



By e-mail to: businessplan@nda.gov.uk

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Dear NDA,

I write on behalf of NuLeAF - the Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum of the Local Government Association - to submit comments on the NDA's draft Business Plan.

Our comments are as follows:

Clarity about Strategic Themes, Objectives, Funding Allocations and Key Activities

We agree that the new format Business Plan provides a clear statement about the NDA's strategic themes, objectives, funding allocations and key activities across the estate. This is to be welcomed.

We do, however, have a number of comments on the need to provide further explanation of the processes and reasons for spending proposals and decisions. Such explanation will be essential to generate the wider understanding and confidence amongst stakeholders that will be required as NDA moves forward in the current financial climate.

Explanation of Basis for Key Deliverables and Site Activities

In our comments on last year's draft Business Plan we suggested that greater effort should be taken to explain publicly how NDA reaches decisions on site funding allocations and how those decisions are justified. In the context of the new format of the draft Business Plan, it would be helpful to provide a high level explanation of how proposed key deliverables (by strategic theme) and key activities (by site) have been identified.

Special Interest Group on Nuclear Decommissioning and Radioactive Waste Management



Local Government Association

Public Value Programme

We note the references to constraints on future funding and the importance of the Public Value Programme (PVP) to future spending reviews. We consider it essential that stakeholders are briefed at the earliest opportunity about progress in the identification of, and basis for, preferred options for moving forward. We understand that the intention is to have identified preferred options in February.

Value Framework

In comments on previous draft Business Plans, we have highlighted the importance of enabling stakeholders to understand the role of Value Framework (VF) tools in spending reviews, identification of priorities and assessment of business cases. We still believe it would be helpful for NDA to publish some worked examples on the specific use of the VF, as seen against the wider perspective of spending reviews and the PVP.

Socio-Economic Support and Development

In previous years, we have expressed concern about the relatively modest amount of money (£10 million per year) allocated to socio-economic support and argued that levels of such support should not be reduced because of the current "tight fiscal environment". Not surprisingly, therefore, we were disappointed to see the proposed allocation for 2010-11 reduced to £5 million.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Barker

Fred Barker
Executive Director