

**DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP
DSG SITE RESTORATION SUB GROUP**

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002

Minutes of the DSG Site Restoration sub group meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2017 at 1900 hrs in the Pentland Hotel (Georgina suite), Thurso.

Present:	Bob Earnshaw	DSG Site Restoration sub group chairman
	Alastair MacDonald	DSG honorary member
	Mike Flavell	Health Service
	Thelma MacKenzie	Thurso Community Council
	Roger Saxon	DSG Chairman
	Cllr Willie Mackay	Highland Council
	John Deighan	Dounreay Unions
	David Broughton	DSG member
	Roy Blackburn	DSG member
In addition:	Dawn Clasper	DSG Minute Secretary
	June Love	Dounreay Community Relations Manager
	Mark Raffle	NDA Programme Manager
	David Lowe	Deputy Managing Director, Dounreay
	Lt Cdr Ian Walker	MOD Vulcan (Deputising for Cdr Ken Dyke)
	Wendy Newton	MOD, Vulcan Decommissioning Project
	Danny Gregory	ONR (Dounreay)
	Stewart Ballantine	SEPA
	Pat Green	CNC
	Cara Mulholland	PhD Student (Observer)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Earnshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Cara Mulholland, PhD student, who was observing the meeting as part of her studies and also welcomed back Cllr Willie Mackay who had been nominated by Highland Council to continue as the representative in his councillor capacity.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Brian Mutch SGRPID
- Cdr Ken Dyke MOD Vulcan
- David Flear DSG honorary member
- Tor Justad DSG member
- James Bryson DNSR(Vulcan)

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Bob Earnshaw noted that the minutes – DSG/SRSG(2017)M001 – had been circulated to members in advance. These were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting. This was proposed by Alastair MacDonald and seconded by Thelma MacKenzie.

No issues were raised.

4. ACTIONS

Bob Earnshaw noted that the status of actions had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The majority of actions were now complete.

- **DSG(2017)M002/A013:** DSG Chairman to respond formally on behalf of the phase 3 planning. **Action ongoing:** Some DSG members had responded to this and the draft response would be discussed at the Business Meeting. Deadline for comments from DSG members was 11th August.
- **DSG(2016)M003/A016:** Wendy Newton to liaise with June Love to agree appropriate sub group meetings to provide update on the future options of the site. **Action ongoing:** Wendy Newton updated that they are slowly growing the MOD team on site and were still undertaking an options analysis. Therefore this action was ongoing as there was no further information at this time.

Bob Earnshaw noted that there are correspondence between DSG and MOD regarding this topic and would be discussed under Any Other Business.

- **DSG(2017) M001/A003:** David Lowe, Dounreay Deputy Managing Director to provide information on the technical challenges for forthcoming decommissioning projects to the site restoration sub group meeting. **Action complete:** An update was provided as part of the verbal update of the decommissioning progress.

June Love noted that at the March meeting a summary of the differences between IAEA and Euratom was requested. A number of documents had been circulated relating to this and the summary was part of the information provided (see DSG(2017)C024). She noted that it was difficult to know what was going to happen until such times as UK Government had taken a view. Bob Earnshaw noted this and agreed that it would be useful to keep a watching brief as the Government's thinking evolved. Mark Raffle re-iterated that the UK had been a signatory to IAEA since 1957 as well as under the Euratom treaty.

John Deighan asked whether the Brexit issues would potentially slow down the programme at Dounreay. David Lowe responded that he did not believe this would affect Dounreay and added that the site would comply with whatever the requirements are once it is clarified.

5. DOUNREAY UPDATE

Bob Earnshaw noted that a number of written papers had been distributed to members in advance of the meeting including:

- DSG(2017)P014: Dounreay report
- DSG(2017)P016: SEPA report
- DSG(2017)P013: ONR report Quarter 2

He invited the following to provide updates:

NDA: Mark Raffle, NDA provided the following update:

- NDA had previously mentioned an additional £25M for this financial year for the site's decommissioning programme. While this had not yet been approved NDA were currently considering increasing the additional £25M to £40M additional funding this year.

- There had been a number of visitors from the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (Monju and Tokai sites). Monju was the Japanese Fast Reactor, with the Tokai visitors primarily focused on its reprocessing plant. Plant visits and extensive discussions with a number of NDA and Dounreay personnel had taken place. The visitors were particularly interested in both defueling and dealing with sodium coolant as well as decommissioning of a reprocessing plant.
- NDA, David Batters and Kenna Kintrea, had been accompanied by three representatives from UK Government Investments at a recent visit to the site. The UKGI had been formed by combining the former Shareholder Executive and UK Financial Investments. During the visit they had met with a number of stakeholders including Derrick Milnes who had represented DSG.
- On the 25th July the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) would visit site and a small stakeholder dinner had also been organised and some DSG representatives had been invited.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Mark Raffle for his input and invited questions from members.

David Broughton asked if CoRWM were holding a public meeting as part of their visit. Mark responded that they were visiting the site and but he was not aware of any public meetings. June Love added that she had requested an invitation to the evening dinner for David Broughton due to his past involvement with CoRWM.

Dounreay update: (DSG(2017)P005 refers)

David Lowe, Deputy Managing Director, Dounreay provided the following update:

- The site's priority continued to be the exotics program followed by the breeder removal, noting that the underlying priority would always be safety, environment and security.
- The TRIR showed an improvement sitting at .13. As at the end of June the site had gone 79 days without a lost time accident.
- During May a lost time accident occurred when a scaffolder carrying a scaffolding board over rough ground, caught his foot causing him to sprain his ankle. Up to that point the site had gone 250 days without a lost time accident which had been one of the best runs in recent times.
- It had been discovered that there had been a potential under-reporting of tritium levels over a period of time from one area of PFR. The site has been working with SEPA and assisting them with their assessment. All discharge data from the last 10 years was now being reviewed to ensure the information provided was robust. In addition, work was ongoing to look across the site to ensure there were no further legacy issues in the reporting of discharges. It was not envisaged that the site had breached any of its' discharge authorisations during this period. SEPA's investigation was ongoing.
- Following routine sampling, elevated levels of caesium had been detected within the non-active drains at the eastern end of the site. Immediate action had been taken to identify the source. The source area has been identified however work was ongoing to determine the source of the activity. A level 2 investigation had been completed. SEPA have been kept informed of progress.

- The British Safety Council awarded Dounreay with an international safety award with distinction. Dounreay was one of 31 companies worldwide to receive such an award and also won one of the 14 sector awards.
- A successful demonstration of the site's emergency arrangements took place in May. ONR had assessed this as an adequate demonstration and acknowledged that the scenario was challenging and realistic with a lot of effort being put in place to make it an effective exercise.
- The Chief Nuclear Officer's (CNO) improvement plan (the Dounreay Plan) is a combined plan with all improvement actions identified within this. The ownership of the plan now sits with the CNO and is updated monthly. As part of this continued work, CNO has established a programme of pro-active safety stand-downs as well as other improvement initiatives.
- In March, the first block of concrete was removed from the structure of one of Dounreay's cooling ponds – representing a major first step in demolishing the redundant chamber. To date (end June 2017) 33 blocks (the entire first row) have now been removed.
- The breeder removal remains one of the site's highest priority projects, while recognising that safety, security and the environment are always the over-riding factors of high priority. Work is ongoing with ONR to put in place a licence instrument which will allow the project to move to the next phase.
- An inspection camera was used in the PFR reactor vessel to successfully gather data to allow an accurate calculation of the remaining sodium heel pool volume and to confirm the need for further sodium removal.
- D1251 work was progressing to prepare for the demolition of the DMTR's support building. Removal of the pipe bridge had commenced.
- In D1200 the ventilation system for the labs had been rationalised and the design for phase 1 was now approved. The replacement kit was currently being sourced.
- Grouting operations have recommenced allowing disposals to restart in the low level waste facility.
- Highland Council Planning Application (HC) (phase 3, 2018 to interim end state) Stakeholder engagement activities had been launched on 12 June to encourage feedback on Dounreay phase 3 developments before a planning application is submitted later this year. Drop-in events had been held in Reay, Wick and Thurso. A presentation had also been provided to DSG members on 14 June at the public meeting and to Buldoo Residents on 22 June. Information on the phase 3 decommissioning activities would be available in Dounreay.com (Thurso) throughout July/August and members of the public were being encouraged to provide their views.
- A review of the Particles BPEO continues. While this is a technical review it has included a review of the stakeholder consultation undertaken to inform the BPEO which was published in 2008.
- During routine monitoring of beaches (Jan to end May) six minor particles were detected at Sandside and two significant/one relevant detected on the Dounreay west foreshore.

- Dounreay's procurement process now includes the potential for socio economic considerations (apprenticeships, jobs, SME support and economic diversification).
- The Commercial Department launched a new Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Innovation Scheme, LINC with Dounreay. It was previewed at the 2017 Nuclear Supply Chain Event in Dunblane where it had been well received from the SME community and was also being supported by NDA and the Caithness Chamber of Commerce.
- Dounreay recently hosted the Nu-Technology exhibition at the site which gave local and national suppliers an opportunity to exhibit their capabilities and services to support the site's decommissioning.
- Dounreay is continuing to invest in young people by providing employment through the graduate and apprentice schemes. This year eight apprentices and ten graduates have been recruited as well as three interns and nine work placement students.

David Lowe noted that there had been an action to identify the forthcoming decommissioning challenges on site. He highlighted that the site needed to maintain and improve the safety and environmental compliance functions as well as maintaining a focus on security.

For reactor decommissioning the DFR breeder fuel removal, packaging and shipping are in the active commissioning role. Progress on other decommissioning activities that do not impact on the breeder project will also continue to be progressed.

At PFR the upcoming challenges would be removing the sodium heel from the reactor and implementing the WVN (water vapour nitrogen) process to stabilise the alkali metals and the reactor and then the dismantling of the internals of the reactor.

In the Fuel Cycle Area, the challenge was to identify innovative and cost effective solutions to decommission the FCA facilities which will reduce some of the high hazards. One challenge would be identifying the most cost effective and safe solution to decommission those facilities and how the supply chain integrates into these projects where they can add value.

The biggest technical challenge would be the shaft and silo. This project had been put on hold due to the reprioritisation of the fuels programme but there had been some progress with design. After the exotics programme is complete this project will be restarted and it will be the first of its kind. There is high hazard associated with this work with a lot of unknowns and a robust process and safety case will be required before work can commence.

Within the waste area, some of the challenges are about proving the reliability and efficiency of the waste management conditioning and disposal process including the improvement of packing fractions for disposal. Alternative methods, such as big blocking and size reduction, to efficiently pack waste containers with waste is another technology which needs to be proved as robust.

Bob Earnshaw thanked David Lowe for his input and invited questions from members.

- Roy Blackburn commented on the TRIR rate and congratulated the site for the improvement made with this. He added that he recognised that it had taken a lot of effort to get there.

- Roy Blackburn noted that the caesium in the non-active drains and asked what the source was that had been identified. David Lowe responded that the site knew where in the drain the elevated levels were coming from but not the specific source that had created it. Following investment two potential areas had been identified and sampling was continuing to identify the real source area. In the meantime the water was being isolated to minimise any spread of caesium contamination and plans were being put in place to isolate that part of the drain to allow this to be discharged to the low active drain system. David Broughton noted that this was still work in progress to identify the actual source. David Lowe responded that this was correct.
- Alastair MacDonald commented on the recent announcement regarding the road closures for fuel movements which had been connected to the North Coast 500 journey which had been unfortunate. There had been comment in the press and a picture of the road. This was an example of bad publicity as the articles appeared to assume that the road would be closed every week. The whole situation had not been handled well and it was something that the site should look at and see what could be done to clarify the situation. June Love commented that this the exemption order which was advertised was one of the outside agencies responsibility and there was a difficult balance between clarifying this and not providing information which could lead to the identification of fuel movements.

Pat Green added that this was a joint collaboration effort with Police Scotland and the specialist group that move the material and the Gold Command for Police Scotland would determine what happens in regards to the public highway. The CNC adhere to these measures and protect the material when transports are taking place. Pat Green said he would bring this to the attention of Police Scotland.

Alastair MacDonald responded that it appeared that it was something that could be a problem with roads for the foreseeable future and that clearly was the case.

Thelma MacKenzie commented that she had read the articles and it was totally distorted. The notice published in the paper would make anyone believe that the roads coming up from Inverness would be closed from July 2017 to June 2018. Bob Earnshaw added that the site had no control over the press and how they wish to report such things.

Thelma MacKenzie commented that it was Highland Council had published the restriction order. Bob Earnshaw responded that the restriction would have needed to go through the Highland Council. Mark Raffle added that it did not help that there were some words missing from the notice that appeared in the paper as it made it sound that the road would be permanently shut over a long period of time. Bob Earnshaw noted that the NDA and site publicity should get on to this. June Love re-iterated that there was a balance to be made in terms of security of the transports and to correct this in the media would result in the potential identification of transport dates.

- John Deighan thanked David Lowe for the update on the safety record and the improvement in these trends which was due to the hard work and professionalism of the staff, new processes and training. Part of the role of this group was to hold the NDA and site contractor to account and part of the Trade Union's role was to hold the site to account. He asked if what part of the programme would slow down given 10% of the Dounreay workforce and including contractor staff were about to leave their jobs under the voluntary early redundancy scheme. He noted he had asked this question previously but had not received a response and highlighted the fact that from a local community point of view this could potentially equate to £600,000 out of the local economic. David Lowe responded that the programme would not slow down; the focus of the

program was changing with the completion of the exotics mission. He reminded John that a number of staff had been recruited for this project and it had always been said that once the project was completed the staffing profile was likely to reduce. The fact that the reduction was a voluntary one allowed the site numbers to reflect that this programme of work was completed. Once it was identified who would be accepting their redundancy terms it would allow some people working on the Exotic programme to move into other areas of site decommissioning. At the same time the start-up of some major construction activities on site, the shaft and silo, the DCP storage and the flask loading facility will be going into design and construction phases and there would be a change of focus on the type of activities and the skills mix associated with this. Dave Lowe noted that 217 people had applied and around 130 applications had been accepted (albeit those individuals now needed to agree to their terms before committing to leave).

June Love noted that one action that had come through the Socio Economic sub group and CNSRP was for Graham Cameron to provide the new staffing profile. This would be made available in September.

John Deighan commented that while he did not doubt what had been said, he re-iterated that 10% of the workforce would be leaving. He found it difficult to believe that this would not have a profound impact on the programme. Mark Raffle responded from the funding point of view, an additional £40m (to be confirmed) was being provided to the site this year to ensure other activities continued while priority continued to be the removal of the fuels. The staffing profile showed that there had been a peak over the last 2-3 years associated with the fuels programme and if you looked at the following years the funding, and hence the staffing profile, smoothed back out.

Bob Earnshaw asked what the additional £40m was for. Mark Raffle responded that it was for the costs associated with the additional scope for the exotics and to allow other decommissioning activities such as in the Fuel Cycle Area to continue. June Love noted that this allowed decommissioning activities to continue in parallel. Mark Raffle confirmed this and added that there would be some programme deferrals but the additional funding will minimise some of these.

John Deighan stated that the site had failed to explain to the union members why they had taken on 200 people over the last couple of years and that the NDA had funded it. Mark Raffle responded that it was not for the NDA to determine how the contractor manages the programme. The NDA does not prescribe to the contractor the detail of how to manage the workload and how many staff are required. This was why the PBO was brought in to utilise their expertise and that is how they can earn their fee. It is up to the site contractor to manage the detail.

David Lowe commented that as far as the focus on exotics additional people were brought in, some to backfill people that had been moved from other projects into the exotics programme. Now that the exotics programme was running down there was people now available to move back to other parts of the site. The voluntary redundancies announcement was to bring the numbers back down to align with the work programme. Mark Raffle mentioned that there was potentially a £40m increase in budget for this year and this allows work to continue in other areas of the site as well as the priority focus on exotics. In that sense the overall work progress in the different areas will be continuous and will not slow down.

- John Deighan noted that this was not only going to affect the operators it was also going to affect the CNC. Pat Green responded that they have been working with DSRL to look at the future of CNC and staffing levels and the number have been worked out presented and ratified. Consideration had been given to a phased reduction rather than a cliff-edge change and people have been identified as those who wish to move on when the work at Dounreay is complete. At present there is still a requirement for recruitment and therefore a local recruitment campaign will be undertaken.

Bob Earnshaw stated that there had been a staffing profile taken at the Socio Economic sub group which showed staff numbers up to the interim end state. June Love responded that the graph had been developed before the voluntary redundancies had been announced and an updated graph would be made available in September.

Bob Earnshaw stated that he had asked at the last meeting for a resource profile in accordance with work, what work was coming in the future and how the staff profile would be affected, however he had been informed that it would take some time to produce this. June Love responded that Graham Cameron had an action to provide this information to CNSRP by September and it will be rolled out to the sub groups once available.

- David Broughton commented around the discussion around staffing profiles and added that the key to talking about resources was to ensure that the site had the right skill sets to complete the decommissioning programme.
- David Broughton asked for clarification on low ground water level in D1212. Stewart Ballantine responded that a review had been undertaken by SEPA hydrogeologists, and subsequently by DSRL which both recognised that during periods of very low groundwater levels leachate could be lost from the Pits to the surrounding environment. The BPM (Best Practical Means) case that was in place for the pits did not recognise this scenario, therefore DSRL had been asked to revisit the work to take this into account.
- David Broughton asked whether a new inventory for the shaft and silo had been undertaken or was the site using the previous one of at least 10 years ago. David Lowe confirmed that the site was working to an updated inventory. June Love stated that they had pulled all the information from the old document as well as anecdotal information from retired workers to ensure any potential disposal was covered within the risk assessment and safety case work.
- Roger Saxon asked whether it would be possible to have a full update at the next DSG public meeting on staffing profiles. June Love responded that the updated staffing profiles was due to be completed by the mid to end of September and therefore felt that the public meeting may be slightly too early to provide the most up to date information. She suggested that the information be circulated to DSG for the November sub groups and from there if required DSG could request a presentation at the December public meeting.
- Roy Blackburn noted the number of applications and the number that had been endorsed to leave. He asked what would happen if a number of those earmarked to leave opted to remain on site once they had the full facts of their offer. David Lowe responded that there was a process where in August they would receive their terms and then had 30 days to decide whether they wish to accept the terms. Therefore right now it was impossible say how many of the 130 would actually leave. Roy Blackburn stated that it appeared that the site was still short of the number that they wished to leave. David Lowe responded that along with the DSRL workforce there would also be a reduction of around 50 from agency workers.

Roger Saxon asked if the site didn't get the numbers required to leave would there be a potential for compulsory redundancies. David Lowe responded that all options would be looked at again but it was too early to be making predictions.

SEPA: (DSG(2017)P001 refers).

Stewart Ballantine, SEPA provided the following update:

- Dr Jim Gemmell has decided to take a phased retirement. Paul Dale had been appointed as Head of SEPA's Radioactive Substances Policy and Nuclear Regulation Unit as of 1st July.

June Love noted that Paul Dale had been involved with DSG for a number of years and suggested that a letter of congratulations be sent by DSG members on his recent appointment. This was agreed.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A001: June Love to draft letter to Paul Dale, SEPA congratulating him on his recent appointment.

- Dounreay had reported elevated levels of Caesium within its non-active drainage network covering the eastern portion of the site following routine sampling in late May. Following investigations by the site they had identified the source to an area around a single building in the FCA. Investigations were ongoing to identify the source of the contamination within that building or immediate area. Discharges to the marine environment have returned to being below the Limit of Detection and works to secure a long term solution are ongoing. SEPA's investigation remains ongoing while DSRL work towards identifying and implementing a long term solution.
- Investigations were ongoing in relation to the calculation and reporting of Tritium discharges via the PFR Fan 6 route, cracking of the PFR Fan 6 extraction ductwork and leakage from the DFR Pond extraction ductwork. SEPA investigations remain ongoing and further details will be given at future meetings.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Stewart Ballantine for his input and invited questions from members.

- David Broughton queried whether the slow rate of progress at the low level waste facility was detrimental to the environment. Stewart Ballantine responded that ongoing assessment of DSRL's progress was being undertaken as a method of recognising when the site was returning to compliance with the authorisation conditions. It had been recognised that it would take an extended period of time to fill those containers and once this is done the site becomes fully compliant again. By monitoring progress against this schedule it allows compliance with the management condition to be recognised in SEPA's Compliance Assessment Scheme during that time period. If the schedule is not met then the site becomes non-compliant again.
- David Broughton asked about the location of D6500. Stewart Ballantine responded that it was an area in the North east corner of the site where there is a waste storage compound.
- Roy Blackburn noted that the reporting of environmental non-compliance had changed to align with the rest of the NDA estate. He thought this was a positive step forward and noted that previously this had been a point of contention that it reported differently from the rest of the NDA sites. Stewart Ballantine commented that the SEPA and Environmental Agency processes were not directly aligned. David Lowe added that the big change was how the site was reporting to NDA. Non-compliances would now be reported only after these were confirmed by

SEPA. In the past the site reported what they believed were non-compliances and sometimes it turned out after discussions with SEPA these were not. Therefore waiting for SEPA to confirm a non-compliance means that the site aligns with other reporting mechanisms across the NDA estate.

ONR: (DSG(2017)P006 refers).

Danny Gregory, ONR reported:

- The joint Safety and Security Emergency exercise had been held on site and had been assessed as adequate.
- ONR had given agreement to the commissioning of irradiated fuel retrieval and transport.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Danny Gregory for his input and invited questions from members.

There were no questions for ONR.

CNC: Pat Green reported:

- CNC participated in the Security and Safety exercise on site.
- CNC at Dounreay were looking to roll out a project called Servator which had recently been rolled out at Sellafield. The Servator project was essentially the community supporting the CNC and other police establishments to detect any people who come into the area who may have hostile intentions. Officers would be sent on a national course and Dounreay security have also been included in the roll out of this project. It was likely that this would be launched with the local community in the short term and further information would be provided. CNC were aiming to work with the MOD Police and Police Scotland in the area to have a combined and co-ordinated approach. The project at Sellafield as shown it to be a benefit not only with the potential security threat but also local criminal offences.
- CNC have been heavily involved supporting the site operations preparations for the fuel movements and it is likely that more activity in terms of presence on the ground will be seen over the coming months. CNC work closely with Dounreay's security department to ensure the most efficient way of co-ordinating these roles.
- Following the terrorist incidents in Manchester the CNC participated in Operation Temperer across the country with officers from Dounreay being involved. Local officers were deployed around the country to support colleagues in major cities to provide reassurance to the public. There was no security compromise at Dounreay because of this as the levels required for site were maintained. Contrary to the newspaper reports, there was no military backfill on site at this time, however there had been a good planning process with site and the emergency arrangements team.
- CNC were working with MOD Police to provide support with Vulcan as well as with some other assets. This is all part of the Infrastructure Policing and preparations continue to be put in place to ensure there is alignment of activities.
- Positive feedback was provided from ONR for personnel security following a site visit. ONR were content with the personnel levels which ensured that there are no security breaches last month.

- CNC organised a charity football match with the Fire service Caithness ladies, CNC and Hunterston EDF unit. A total of £2,000 was raised for local cancer charities.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Pat Green for his input and invited questions from members. There were no questions for Pat Green.

As there were no further questions relating to the Dounreay activities, Bob Earnshaw thanked everyone for their input.

6. VULCAN

Bob Earnshaw noted three written reports had been received prior to the meeting.

- DSG(2017)P017: Vulcan update
- DSG(2017)P012: Rolls Royce update
- DSG(2017)P018: DNSR report

Bob Earnshaw invited Lt Cdr Ian Walker to provide a verbal update. Lt Cdr Walker noted:

- There had been no lost time accidents, injuries or RIDDOR reportable incidents in 2017.
- The “First Thoughts “workshops have been attended by the majority of employees since the beginning of 2017.
- Future safety workshops and campaigns would continue during 2017.
- There were no environmental non-compliance incidents since the last report to the DSG.

Bob Earnshaw asked if SEPA had anything to add. Stewart Ballantine reported there was nothing to add. Bob Earnshaw noted that there The Rolls Royce and DNSR reports were considered.

Bob Earnshaw thanked Lt Cdr Ian Walker for his input and invited questions from members.

- John Deighan asked what the total employment at Vulcan was. Lt Cdr Walker said that would be for Rolls Royce to respond to. Given there was no Rolls Royce representative at the meeting an action was placed to seek a response.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A002: June Love to contact John Hook, Rolls Royce to find out employment figures at Vulcan.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Bob Earnshaw noted various correspondence which had been received since the last DSG meeting, including:

- DSG had written to MOD asking for clarification on its remit to consult with stakeholders (DSG(2017)C016 refers). A response had been provided by MOD (DSG(2017)C019 refers).

Roy Blackburn noted that DSG had written to them asking for consultation on the future options for the site but that the response appeared to say that the community would need to wait to the end of the process to be involved. This was not the question that had been asked, MOD in its’ response, did not mention consultation or community involvement until the statutory process

was in place. Wendy Newton responded there was nothing to add that was not already set out in the response from MOD. There would be an opportunity to provide comment through the statutory consultation and this would include the wider public.

David Broughton agreed with Roy Blackburn comments and felt that the response was a weak one. Best practice showed that early consultation with stakeholders was a much more positive activity than waiting for the statutory process.

John Deighan commented that the fact the Vulcan site have a couple hundred employees whose jobs will likely come to an end the DSG should have a vested interest in the future options. Bob Earnshaw responded that DSG was looking for early sight of the options to allow the community to provide an early view. It was agreed that this would be taken forward to the DSG business meeting to agree whether this should be taken further.

Action: DSG/SESG(2017)M002/A003: June Love to put DSG letter and MOD response (re consultation on options for the Vulcan site) on the Business Meeting agenda.

- DSG(2017)C017: Expenses and Co-opted Members. Bob Earnshaw noted that the role of co-opted members and that of expenses (which had come back up following the recent review) had been considered and a letter clarifying these had now been provided to all DSG members. This had been considered after benchmarking against other sites.

John Deighan noted that when Shetland Councillors attended DSG they had looked for expenses. June Love responded that neither Shetland nor any other member had been paid to attend regular meetings. Shetland Island Council had written to DSG asking for a letter confirming why attendance of Shetland Council was required. DSG had responded stating it was for Shetland Council to decide whether they got value from attendance at these meetings. June Love also noted that following the retirement of the Orkney Councillor confirmation of a new Orkney Councillor was still outstanding.

- DSG(2017)C020: Response from NDA re NDA Business Plan: Bob Earnshaw stated that DSG had received a response from NDA on DSG's submission to the NDA draft business plan. The response had been delayed due to purdah.

Roy Blackburn commented that he had been disappointed with the response that NDA did not accept that the programme changes had necessarily led to a deteriorating safety performance. Going back to 2012, after the completion of the contractual arrangements for the site, the deteriorating safety statistics had been pointed out several times and indeed a former deputy managing director had accepted that this had led, in part, to the trend. Roy Blackburn added that he believed it took a disproportionate amount of effort to turn safety trends around and this was exactly what the site process had been going through for a number of years. He felt it was disappointing that NDA did not accept this as a factor given the major management distractions. Leadership was key to a positive safety culture and he could not accept the NDA's response and considered that the NDA could have at least acknowledged this may have played a role. Mark Raffle responded it was up to the contractor to manage that under licence condition 36 which requires them to manage change without creating poor performance.

Roy Blackburn responded that he accepted that it was the contractor's responsibility but could not accept the bland statement that NDA did not accept this as a factor. Mark Raffle responded that NDA did not accept that the contract process necessarily led to deterioration safety

performance and re-iterated that NDA expected the contractor to ensure this did not happen. He was also unaware of who had said what in the past.

David Broughton added that he was also disappointed that NDA never addressed the DSG's considerable concerns in the letter about the programme they took forward. He believed there was some unrealistic expectations, in particular the demolishing of the DFR sphere and other such projects, which had never been addressed within NDA's response. Mark Raffle responded that those were the current dates but accepted that these could be subject to change as a result of the impact of the exotics project.

Bob Earnshaw noted that when the exotics programme was given priority, DSG had been notified that there would be a change in the decommissioning programme but accepted that David Broughton's view was correct that this was not addressed within the NDA's response. David Broughton said that it was not worth taking back to NDA as there would be a further update at the end of the year.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Before opening up to the members, Bob Earnshaw noted the following:

- Following the independent review of DSG, the main issue was the overlap of information in the socio economic sub group with other organisations such as CNSRP, transport forum and community planning partnership. A questionnaire was sent out to all members asking for their views on the socio economic topics which members felt were justified in discussing at DSG. Around 19 responses were received and this would be discussed at the next business meeting to agree a way forward.
- Bob Earnshaw noted that previously George Farlow had been acting as deputy sub group chairman. As George had now formally stepped down he asked those present whether there was a volunteer to take this post on. No one was nominated at the meeting. It was agreed that the Secretariat would issue an email to all site restoration sub group members asking for a volunteer or nomination.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A004: June Love to write to all DSG Site Restoration sub group members re Deputy sub group chair.

- The NDA was holding a Stakeholder summit over the 18th 19th September, Roger Saxon will be attending the first day will be on waste, the second day is on socio economics and skills Bob Earnshaw is not able to attend are there any volunteers.

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A005: June Love to email to all members regarding the NDA Stakeholder Summit to see whether there was an interest to attend.

Bob Earnshaw then invited all members to raise anything further.

- Mike Flavell commented that he understood that the NHS was on the site restoration sub group with their involvement in emergency planning but felt that he added little value to this sub group and suggested that he move to the Socio Economic sub group. June Love noted that there were some vacancies within DSG and these were currently being pursued. Once new representatives were identified the business meeting would look at the make-up of both sub groups and this may lead to some changes between the two sub groups.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A006: DSG Business meeting to consider the roles and remit of the sub groups once all vacancies had been filled.

9. CLOSE

There being no further business, Bob Earnshaw thanked everyone for their input and formally closed the meeting.

Bob Earnshaw
DSG Site Restoration sub group chairman
28 July 2017

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A001: June Love to draft letter to Paul Dale, SEPA congratulating him on his recent appointment.

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A002: June Love to contact John Hook, Rolls Royce to find out employment figures at Vulcan.

DSG/SESG(2017)M002/A003: June Love to put DSG letter and MOD response (re consultation on options for the Vulcan site) on the Business Meeting agenda.

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A004: June Love to write to all DSG Site Restoration sub group members re Deputy sub group chair.

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A005: June Love to email to all members regarding the NDA Stakeholder Summit to see whether there was an interest to attend.

DSG/SRSG(2017)M002/A006: DSG Business meeting to consider the roles and remit of the sub groups once all vacancies had been filled.