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| <b>Meeting:</b>     | NuLeAF Steering Group, 15 March 2017               |
| <b>Agenda Item:</b> | 9  |
| <b>Subject:</b>     | Member Survey                                      |
| <b>Author:</b>      | Catherine Draper                                   |
| <b>Purpose:</b>     | To report outcomes of 2016-17 NuLeAF member survey |

## 1. Introduction

NuLeAF carries out a biennial survey amongst its members to obtain feedback on its performance and the service it offers. Nine authorities were asked to participate, who it was felt represented different levels of engagement with NuLeAF, and seven participated in the review, which was predominantly carried out through telephone interviews seeking comments on a short series of questions, but also allowing free comment. NuLeAF thanks all those who took part in the survey.

## 2. Questions to review participants and summary of responses

2.1 *Q: Do you use the NuLeAF website?*

*Never*

*Sometimes*

*Regularly*

Most of the respondents used the NuLeAF website from time to time, though some used it more frequently in line with the demands of their job.

2.2 *Q: Do you read NuLeAF briefings, Steering Group papers, E-bulletin, etc?*

*Never*

*Sometimes*

*Regularly*

NuLeAF documents were regularly read and provide a good information resource for members

2.3 *Q: Could NuLeAF change meetings of the Steering Group or Radioactive Waste Planning Group in a way that would make you, or your Elected Member be more likely to attend? For example:*

- *Changing meeting location*
- *Changing meeting times*
- *Offering a different format to meetings (e.g. more presentations, guest speakers, etc)*

*Please note that any alternative meeting location would have to be accessible to members from across England and Wales.*

It was generally felt that, given the geographical spread of members, there was little which could be changed to the way NuLeAF meetings were organised or were held. The use of tele- or video-conferencing for specific topic meetings could be investigated. More explanatory text should be provided for presentations from meetings which are posted on the NuLeAF website – this would give context to those who had been unable to attend.

*2.4 Q: In your opinion, how aware are other officers and elected members within your authority of the Geological Disposal Facility siting process?*

With the exception of one authority, outside of those involved in NuLeAF it was generally felt there was little awareness of the GDF siting process. The topic is politically sensitive, especially in the run up to local elections.

*2.5 Q: In your experience, what has been the impact of local government financial constraints on your ability to address nuclear related issues on behalf of your authority? Is there anything NuLeAF could do to help you?*

There was mixed response to this question with some noting how difficult it was to get attendance at outside meetings, and others commenting that nuclear issues were of sufficient importance to their local authority to ensure attendance. Comments were made that the reduction of local expertise in nuclear legacy matters at authorities due to funding pressures, increased the validity of NuLeAF membership and the importance of the support the organisation could provide.

*2.6 Q: Do you have any other comments on how NuLeAF could improve its support to your local authority? For example; in terms of other types of meetings/engagement events, online resources, etc.*

Comments made were:

- An annual meeting with representatives (elected member and officer) from the LGA would be useful;
- NuLeAF may benefit from engaging with the Association for Public Service Excellence;
- NuLeAF should consider looking at the transport aspects of the GDF siting process as this topic will be of interest to a wide local authority audience;
- The website could have a section on what is happening on geological disposal in other countries which should be regularly updated as progress is made; and
- As the GDF process evolves, NuLeAF could provide valuable support through providing links to information, research etc.