

Endorsed 12 November 2024

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP BUSINESS MEETING**Minutes of DSG Business Meeting held on Tuesday 29 October 2024 at 0930 via MS Teams.**

Present: Cllr Struan Mackie	DSG Chair
David Alexander	DSG Vice-chair & Socio Economic 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
Tina Wrighton	Stakeholder & External Relations Manager, NRS Dounreay

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Cllr Struan Mackie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies have been received from Gillian Coghill.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Cllr Struan Mackie noted that the minutes of the last meeting – DSG/BM(2024)M012, 15 October 2024 – were endorsed by members. 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 noted there were a small number of ongoing actions. Discussion focused on:

- DSG/SESG(2024)M03/A01: DSG Business meeting to write to absent members of the DSG Socio Economic sub group. **Ongoing.** David Alexander to write to Chair of Caithness Area Committee and to reappoint a representative as soon as possible.
- DSG/BM(2024)M010/A01: David Alexander to write to David Calder, Head of Sustainability and Socio Economics, NRS Dounreay regarding the use of the Viewfirth land owned by NDA. **Ongoing:** David Alexander emailed David Calder on 03/09/2024. Further dialogue to take place and David to be invited to attend a future business meeting.

All the other actions have been closed. Cllr Mackie noted that on the action for sharing the Dounreay vacancies we should mark this action as ‘complete and ongoing’ to clarify that this practice is now continued.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following was raised:

Endorsed 12 November 2024

- Tina Wrighton noted that in previous years we have had to cancel the December public meeting at short notice and she asked if this could be made virtual. Members present agreed that this meeting would be hosted online. Cllr Struan Mackie noted that his preference was in person however it was prudent to move this online due to possible bad weather.
- Tina Wrighton noted that the NRS Dounreay Excellence Awards will take place on the 15 November, Cllr Struan Mackie has been invited.
- David Alexander and Gillian Coghill met with Naomi Mawby, NRS Dounreay Balance of Site Director and Jason Simpson, NRS Dounreay Project Manager regarding a steam leak from a defective weld. David Alexander noted that they are addressing this issue and were open and honest. He noted it would be a good idea to do this with other areas when issues arise to provide updates.
- Cllr Struan Mackie noted that the DSG have been invited to the Annual Conference of Social Value. Cllr Mackie noted that he would be a panel member and he asked members if this is something the DSG wish to attend. This was agreed by the members present.
- Tina Wrighton noted that Neil Cook, NRS Dounreay Finance Director has announced his retirement. Alison Hammond, who is part of Gordon Frisby's NRS Finance lead team, will assume interim support for the transition to the corporate business partnering model for Finance; the change will happen on 6 December.

Peter Faccenda noted that Dounreay would no longer have a finance director based at the site, and this would now be a remote post and there would be less advocacy for the NRS Dounreay site. Tina Wrighton stated that she was unsure as Alison Hammond is interim and this would be part of the NRS corporate centre. This will become clear once the post is filled.

- Roger Saxon noted that the list of external recruitment contained a lot of resignations, retirements or promotions - is there any reason why there are so many resignations. Tina Wrighton responded that these are repeat vacancies as people are moving to other jobs outside the organisation.
- David Alexander noted that in the daily headlines issued there have been a number of articles relating to the budget and Sellafeld and proposed budget cuts. He noted that we need to be mindful that the rest of the NDA estate would potentially also have budget cuts to come.
- Dawn Clasper noted that David Calder would like to present the NDA Sustainability Strategy at the next DSG Business meeting. This was agreed by the members present.

5. CLOSE

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

Endorsed 12 November 2024

Cllr Struan Mackie
DSG Chair
30 October 2024

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

No action arising from this meeting.