

Note of meeting to discuss the review of NDA Local Economic and Social Impact Strategy, held online, 27th March 2023

Present:

Cllr Mike Caswell	Sedgemoor District Council, Chair
Cllr Tony Markley	Cumbria County Council
Cllr David Godfrey	Folkestone & Hythe District Council
Cllr Matthew Riddle	South Gloucestershire Council
Julie Beresford	Bassetlaw District Council
Jonathan Cook	Copeland Borough Council
Terry Burns	Essex County Council
Charlotte Rushmere	Essex County Council
Angela Presdee	Gloucestershire County Council
Iwan Jones	Gwynedd Council
Jack Elum	Maldon District Council
Richard Outram	Manchester City Council
John Burton	Somerset West & Taunton Council
Angharad Crump	Ynys Mon County Council
Philip Matthews	Nuleaf
Catherine Draper	Nuleaf

Speakers

Jamie Reed	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Andy Harper	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

1. Welcome

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jamie Reed who gave a short presentation on the review of the NDA's Local Economics and Social Impact strategy.

2. Presentation by Jamie Reed

2.1 Key points from the presentation were:

- Whilst previous strategies have covered a six-year duration it is felt that a three-year refresh timescale is more appropriate.
- Under the Energy Act 2004, the NDA has a legal duty to have regard for the impact of its activities on communities living near its sites. NDA has a well-established grant programme which invests approximately £15M per annum, mostly through the Site Licensee Companies.
- Funds are used to leverage further investment.
- Updated economic impact studies were published in September 2022.
- The Strategy refresh will take place in 2023 with publication of the final reviewed strategy in 2024. The socio-economic team will undertake stakeholder engagement by a range of means and there will be a public consultation.

2.2 The slide pack from the presentation can be found in the Meetings and Events section on the Nuleaf website under Other Meetings.

3. Questions and Answers

3.1 *Q: Will there be any change within NDA with the advent of Great British Nuclear (GBN)?*

A: At the direction of UK Government, we will engage with GBN, or directly with vendors, who are interested in using NDA land for the development of new nuclear projects. Beyond that I do not envisage many organisational changes.

3.2 *Q: With the development of the new strategy, will your socio-economic strategy in North Wales remain unchanged. The communities around Wylfa and Trawsfynydd are distinct, and a more targeted approach may bring better outcomes.*

It is also important for NDA's strategy to recognise local government plans.

A: It is for stakeholders to direct how they would like NDA to work with them, but it is important to recognise that funds are limited and need to be used to create the greatest amount of benefit. This can often be generated by working regionally rather than site by site. A good example of this is the Menter Môn project which received around £1M of funding from the NDA group, but Welsh Government has invested a further £50M.

At the moment, the Energy Act commits us to working in the communities where our sites are. However, there is an argument that investment in an adjacent area which is accessible to the people around the site is also worthy of investment. At present this is not feasible.

We acknowledge that our strategy needs to mesh with local council plans.

3.3 Q: *Are you able to identify where input from local authorities would be most beneficial in reviewing your strategy, and at what level of detail?*

A: At this stage we are looking at broad brush contributions. More detailed examples could be used to provide examples of what the strategy should be doing. We will consider this further and feedback our thoughts to Nuleaf.

Action: JR to respond to Nuleaf.

3.4 Q: *How can NDA's strategy help us attract more workers to become resident in the area.*

A: Attracting a skilled workforce is an issue for all the sites. We can help mitigation by investing in training facilities, but to encourage people to move into an area it must be attractive, have a sense of place, amenities, housing, transport etc. We can use our fund to help leverage investment in these areas.