



19<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Ref: DSG(2017)C044

Mrs Gail Ross, MSP  
Scottish Government  
Edinburgh  
*Sent electronically*

Dear Gail

## **DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP**

The Dounreay Stakeholder Group (DSG) is an independent group set up to oversee and scrutinise the operations of the Dounreay site and is represented by over 20 organisations.

At our last public meeting, held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December, it was noted that the Royal Bank of Scotland had announced a number of closures including their operations in Wick.

We are writing to you as we are concerned with this announcement at a time when other banks have closed between Thurso and Wick and the dilution in services that this will inevitably bring.

As Caithness and North Sutherland is recognised as a priority area, with the rundown of the Dounreay site, it is imperative that we continue to keep services in our towns to ensure that those who may have an interest in investing in the area sees a vibrant community and as such services like education, health, social and banking (and other public) services are maintained at a level where business have confidence that relocating to the area is not a backward step.

**Please respond to:**

**June Love  
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7 Olig Street  
Thurso, Caithness, KW14 7BJ**

**Tel: 01847 890886**

**Fax: 01847 893459**

**Email: [info@dounreaystakeholdergroup.org](mailto:info@dounreaystakeholdergroup.org)**

While we understand that the announcement of the closure of the Wick branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland was taken at a business level we would urge you and your colleagues to meet with those making these decisions to ensure they understand the potential impact this could make, not only to our existing community but to those who may wish to relocate to the area.

We trust you will do everything you can to ensure that the Royal Bank of Scotland is aware of the detrimental impact this could make to our area.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

*Sent electronically without signature*

**Roger Saxon**  
**DSG Chairman**

cc. Mr Jamie Stone, MP