
Decommissioning and Radioactive Substances Policy Review in 2019


Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

What has the policy review during 2019 considered ?

The potential to revise and update the policies that are currently in Command Paper 2019 and add in additional policy areas required. At forums such as Nuclear Decommissioning Strategy and Policy Group (NDSPG) and Radioactive Substances Policy Group (RSPG), stakeholders have suggested that a revised policy framework for these policy areas could be produced.

Potential benefits identified in RSPG and NDSPG

- an up-to-date, coherent, high-level policy framework
- Sellafield – accelerate risk and hazard reduction
- more proportionate regulation - decommissioning (up to £2.5bn savings over next 100 years)
- more effective and efficient waste management practices
- more effective decommissioning of Magnox and non-NDA sites
- optimisation of LLWR
- supports 20% reduction in decommissioning costs by 2030 as part of Nuclear Sector Deal
- unlock alternative waste management routes and infrastructure
- other (unknowns) from stakeholder engagement/consultation

Potential areas of policy from the 2019 Review

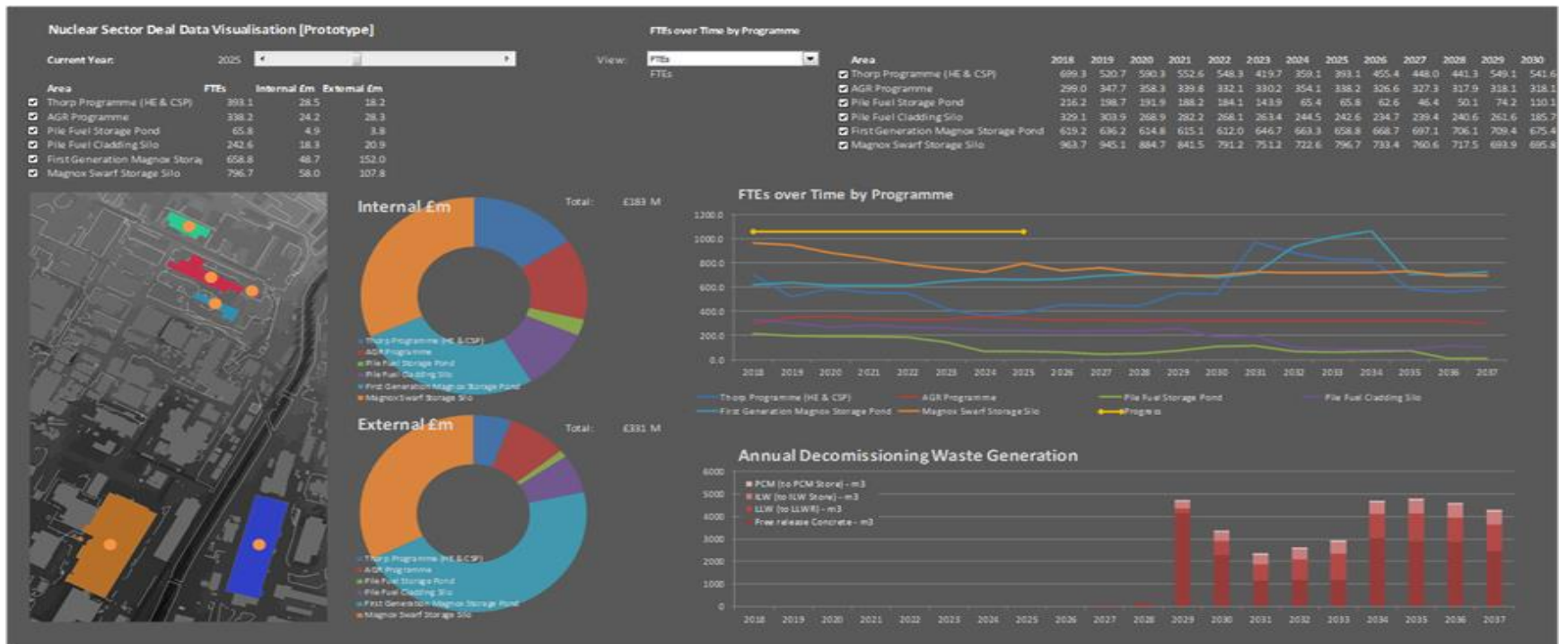
- spent fuel management
- liquid and gaseous discharges
- nuclear decommissioning
- end states and in-situ disposal
- management of low, intermediate and high-level radioactive waste from nuclear and non-nuclear sectors
- radioactive waste infrastructure (GDF, near surface disposal, LLW)
- contaminated land
- waste substitution (as part of spent fuel reprocessing)
- lab based reprocessing
- import and export of radioactive waste and spent fuel
- small users
- research
- uranics

Unlocking opportunities – ‘big ticket’ items identified in Nuclear Sector Workshop in 2019

- Near surface disposal
- Reducing interim storage
- Data and use of data
- Packages/boxes (standardisation of)
- Overseas waste treatment
- Graphite
- Ideas from infrastructure Group
- Communicate societal benefits

Could complement Nuclear Sector Deal Pipeline

“The purpose of the National Decommissioning and Waste Management Pipeline is to provide government, operators and the supply chain with a **single source of truth** re future D&WM challenges so that we all have the necessary visibility to come together effectively and stimulate innovation, plan resources and determine where we can make our best contributions.”



Planning/Timeframes

1. Information has been gathered on the various policies and policy options.
2. Further work will need the agreement of Ministers