



For all our futures

Performance Report to DSG Site Restoration Sub Group

For the period 1 April 2026 – 30 June 2026

NRS Dounreay Delivery Business Key Points

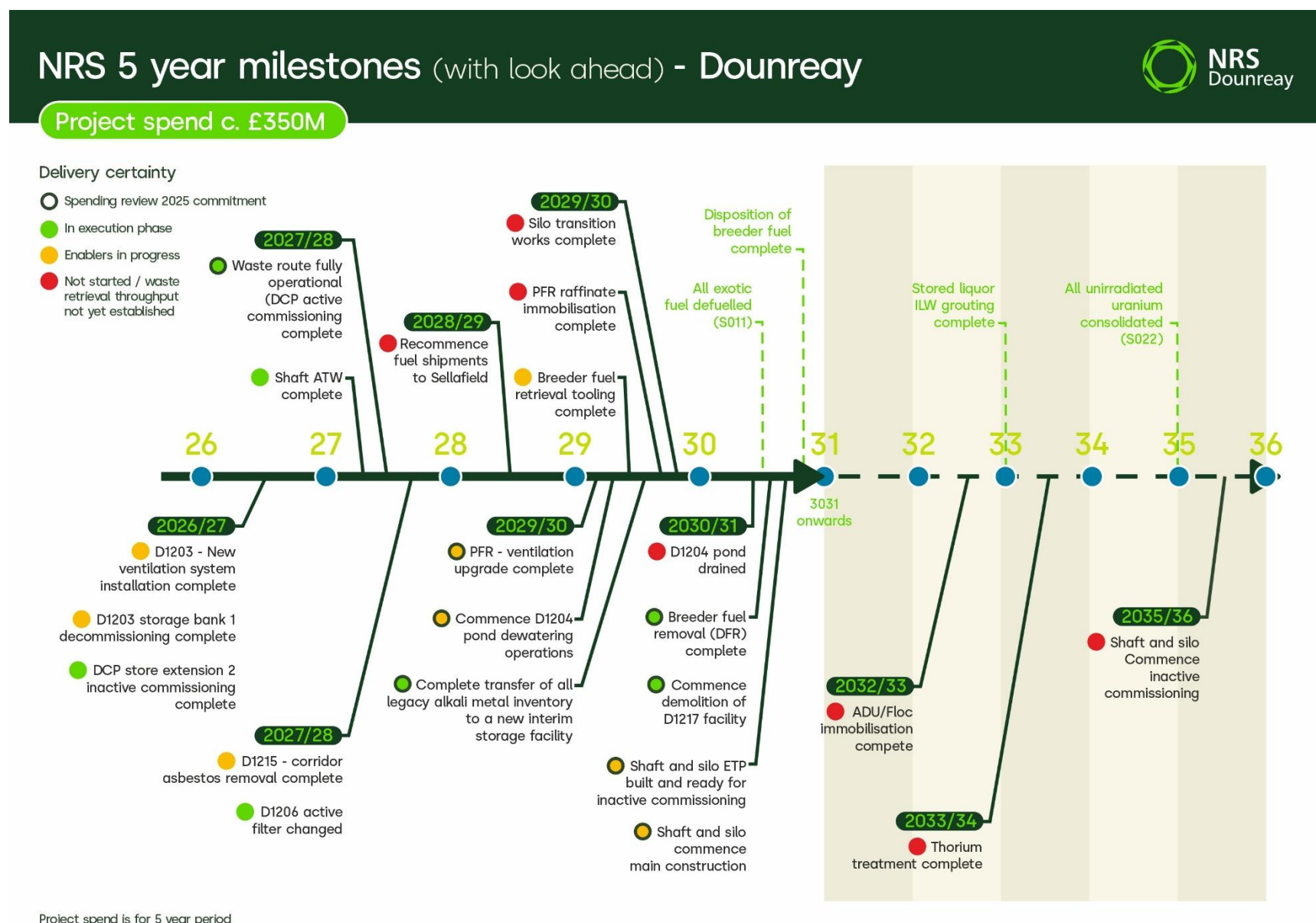
This report covers the first quarter of the financial year 2026/27. This is the first year of the new NRS Business Plan aligned to the 5-year Spending Review settlement. This Business Plan includes a significant increase of funding allocated to Dounreay in consideration of its high hazard profile and the requirement for investment in its assets to cover a significantly longer period. As a result, a significant amount of effort has been focused during the period in ensuring that the right capabilities are in place to deliver the additional scope, through adequate planning for both recruitment and supply chain engagement.

On delivery, Dounreay has not completed any target during the period, but the first was achieved shortly afterwards (Carbon Bed Filter - Borehole drilling). Three targets currently sit at “at risk” for Dounreay: Shaft & Silo - completion of cell wall construction, DCP Store Extension 2 - completion of inactive commissioning, and Innovation - completion of an Active Demonstrator at Dounreay).

Our regulatory return-to-routine plan continues to address the enforcement letters, and one improvement notice that remains open, with those relevant to COMAH and DSEAR closed during this period. Progress continues to be made towards exiting Enhanced Regulatory Attention.

On asset condition, work continues with setting out a 5-year recovery plan, following on from the production of an asset strategy for the site in the previous financial year. A programme manager has been appointed to lead this work (Megan Watson). Immediate work has started to improve the condition of the legacy low-level pits in both the short and medium-term horizons (to include capping surface condition, rainwater protection and drainage management).

5-year spending review commitments and overall milestones for the 5/10 year horizons



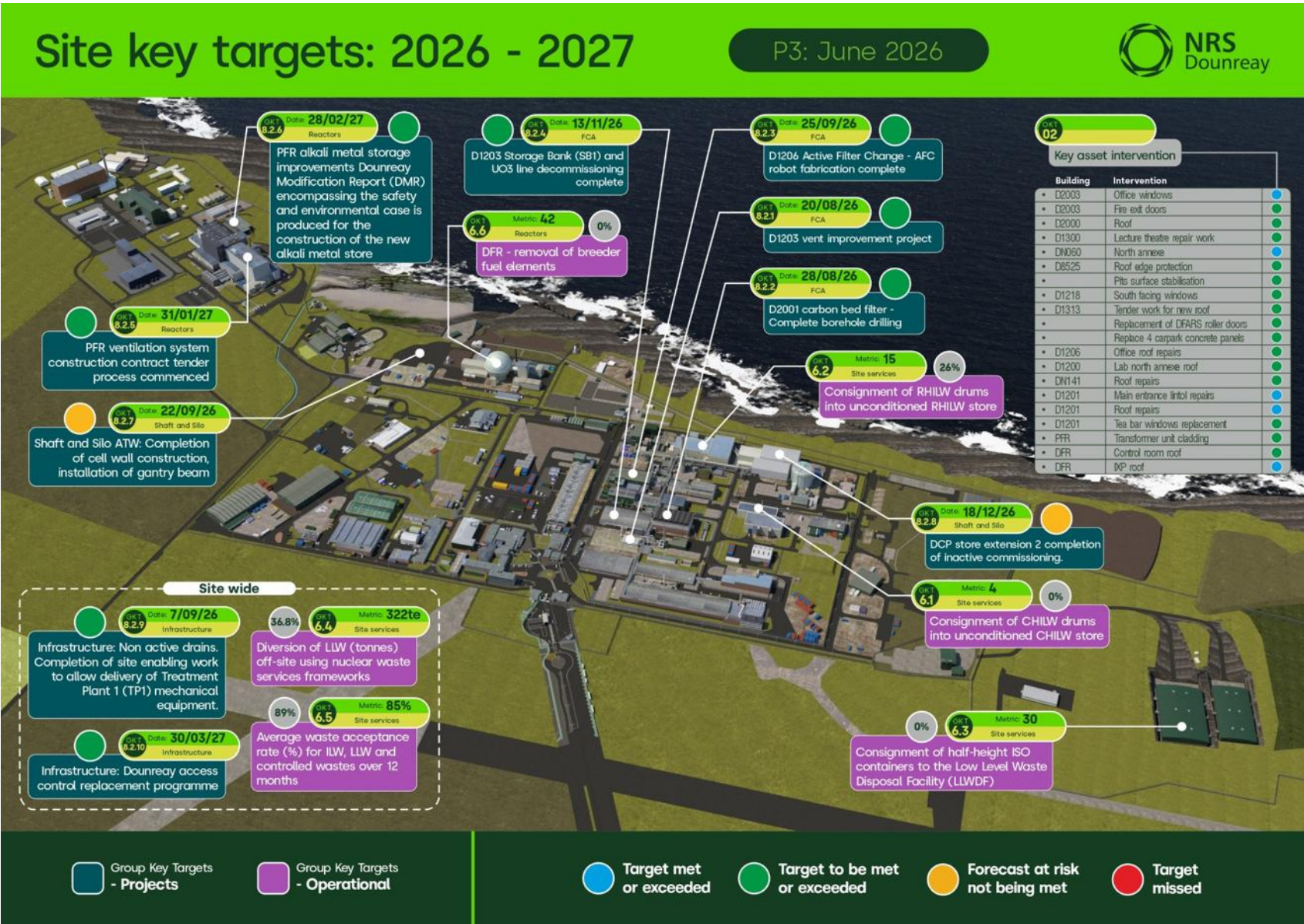
Over the mid-term horizon (c. 5 years out) there has been no change to the key milestones for the site which includes:

- Completion of the shipment of breeder fuel from DFR to Sellafield
- Completion of the transfer of alkali metals to a new suitable facility ahead of treatment/disposal
- Ready for start of construction on Shaft and Silo (including procurement of major construction partner let)
- Processing through Dounreay Cementation Plant of stored high active liquors (arising for previous reprocessing activities)
- Drainage of D1204 (FCA) pond (high hazard facility)

However, two implementation strategies are currently in the process of being reviewed and will be implemented in the programme through change control (with impact on intermediary steps but not the overall milestones):

- Review of Shaft and Silo Effluent Treatment Plan approach to prioritise the risk within the Silo (due to asset degradation)
- Review of the breeder fuel removal and shipment approach, to reduce risk by completing the first shipment to Sellafield as early as possible (and therefore prove the viability of the route)

In year targets progress



Programme Delivery Update

Reactors Programme

Work continues preparing for the PFR ventilation system upgrade construction contract due later in the year, with a virtual pre-market engagement held late in June. This is a critical milestone to enable further work in PFR (both for fuel movement, and decommissioning).

For breeder fuel, transfers from the reactor to the process cell (D2160) re-started, but only half of the elements were moved in June against the plan (six elements instead of 12). This was due to equipment failure in D2160. Recovery plans are in place to allow resuming transfer by mid-July.

Fuel Cycle Area Programme

D2001 carbon bed filter borehole drilling was completed in July, and all three other targets are tracking at “on target”.

For D1206 active filter change - fabrication of key elements is underway with local sub-contractor, however most of the risk will be at the testing phase on site (given the high hazard environment at the facility).

Balance of Site Programme

Shaft and Silo

Steel fixing and concrete pours are continuing (ground beam complete, walls ongoing). The main challenge has been the availability of competent steel fixing resources with the contractor. This is being managed through extended work hours and weekend work.

DCP Store Extension 2

Significant time pressure exists on the commissioning team to progress document packages as well as progress other pre-commissioning activities, like walkdowns and acceptance tests. Three contracts are now in place to provide additional short-term resources to support this work.

EHSSQ Performance

Environmental, security and safeguards performance remain largely stable, with nuclear and radiological performance remaining controlled and compliant. Conventional safety, however, continues to be the principal driver of adverse performance indicators, particularly slip, trips and falls events, despite a TRiR improvement recently (0.46, down from 0.52 in Feb/March).

While targeted controls (Safety Pause, slip/trip campaign, plant walkdowns) have been deployed, human performance variability and inconsistent task planning remain underlying contributors.

To remediate this, NRS Dounreay has started a Human Performance campaign across site. Already, 250 people on site have been trained, with five internal trainers already quaified (and five more in progress).

Onshore Monitoring of Radioactive Particles

All information and updates can be found on the Dounreay environmental monitoring website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/onshore-monitoring-of-radioactive-particles>

