

Meeting: Nuleaf Steering Group
Date: 9th December 2020
Item: 8
Subject: Service Plan 2020-21
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Introduction:

This report provides a summary of the Nuleaf 2020/21 Service Plan. The Service Plan guides our work and is developed in consultation with our members, RWM and the NDA. Publication of the Plan has been delayed this year, given the late finalisation of Nuleaf's budget and the impact that Covid-19 has had on forward planning discussions with our funders.

This paper summarises each area of work for the organisation along with the high-level outcome measures we have developed. More detail on specific commitments, along with output measures are provided in the full Service Plan, which will be published on our website following agreement with the Steering Group.

Recommendation:

To approve the Service Plan for 2020/21.

1. Proposed work in 2020-21

All our work is intended to deliver value to our members. In terms of actions in the Service Plan, we have separated them into three main areas (Table 1 overleaf), namely:

- Work that is focussed on the NDA mission
- Work that is related to the GDF siting process
- Work that provides wider support to member local authorities

Table 1: Summary Service Plan for 2020/21

Work in support of the NDA mission	
Objective	Outcome measures
Identify key issues for members resulting from NDA Strategy implementation including changes to the NDA operating model, community benefits, and waste storage consolidation proposals.	<p>That Nuleaf member authorities have a high degree of awareness and understanding of NDA strategy, the work of the Theme Overview Groups, and of Strategy implementation.</p> <p>That the Value Framework properly addresses wider economic, social and environmental concerns and helps drive more effective outcomes for NDA sites.</p>
Provide support and advice to NDA in the development of Strategy 4, their Business Plan, and Integrated Waste Management (IWM).	<p>That the work of the NDA, as set out in Strategy 4 and the NDA Business Plan, is informed by the concerns of local government and communities.</p>
Engage with the UK Government in their review of policy for radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning.	<p>That the new Policy properly addresses the needs of local government in terms of land use and waste planning, environmental protection, socio-economics and community benefits.</p>
Support NDA Stakeholder Engagement through our Steering Group and RWPG meetings and other ad-hoc topic-based events.	<p>That member authorities have a high degree of awareness and understanding of key agendas in terms of the NDA's work and wider developments in radioactive waste management.</p> <p>That the NDA has an enhanced understanding of local government perspectives and draws on this in developing policy and strategy.</p> <p>That individual member authorities submit their own responses to consultations and use Nuleaf consultation responses, reports and guidance to help inform these as appropriate.</p>
Provide support and advice for NDA work on Socio-economics, sustainability and net zero carbon.	<p>That socio-economic support for communities is maximised through the development and delivery of an integrated and effective NDA Local Economic and Social Impact Strategy and an enlightened approach to skills development across the NDA estate.</p> <p>That the NDA engages with local authorities and communities to help support local action on the post-Covid economy and longer-term plans for local areas.</p> <p>That a proper dialogue is opened up with NDA and Government over the provision of appropriate Community Benefits for all nuclear communities.</p> <p>That the NDA develops an ambitious response to the sustainable development agenda, incorporating plans to promote Social Value and net Zero Carbon across the estate. Their work should be integrated with local authority and LEP plans.</p>

Engage with Government and the NDA on land use and waste planning.	Through drawing on the expertise of member authorities, and in particular the Radioactive Waste Planning Group, ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance or policy developed by BEIS, NDA and Regulators is prepared through proper engagement with local authorities and informed by their expertise. • Nuleaf members have clarity on what is proposed by NDA and regulators in this regard and its implications for local government.
Represent local government on proposals for accelerated decommissioning of Magnox sites.	That the overall approach and the proposals for individual sites are developed in full consultation with local authorities and communities and meet their needs.
Provide support for the NDA's stakeholder engagement meetings.	That Nuleaf members and officers are provided with opportunities to understand current and future NDA work and engage with NDA management and staff.
Work with Magnox to enhance dialogue and engagement with local government	That our members become more aware of Magnox strategy and site plans; and the new operating model for Magnox that was launched in 2019. That Magnox better understand the views and concerns of local government and is able to engage more effectively as a result.
Work with LLWR to support enhanced Low-Level Waste Management.	That these actions lead to confidence among our members, Low Level Waste Repository Ltd and the supply chain that engagement is in line with commitments in the NDA Strategy. Increased understanding of the issues among all parties involved.
Provide support and advice on Local Authority Plans.	That over time all local authorities with NDA sites establish clear policies on radioactive waste management within their local and waste plans.
Work in support of the RWM mission	
Maintain regular dialogue with RWM and Dept. of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to take the Geological Disposal Facility siting process forward.	That all parties will be fully informed as to the issues relevant to local authority audiences, and how best to articulate and present the GDF to those audiences. That RWM has a clear understanding of any issues that may affect the delivery of the GDF siting process.
Build awareness of the Geological Disposal Facility and the potential for local government to become involved in the new siting process.	That Nuleaf reaches out beyond its own direct membership to heighten awareness of the GDF process with local authorities and senior managers.
Support RWM through the testing of communication materials and resources around the GDF process	That RWM will have communication materials that are 'fit for purpose' and address local authority needs.
Maintain and develop online resources on the GDF for local government	That Nuleaf members and others within local authorities are kept informed on the GDF proposals and the scope for becoming involved in the siting process.
Advise and support RWM in developing its organisational readiness.	That RWM staff gain a good understanding of the issues and constraints that local authorities have to operate under. This will allow RWM to engage more successfully at the local and national level.

Provide support and advice to RWM and to any local authorities that enter the process.	That Nuleaf provides effective support to any local authorities entering in the process and highlight their issues and challenges to the UK and Welsh Government and RWM.
Work with RWM, the Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association to support effective engagement of Welsh local authorities and communities as the Welsh GDF siting process evolves.	That any local authority in Wales is provided with appropriate support as they consider whether to enter the GDF siting process.
Participation and engagement in international networks on geological disposal.	That Nuleaf is an active and influential member of appropriate international networks. That Nuleaf builds a better understanding of the experience of geological disposal in other countries and is able to use this to enhance our influence within the UK policy context.
Work in support of member local authorities	
Continue to support the interests of member authorities impacted by Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) and radioactive waste storage and disposal issues as a consequence of new nuclear build.	That Nuleaf members are made aware of any issues arising out of nuclear new build, including Small Modular Reactors, that may impact on NDA sites and legacy waste management.
Continue to liaise with NNLAG and advise and assist as appropriate regarding radioactive waste management and SNF storage impacts at nuclear new build sites.	That Nuleaf members are made aware of any issues arising out of nuclear new build that may impact on NDA sites and legacy waste management. That NNLAG and the Government are made aware of any such concerns.
Engage in dialogue with EDF Energy to discuss their plans for decommissioning and the role that host communities and local authorities could play.	That over the coming years EDFE plans for decommissioning are acceptable to host communities and local authorities.
Continue to monitor work on the Submarine Dismantling Project as the project moves into the delivery phase. Report issues and progress to Nuleaf Steering Group and Radioactive Waste Planning Group.	That the process operates effectively in terms of engagement with local authorities and communities.
Continue to engage with NDA, Sellafield, Magnox, the regulators and host Local Authorities on site restoration, interim and end states and Integrated Waste Management.	Ensure engagement leads to greater clarity on proposals and higher satisfaction with what is proposed. This is to be assessed through the bi-annual survey of members and feedback from Steering Group meetings.

Continue to assist member authorities to ensure that effective local engagement arrangements exist with Sellafield, SLCs and NDA.	That community benefits and wider support for communities is based on effective dialogue between local authorities, Sellafield, SLCs and the NDA, leading to the best possible outcomes.
Engage with the Government, NDA and industry on other issues of concern to Nuleaf members.	<p>That the transport of nuclear materials is undertaken appropriately and in a way which minimise community concerns.</p> <p>That the NDA develops effective transport planning for its sites to minimise the negative impacts of work-related travel on local communities.</p> <p>That Nuleaf members are informed on developments in Emergency Planning as they relate to nuclear decommissioning and nuclear safety.</p> <p>That Nuleaf members informed on developments in nuclear safety.</p>
Support Executive Director in delivering Geological Disposal Facility work programme.	<p>That Nuleaf delivers and effective programme of work in support of its aims and objectives, meeting the needs of local authorities and supporting the work of the NDA and RWM.</p> <p>This is to be assessed through the bi-annual survey of members, feedback from Steering Group meetings, and feedback from NDA and RWM.</p>
Support Executive Director in delivering other aspects of Nuleaf work programme	That Nuleaf delivers and effective programme of work in support of its aims and objectives, fulfilling reporting requirements to the LGA and Suffolk County Council.
Support Nuleaf meetings and other events	<p>No outcome measures, but in terms of Outputs, arrangement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Steering Group meetings & AGM • 1 NDA/Site Licensee Company Engagement meeting • 1 seminar (opt) • 3 or 4 Radioactive Waste Planning Groups • Delivery of workshops as appropriate.
Ensure effective web and new media communication.	Over the year it is intended to commission a new logo and a redesign of the newsletter, ebulletin, Powerpoint presentations and website. The website redesign will ensure better functionality and a more contemporary look.
Oversee finance and accounts.	<p>That Nuleaf has effective financial management systems.</p> <p>That Nuleaf is put on a firm financial footing, with a balanced budget, providing long term stability.</p>
Monitor other relevant national and local policy development and alert members on engagement opportunities. Prepare and submit Nuleaf comments as appropriate.	That the views of local authorities and Nuleaf are effectively communicated in all relevant consultations, leading to better outcomes for communities.