

DSG Review Meeting

28 March 2017

Updated on 3rd August 2017 (following discussion at Business meeting held on 28th July 2017).

BACKGROUND

DSG representatives met on 28th March to provide input to the DSG review. The recommendations of the DSG review were subsequently received following the meeting. Actions from the meeting are now listed, where appropriate, under the relevant recommendation.

Following subsequent discussions at sub group meetings and at the Business meeting on 28th July this briefing note was updated.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM DSG REVIEW REPORT

OVERSIGHT: Resolve conflict over transport, review LLW facility implementation with Buldoo Residents Group.

Comments:

- *Transport of nuclear material:* Given the nature of the membership of the SSG, there will also be apparent disagreements on this topic. The Chairman will continue to allow reasonable questioning at the public meeting, as long as these questions have not been asked or responded to in the past. There will be a balance to ensure that other topics receive the same degree of time in relation to questioning or scrutiny. As a conflict, this will never be resolved and therefore it will be for the Chairman (or members) to ensure that this issue is given adequate time.

Action: No action to take. Chairman will keep a watching brief over this and will chair meeting as he feels appropriate.

- *Review LLW facility implementation with Buldoo Residents Group:* DSG was instrumental in ensuring that Buldoo had a voice when the planning for the NLLW facility was being considered. The DSG also provided funding for Buldoo to commission their own environmental impact assessment of the proposed facility.

The Buldoo residents group was set up under a planning condition to ensure the residents nearby were engaged. This meeting has broadened out into other topics which are also covered by DSG (and hence provided to BRG as part of DSG).

Given Buldoo has a new local independent chairperson it has been suggested to the BRG that the chairperson represents them on the DSG. In that way, private issues with tenants remain private while any concerns/issues raised by Buldoo Residents can be raised in a factual manner.

Action:

- Clarify Buldoo Residents Group representative at DSG (will be covered in membership action below). **Action complete:** Independent chair, Gillian Coghill will now become the Buldoo representative at DSG meetings.

- Chairman to agree with BRG (DSG) representative how information (on other site activities not related to LLW) are to be cascaded to BRG. **Action ongoing:** this will be the subject of discussion prior at Gillian Coghill's induction meeting with DSG Chairman.

SOCIO ECONOMICS:

Review relationships with other bodies, including scope and representation. Set out clear ToRs and manage strictly to them.

Comments

- During discussion on socio economic activities there is now a number of meetings that include this topic and therefore important that the topics are covered by the most relevant group. This does not preclude DSG representative on other bodies nor does it preclude comments raised and issues taken forward.

Actions:

- DSG Business meeting to provide a scope of DSG business and compare with CNSRP, Community Planning and Caithness Transport Forum. **Action complete** – a mapping exercise was carried out.
- Short simple questionnaire (survey monkey) to be issued to DSG members seeking views on where topics should sit. **Action complete** – survey was issued and 19 responses were returned.
- **Decision at Business meeting on 28th July was to maintain the status quo of this meeting until such times as other groups (ie CNSRP, Community Planning Partnership, etc) start to evolve.**

CONSULTATION:

Try again to improve feedback to and from member organisations.

Action:

- Will be included in membership letters going out to all members. **Action complete.**

MEMBERSHIP: *Try to improve diversity and succession. Consider reducing group size.*

Comments: This has been tried previously with the inclusion of students, etc. Recognise the need for organisations to consider their succession planning.

Action:

- Will be included in membership letters going out to all members along with remit of DSG's representative, what does rep get out of DSG meetings, how does representative feed info up/down organisation. **Action complete:** following feedback the two sub groups and attendance at DSG public meeting will remain as is.

MEETINGS: *Review format of public meetings, add variation, outreach, visits?*

Action:

- Business meeting to discuss potential reformat and provide thoughts to DSG members for comment. **Action complete:** format will be slightly different and more topic driven with more 'project focussed' discussions at sub groups.

- Look at site visit for induction of new member. **Action complete:** this is offered to all new members as part of the DSG induction process.
- Consider particular topics and link with relevant plant visit (if appropriate). **Action complete:** DSG public meeting moving towards a more topic driven agenda.

OTHER ACTIONS DISCUSSED AT DSG REVIEW MEETING

MOD/Vulcan: *Consider DSG expectations in terms of MOD/Vulcan.*

Action:

- Letter to MOD asking for explanation of their view of MOD's remit to consult/engage with community. (DSG action from last public meeting). **Action complete:** DSG letter sent and response from MOD received.
- MOD response discussed at sub group meeting on 18th July 2017 and taken forward at Business meeting. **Action complete.**

Expenses: *Looking at guidelines and benchmark against other SSGs.*

Actions:

- Benchmark against other SSGs re expenses – **Action complete:** no other site pays for members to attend meetings.
- Discuss at Business meeting and decision made. **Action complete:** decision taken not to provide expenses for normal DSG meetings. Letter to members to reflect this has been sent.

Co-opted members: *Look at role of co-opted members.*

Actions:

- Benchmark against NDA's guidelines. **Action complete.**
- Define the role of a co-opted member. **Action complete.**
- Consider Terms of Reference to clarify role of co-opted member – **Action ongoing** – changes to Terms of Reference will be considered prior to next AGM.

Roger Saxon
DSG Chairman
3rd August 2017