

Meeting:	NuLeAF Annual General Meeting, 18 Oct 06
Agenda Item:	4
Subject:	Annual Report
Author:	Fred Barker
Purpose:	To provide an overview of organisational developments and activities since the AGM in 2006

Introduction

This report provides an overview of organisational developments and activities since the AGM in 2006.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the AGM agree that the report presents a true picture of NuLeAF developments and activities.

Overview of Organisational Developments and Activities

The period since October 06 has seen major organisational developments and activities. These include:

Staffing

A Project Officer was appointed. Jill Sutcliffe took up the post in February 07 and worked on a wide range of projects until it was decided by mutual agreement (in October) that she would not continue in employment with NuLeAF.

Steering Group

Five meetings of the SG have been held, in Manchester (11 Dec), Ipswich (25 Jan), Manchester (19 April), London (27 June) and Manchester (18 Oct). There were guest speakers at the April and June meetings (Sara Johnson on site end states, and Pippa Hyam and Sarah Graham on the review of NDA stakeholder engagement).

Member Authorities

NuLeAF now has 96 member authorities, made up of 19 contributing members, 72 corresponding members and 5 NFLA co-optees. There has been a significant increase in the number of contributing members (from 9 in FY 06-07). The list of member authorities is attached.

Officer Working Groups

Two working groups have been convened. A MWRS group has met regularly to help develop NuLeAF's input to Government on the implementation framework for a repository (see below). A LLW group has held its first meeting. This group meets to review and discuss developments in LLW management and advise on NuLeAF initiatives.

Liaison re the Setting up of a Scottish Group

Contact has been maintained with Dundee City Council that is leading the setting up of the Scottish group of authorities on nuclear legacy management. The ED attended the inaugural meeting of the group in Dundee in April 07. Representatives of the group attended the NuLeAF Steering Group in June.

Services to Member Authorities

The level of service to member authorities has been improved significantly.

The website has been developed and the number of 'hits' has increased substantially. Work is underway on a search facility, the member area and an electronic library.

Five e-bulletins and nine Briefing Papers have been issued since Oct 06.

Briefing Papers 3-7 are inputs to Government on developing the implementation framework for siting a geological repository:

- BP3, Proposals for Siting Partnerships
- BP4, Initial Invitations and Local Decision-Making
- BP5, Funding Engagement and Enhancing Well-Being
- BP6, Siting, Planning Requirements and Rights of Withdrawal
- BP7, Overview of NuLeAF Input to Government

The other BPs are:

- BP8, Retrievability and Design of a Geological Repository
- BP9, New Nuclear Build – the Implications for Nuclear Legacy Management
- BP10, Preliminary Comments on the Proposed Framework for Siting a Geological Repository

Two further BPs are in preparation, on the site end state review and retrievability and repository design features respectively.

A briefing note on Tritium discharges was prepared for authorities in Dorset.

Presentations have been made to:

- the Nuclear Issues Groups of Allerdale BC, Copeland BC and Cumbria CC
- the Physical Environment Scrutiny Committee at Manchester City Council and

- the Norfolk Local Authorities Radiation Monitoring Group.

Meetings have been held with officers from Sedgemoor District Council, Somerset County Council and the Isle of Anglesey Council.

Five regional seminars were held in autumn 06 providing opportunity to discuss key legacy management issues with representatives from Member Authorities. The report of the seminars was published in Nov 06. The seminar findings influenced have policy development on key issues. Preparations for a further round of regional seminars are underway.

Research/Consultancy

The research by Hetherington Nuclear Consulting on siting and planning issues has been reviewed, published and used to inform the preparation of inputs to Government. A bid for funding for research on LLW management and public acceptability issues has been submitted to the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Policy Statements

Three policy statements have been adopted and published following Steering Group discussions. These concern:

- the institutional arrangements for implementing policy on the long-term management of higher activity wastes (PS2)
- geological disposal (PS3) and
- the management of Low Level Wastes (PS4)

Responses to Consultation

During the course of the year consultation responses have been submitted on:

- the NDA's draft Annual Plan
- the NDA's draft socio-economic policy
- CoRWM's implementation report
- draft guidance on the management of radioactive wastes on licensed nuclear sites
- the planning white paper and
- the future of nuclear power.

Events and Representation at Meetings

Officers have arranged or been invited to a large number of meetings on MRWS and other nuclear legacy management issues. These include:

- regular MRWS liaison meetings with Government and NDA;
- participation in the MRWS Regulatory Interface Management Meeting;
- MRWS meetings with the Environment Agency and separately with CoRWM;
- meetings with the NDA on a range of issues, including stakeholder engagement, LLW waste management, interim ILW stores and site end states;

- the MoD's ISOLUS Steering Group;
- a meeting with British Energy; and
- SD:SPUR meetings

NuLeAF has participated in a series of workshops, including on the Government's MRWS programme, on regulator guidance and on industry option assessments.

NuLeAF officers have also made presentations at outside events, including the:

- Waste Advisory Group of the Planning Officers Society
- the 'Sustainable Communities: Decommissioning and the Future of Sellafield and Dounreay' Conference (Dec 06) and
- the North West Regional Assembly Nuclear Debate (Mar 07).

NuLeAF was invited to present oral evidence to the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee, which it did on 19 Feb 07.

NuLeAF jointly organised the 6 September conference on the MRWS process with the LGA, including preparation of programme, securing speakers and promotion.

Finally, the Executive Director participated in the work of the Southern District Councils initiative, looking at potential for enhanced community benefits from developments in nuclear legacy management.

Engagement at NDA Sites

In the light of questionnaire returns and views expressed at the regional seminars, the NDA was informed of the need for a more consistent and systematic approach to engagement with local authorities. Member authorities were encouraged to participate in NDA review of local engagement arrangements.

Media

Articles have been prepared and published in specialist media, including Public Servant, the Journal of the Institute for Economic Development and Catalyst.

European Initiatives

The Executive Director has attended the first meeting of the COWAM in Practice (CIP) Steering Group, and chaired the first meeting of the UK CIP Stakeholder Group. NuLeAF representatives attended CARL meetings in Troon and Oskarshamn. The ED attended the Eurocli launch in Dunkirk and has maintained liaison with the project. Written input has been made into CARD and ARGONA projects. Representatives are attending the PAMINA workshop in October.

Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum

(Local Government Association Special Interest Group)

Support as @ 10 October 2007

Allerdale District Council – contributing

Ashford Borough Council - corresponding

Barrow Borough Council – corresponding

Blackpool Borough Council - corresponding

Braintree Borough Council – corresponding

Breckland District Council - corresponding

Broadland District Council – corresponding

Bromsgrove District Council - corresponding

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – NFLA nomination

Caerphilly County Borough Council – corresponding

Caradon District Council – corresponding

Carlisle City Council - corresponding

Chester City Council - corresponding

Chesterfield Borough Council – corresponding

Copeland Borough Council - contributing

Cumbria County Council - contributing

Dacorum District Council – corresponding

Denbighshire County Council - corresponding

Dorset County Council - contributing

Durham City Council - corresponding

Durham County Council – corresponding

Eden District Council - corresponding

Essex County Council – corresponding

Flintshire County Council – NFLA nomination

Forest of Dean District Council – corresponding

Forest Heath District Council - corresponding

Fylde Borough Council - corresponding

Gosport Borough Council - corresponding

Great Yarmouth Borough Council – corresponding

Greater London Authority - corresponding

Gwynedd County Council - corresponding

Hackney London Borough Council – corresponding

Halton Borough Council – corresponding

Hampshire County Council - contributing

Harlow District Council - corresponding

Harrogate Borough Council - corresponding

Harrow London Borough Council - corresponding

Hartlepool Borough Council – contributing

Hyndburn Borough Council – corresponding

Isle of Anglesey Council - contributing

Kent County Council - corresponding

Kerrier District Council – corresponding

Kings Lynn & West Norfolk District Council – corresponding

Lancashire County Council - contributing

Lancaster City Council - corresponding

Leeds City Council – corresponding

Lewes District Council – corresponding

Maldon District Council - corresponding

Manchester City Council – contributing

Melton Borough Council - corresponding

Newcastle-u-Lyme Borough Council – corresponding

Newham London Borough Council – corresponding

Newport City Council – NFLA nomination

Norfolk County Council - corresponding

Northumberland County Council – corresponding

North Norfolk District Council - corresponding

Norwich City Council - corresponding

Nottinghamshire County Council – corresponding

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council – corresponding

Oxfordshire County Council - contributing

Pembrokeshire County Council – corresponding

Penwith District Council - corresponding

Plymouth City Council – contributing

Preston City Council – NFLA nomination

Purbeck District Council - corresponding

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council – NFLA nomination

Rutland County Council - corresponding

Scarborough District Council – corresponding

Sedgefield Borough Council – corresponding

Sedgemoor District Council - contributing

Shepway District Council – contributing

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council - corresponding

Somerset County Council – corresponding

Southampton City Council - corresponding

South Gloucestershire Council – contributing

South Lakeland District Council - contributing

South Norfolk District Council - corresponding

Spelthorne Borough Council - corresponding

Staffordshire County Council – corresponding

Suffolk Coastal District Council - contributing

Suffolk County Council – contributing

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council – contributing

Taunton Deane Borough Council - corresponding

Tendring District Council - corresponding

Tower Hamlets London Borough Council - corresponding

Tunbridge Wells District Council – corresponding

Vale of the White Horse District Council - corresponding

Wansbeck District Council - corresponding

Waveney District Council - corresponding

West Berkshire District Council – corresponding

West Lancashire District Council - corresponding

West Lindsey District Council – corresponding

West Somerset Council - contributing

National Parks Authorities

Lake District National Park Authority – corresponding

North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority – corresponding

Snowdonia National Park Authority - corresponding

Scottish Associates

Argyll & Bute Council

Dundee City

East Lothian Council

North Ayrshire Council

Shetland Islands Council

Fire Services

Dorset Fire & Rescue Service

NuLeAF membership therefore consists of 19 contributing authorities, 72 corresponding authorities and 5 NFLA co-optees. There are also 5 Scottish associates and 1 Fire Service associate.

Liaison

Convention of Scottish Local Authorities represented by Fife Council
Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Waste Substances (Dundee City Council)
Wales LGA