

Meeting:	NuLeAF Steering Group, 7 December 2016
Agenda Item:	8
Subject:	Potential site visits in 2017
Author:	Philip Matthews and Catherine Draper
Purpose:	To advise the SG of possible venues for a site visit and the logistical implications.

1. Introduction

In 2013 and 2015, NuLeAF organised site visits for members, to Sellafield and the LLWR site respectively.

By their nature, nuclear sites are at the periphery of the country, meaning that any site visit entails significant travel for some members – this was the case for the 2 Cumbrian visits held so far. To help break up travel, and enable members to meet for dinner and socialise, previous visits have been combined with a Steering Group meeting held the following day.

If members wish, NuLeAF could organise another similar combined Steering Group and visit, spread over 2 days, in September 2017. This paper sets out some possible options for a site visit and gives an indication of the journey for each location. Views from members are welcome as to whether they would be interested in any of these visits, or if there is an alternative visit they would like NuLeAF to organise.

2. Potential visit locations

As part of the part of the decommissioning programme, three sites – **Winfrith, Trawsfynydd and Dounreay** – have been designated 'lead and learn'. These three sites will be the first to enter the Care and Maintenance phase of decommissioning, and lessons learnt from the work undertaken there will be rolled out to other sites in due course. As these three sites will be more advanced in the decommissioning process they will offer members a chance to see what progress has been made and talk to Magnox about the work going on there. The nearest railway station to the sites identified is Thurso (Dounreay), Blaenau Ffestiniog (Trawsfynydd) and Dorchester (Winfrith).

3. Travel logistics

3.1 Flights to Scotland (Dounreay)

There are internal flights from Aberdeen (45 mins, 9.05 and 17.25) and Edinburgh (1hr 5 mins, 11.05) to Wick. The train from Wick takes half an hour to get to Thurso and there are 3 trains per day (8.02/12.34/16.00).

You can fly to Aberdeen from: Birmingham (1 hr 30 min), Durham (1 hr), East Midland (not all year round), Humberside (1 hr 10 mins), Leeds Bradford (1 hr 10 mins), London City (2 hrs 10 mins), Luton (1 hr 20 mins), Heathrow (1 hr 45 mins) and Gatwick (1 hr 40 mins), Manchester (1 hr 20 mins), Newcastle (55 mins), Norwich (1 hr 20 mins) and Southampton (2 hrs 50 mins). The train from Aberdeen to Thurso takes between 6 hrs and 7 hrs 30 mins.

You can fly to Edinburgh from: Birmingham (1hr 15 mins), Bristol (1hr 10 mins), East Midlands (1hr 10 mins), Exeter (1 hr 30 mins), London City (1hr 20 mins), Gatwick (1 hr 25 mins), Luton (1hr 10 mins), Heathrow (1hr 25 mins) and Stansted (1hr 15 mins), Manchester (1hr 50 mins), Norwich (1 hr 25 mins) and Southampton (1 hr 30mins). As there are limited flights to Wick, depending upon arrival time it may be more expeditious to take the train to Thurso. The train from Thurso takes between 7hrs 55 mins and 9 hrs 15 mins.

Alternatively, there are flights to Inverness from Birmingham (1hr 30 mins), Bristol (1hr 30 mins, M/Th/F only), London Gatwick (1hr 40 mins), Luton (1 hr 30 mins M/Th/F only) and Heathrow (1hr 30 min), and Manchester (1 hr 25 mins). The train from Inverness to Thurso takes 3 hrs 50 mins and there are 3 services a day.

3.2 Train journey length

Departure point	Dorchester (Winfrith)	Blaenau Ffestiniog (Trawsfynydd)	Thurso (Dounreay)
Bristol	2½ - 3¾ hours	5¼ - 5½ hours	13¾ hours
Carlisle	7 hours	4¾ hours	9 – 9½ hours
Ipswich	5 hours	6½ - 7 hours	14½ hours
London	3 hours	4¼ hours	12½ hours
Manchester	5½ - 6 hours	3½ hours	11 – 11½ hours
Preston	6 hours	3½ - 4¼ hours	10½ - 11 hours
Dorchester		8 - 8½ hours	16¼ hours

All sites are 8-10 miles from the nearest town listed above. Mini-bus/taxi companies are available in each location.

4. Accommodation

Dorchester has a selection of hotels and B&Bs. However, it is tourist country so we would be competing with tourist trade.

Blaenau Ffestiniog has 13 places to stay. Again, there would be competition with the tourist trade for bed space. There are a number of other hotels in local towns/villages.

Thurso has 9 hotels and 21 B&Bs. Competition for bed space would be with contractors on the site.