



# NDA Update for DSG

September 2025



Contents

1.0 NDA Stakeholder Update September 2025

**NDA Stakeholder Update**

Please find below a brief update on main points of interest since the last meeting.

**Government Update**

The Government Spending Review process informs decisions on public spending. NDA group funding is made up of the funding we receive from Government and the income we generate. We have already communicated on NDA group funding for 2025/26 which at just over £4bn includes increased Government funding, demonstrating significant public investment in our nuclear sites and facilities though this will not be without challenges.

We have now been advised of our allocation for 2026/27 through to 2029/30 from our Government sponsoring department, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). This gives the NDA long term visibility of our Government funding to the end of the decade.

Despite funding challenges, we're focused on our nationally important mission to ensure the safe and efficient decommissioning of the UK's nuclear legacy, with much to deliver, including a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF), which remains government's policy for the long-term storage solution for the most hazardous radioactive waste. Additionally, we are preparing for the transition of the Advanced Gas-Cooled Reactors (AGR) into our group for decommissioning, thereby expanding our responsibilities and scope. Our role in new nuclear initiatives remains important, highlighting our part in supporting the UK's energy security and sustainability goals.

**Outreach activities**

David Peattie, NDA Group CEO, Clive Nixon, Group Chief Nuclear Strategy Officer, and Holly Cresswell, International Relations Manager, represented the NDA at the recent UK-France Civil Nuclear Seminar. The event brought together senior figures to explore future collaboration between the UK and France in civil nuclear with panel sessions considering:

- Building a Workforce for the Future
- Ensuring a Responsible Nuclear Legacy
- Preparing for European Ambitions: Advanced Modular Reactors and Research

A key discussion point included the critical role of international collaboration in delivering our mission, particularly in tackling shared challenges in decommissioning, dismantling, and waste management. Whilst a key takeaway was the value of our partnerships—especially the knowledge exchange through Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) on radioactive waste and geological disposal. These relationships help us



strengthen our technical capabilities and deliver more effectively for the UK public.

We also reaffirmed our long-standing cooperation with the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), agreeing to deepen collaboration on decommissioning and waste management—areas central to our work.

The nuclear industry has marked three significant anniversaries as His Majesty the King met with members of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) group in Caithness Scotland, during his annual visit to the region. The visit recognised the NDA group's progress in its national mission to safely decommission the UK's earliest nuclear sites, and its long-standing contribution to sustainability and economic development in the region and across the UK.

The visit coincided with the NDA group marking several significant milestones including the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NDA and 70 years for NRS Dounreay, which has been an enduring presence at the heart of the Caithness community. This year also marks 50 years for Pacific Nuclear Transport Ltd (PNTL). Founded in 1975, PNTL is the world's leading maritime nuclear transporter and part of NDA subsidiary, Nuclear Transport Solutions (NTS). The King also viewed the Pacific Heron, part of the PNTL fleet of ships designed to safely transport nuclear materials around the globe.

### **Festival of Politics**

Took place on August 20<sup>th</sup> and featured a panel discussion on 'The Atomics – the story of Dounreay people'.

### **Anniversary Celebrations**

HRH King Charles visited Scrabster Harbour to celebrate 3 important anniversaries – NDA's 20<sup>th</sup>, PNTL's 50<sup>th</sup> and Dounreay's 70<sup>th</sup>. Also attending was the Scottish Government's Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy.

### **Engagement priorities for 2025**

As you are aware, the consultation on the NDA draft **Strategy 5** was launched on 7 August and will close on 29 September. Our strategy document is published every 5 years and describes our high-level approach to delivering our mission. Within that, we identify several critical enablers essential to the successful delivery of our mission including public and stakeholder engagement. Once this has concluded and we analyse comments the final document will be produced and published in March 2026.

As part of the consultation and engagement process for Strategy 5, an online webinar took place on September 5<sup>th</sup> with around 300 stakeholders in attendance.



## **Publications, public service and policy updates**

The NDA Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 sets out the progress we're making against our mission, from safely decommissioning existing sites to preparing to take responsibility for more, while managing radioactive waste for our existing programme and new nuclear.

As we mark our 20th anniversary, this year's report reflects a strong year of delivery across the NDA group with continued progress on our mission: safely decommissioning our sites, managing radioactive waste, and preparing to take on new responsibilities.

Key highlights from the last 12 months include:

- Sellafield is now removing waste from all four legacy ponds and silos; a major milestone in hazard reduction.
- Nuclear Waste Services is progressing with final capping at the LLW Repository.
- Visible skyline changes across the estate, including the demolition of Sizewell A's turbine hall.
- Ongoing work to identify a suitable site and community for a Geological Disposal Facility.
- Innovation in action: sail trials for NTS ships and autonomous security systems at Winfrith.
- Preparations continue for the transfer of the AGR fleet and potential decommissioning of the Vulcan site.

Additionally, we've seen improvements in safety, environmental performance, and cyber security, supported by the opening of a new cyber facility to boost collaboration.

2024/25 also saw another year of significant investment in our people and communities. We had a record early careers intake in 2025 with over 420 apprentices and 300 graduates. As well as that, we saw continued support for skills, schools, and supply chain development - part of our £49m annual investment. And finally, we saw the continued ongoing delivery of our Inclusion Strategy, with real progress on equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Read the report here: [Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Annual Report and Accounts 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat or raise with the NDA official at the SSG meeting.



**Cross Party Group**

The next Cross Party Group on September 22<sup>nd</sup> will focus on the decommissioning work at HNA/HNB A site visit will be followed by the CPG at Hunterston in the PM.

**ENDS**

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