope and timelines of these are clearly dependant on the timing and requirements of the site decommissioning programme, any ongoing long-term support to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the opportunities within adjacent complimentary industry.

As the Dounreay Site Restoration Group is well aware both the Naval Submarine and industry wide nuclear programmes are going through an unprecedented level of change and growth, and we are continually assessing the implications of these changes to current and potential future Rolls-Royce capabilities, especially in the Caithness area. Although we are assessing these opportunities on an ongoing basis, I must stress that our number one priority is the safe delivery of our current programme in support of the MoD.

Our Rolls-Royce apprentice pipeline continues and remains fully populated with 15 apprentices in various stages of their training. We have made offers to an increased number of apprentices as we look to increase to six in 2024 for the first time in a number of years across both mechanical and electrical disciplines.

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