



Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

AGENDA

Agenda for the SSG meeting to be held on Wednesday 20 November 2024

**Annan Athletic Football Club
Galabank
North Street
Annan
DG12 5DG**

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- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. | <i>(10:00 – 10:02)</i> | Chairman's welcome |
| 2. | <i>(10:03 – 10:05)</i> | Announcements and apologies <i>(including any Declarations of Interest)</i> |
| 3. | <i>(10:06 – 10:08)</i> | Minutes of previous meeting and Matters Arising |
| 4. | <i>(10:09 – 10:29)</i> | Chapelcross Site Director's Report <i>(including update on Magnox Socio-Economic Scheme)</i>- Richard Murray, Chapelcross Site Director. |
| 5. | <i>(10:30 – 10:45)</i> | NDA Update – David Wallace |
| 6. | <i>(10:46 – 11:35)</i> | Other reports from SSG bodies - ONR, SEPA, Scottish Government, SoSE |
| 7. | <i>(11:36 – 11:38)</i> | External Meetings and Invitations
NWS Annual Review
National Audit Office Report |
| 8. | <i>(11:39– 11:49)</i> | CX Project Update – Helen Emberson, CX Programme Lead |

9. (11:50 – 11:51) Any Other Business

10. (11:52 – 12:00) Public Forum

Next Meeting - 10am, Wednesday 12th March 2025



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CHAPELCROSS STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT ANNAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB, ANNAN
WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST 2024**

Attendance/Apologies list

Attendance

Cllr Archie Dryburgh MBE
Cllr George Jamieson
Neil Carruthers
Helen Emberson
Willie McNairn
Carol Midwood
Jaime Nicholson
Ian Park
Peter Dreghorn

Annandale East and Eskdale (Chair)
Annandale South (Vice Chair)
Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council
Dumfries & Galloway Council, CX Programme Lead
2km Resident Representative
Federation of Community Councils/Canonbie and District CC
Dumfries & Galloway Council
NRS Trade Union Representative
Restoring Annan's Waters

Operators and Officers

Claire Aitken
Kate[?]
Bill Hamilton
Dianne Hamilton
Colin Hargreaves
Richard Murray
David Stone
David Wallace
Sarah Johnson

NRS
NRS
NRS
Scottish Government
NRS
Site Director, Chapelcross
SEPA
NDA
Minute Taker

Apologies

Peter Hughes
Cllr Gail Macgregor
Cllr Sean Marshall
Donna Mounce
Oliver Mundell
Jamie Reed
Cllr Carlyne Wilson
Helen Emberson

ONR
Dumfries & Galloway Council
Dumfries & Galloway Council
SOSE
MSP for Dumfriesshire
NDA
Dumfries & Galloway Council
D&G Council - CX Project Programme Manager

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

Cllr Archie Dryburgh welcomed the attendees to the Chapelcross SSG meeting. He left the meeting and passed the chair to Cllr George Jamieson.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Hughes, Cllr Gail Macgregor, Oliver Mundell MP, Cllr Sean Marshall, Donna Mounce and Jamie Reed.

The agenda was amended to allow Helen Emberson to speak after Richard Murray.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

An update to the current outstanding actions was included in the meeting pack.

Peter Dreghorn asked for details of the impact of water extraction on the Annan. Claire Aitken had information from Scottish Water that she would circulate.

Regarding the action to send the memorandum of understanding (MoU) to SOSE, Dumfries and Galloway Council and the NDA, Cllr George Jamieson asked that it be sent again. He asked Helen Emberson to explain what the MoU covered. Helen Emberson explained that it was meant to solidify the position between Dumfries and Galloway Council and their intent to support the programme of development of the inclusive growth deal with NDA as landowners and landholders, looking at the socioeconomic obligations to the site. They would also support Scottish Enterprise where possible. The MoU defined the roles of each of the organisations.

Bill Hamilton would present the written NRS report during the meeting. A date would be circulated for a site visit.

4. CHAPELCROSS SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Richard Murray (Site Director, Chapelcross)

EHSS&Q Performance

Richard Murray reported no recordable injuries or accidents in the last year. At the time of writing the report, the TRIR figure had been zero. There had been an injury on 15 August, but the individual had returned to work the following day. The repairs and remediation work for the storm damage from January 2024 had been completed. The environmental and security compliance was positive, and there were no major audit findings. An annual exercise for emergency arrangements had been conducted out of hours and had shown that emergency services could be called. There had been a successful demonstration of controlling a fire within the site.

Site News

Richard Murray stated that the key targets for the 2024/25 financial year included the retrieval of the 51 Zeolite skips from the pond. The first was expected to be removed before Christmas and five in early 2025. 12 of the 40 CXPP 500l drums were in the store and eight had been filled in. Six of the 14 dispatches of Low Level Waste (LLW) had been completed. The cooling tower remediation designs were complete. The commissioning of the Zeolite retrieval would be complete before year-end. £5 million had been budgeted for asset care for the year.

Recruitment

Recruitment had continued at pace. There had been five new starts between the last meeting and the writing of the report and two more on 19 August. Other positions were still open. The turnover had mainly been due to retirements and numbers were expected to be maintained.

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Rob Fletcher had visited the site and been shown the work and projects being undertaken and the challenges faced. David Clark had visited as a new non-executive director.

CXPP Decommissioning

The process was moving well. Items including the furnace and the piercing unit for the pellets had been removed and packaged. The programme was split into four projects: the cave line, the process line, the matrix, and the TSVs. The cave line project was complete with over 100 500l drums packaged. The cave line would be left for a maintenance period.

Pond Decommissioning

The removal of the Zeolite skips was being commissioned. There had been some delays to the plan due to the original crane, which had been rectified, so the crane would come back into service that week.

The Modular Active Effluent Treatment Plant (MAETP) was going into the active commissioning phase. Some effluent drops had been done to coincide with the tidal window, mainly with non-active effluent. The commission should be ready for the end of the financial year.

Other pond work included inventory of skips and sludge. Some design and manufacturing work was being undertaken with NSG for equipment to take the skips out. Some sludge remediation work would be brought forward.

Cooling Tower Remediation

Historic issues with the cooling towers included the high pH of water in the basins created by demolitions. That water was neutralised before being discharged. Another disposal route needed to be found for some of the crushed concrete.

The culverts running to the turbine halls were also flooded with the high pH water. Two had been drained and the water neutralised. Two were in the process of being drained. The lines would be capped in October to be backfilled.

In the next year, there would be a contract to create a pad around the area with the crushed concrete, which would take the heat exchanger when they were set down for disposal.

Waste

62m³ of legacy waste had been removed from the site, which was half of the waste. That project would be substantially complete during the financial year. Some problematic waste would be disposed of beyond the financial year, and this had been discussed with SEPA.

The green flasks had been recycled, and other assets would be reused in other stations.

The higher activity waste is to be encased in concrete. The encapsulation plant had been recommissioned. The team had undergone training, and the commissioning was in its final stages. After further containment, the waste would go into long-term storage.

Asset Care

Some of the site windows had corroded and were being replaced with Perspex over a five-year project. The potable water project was about to start. The fire systems would be upgraded. Roof repairs were done as a matter of course.

Socio Economic Update

The CMCIC had been awarded £23,400 to fund a textile hub manager at Langham. There had been positive response to the Youth Beatz work.

Ian Park asked if using local workforce or upgrading local skills could be included in any commissioning contracts. Richard Murray confirmed that it could be included under societal impact.

5. CX PROJECT UPDATE

Helen Emberson stated that the land at the northern edge of the site needed to be brought into economic use for a lasting social legacy for former and new employees. There had been interest from various industries, but the programme did not have an infrastructure package. There was an allocation in the borderlands growth deal of £15.3 million from the UK and Scottish governments and £5.5 million from the DGC to derisk the site and make the infrastructure viable. The NDA had been marketing the site to determine the level of interest.

SoSE had purchased zone 3, which could be developed quickly and could be a catalyst for other development. Investigations had been done and SoSE was looking at drainage design. There was a lot of interest from potential occupiers. The service, supply and potential plots would be looked at.

Dumfries & Galloway Council had commissioned Ironside Farrar to assess interest in the land to the north of the site and optimal adjacencies in order to show what funding could be put towards, and a Masterplan map had been created. Not all the plans were possible, but there could be targeted improvements. Site investigations could not be done on all of the land, but it could be platformed for development. The council wanted to discuss local residents' viewpoints on the Masterplan to take to the environment and infrastructure committee in November. The Council leader had written to the Secretary of State and the energy minister about making Chapelcross the home for Great British Energy, which could raise the region's profile. Once the specifics were known for the site, a design team would be recruited.

The Masterplan included an advanced manufacturing campus in the northwest, a hydrogen campus in the east and northeast, and SoSE land in the south. Roads and entrances would need to be considered. Solar development was planned locally by other companies. Other considerations included housing, natural capital, drainage and the green belt.

On the forward plan, the commercial proposal, which would close on 25 October to appoint by year-end, was for one large developer to develop as much of the site as possible. The Strategic Outline Case (SOC) set out the jobs that were expected to be generated for feedback. The roads and services design would be created, and the business case would be submitted by summer 2027.

Willie McNairn noted, having suffered drainage issues as a landowner to the south of the station, he was interested in drainage solution and what would be done with the north to south road. Helen Emberson stated that there were no plans for the road, but it could be discussed. SoSE could be consulted on the drainage. Ian Park advised that the site would still be decommissioning while the recommissioning works were happening, so the roads needed to accommodate traffic from both.

Ian Park asked where Great British Energy could be based. Helen Emberson stated that the HQ requirements were not yet clear. Cllr George Jamieson stated that Great British Energy would not stop the works that were already planned.

Cllr George Jamieson stated that there were several stakeholders in the site. He asked who would coordinate and make the ultimate decisions. He also asked if the Grid connection was viable if more energy was being generated. Helen Emberson stated that the current Grid connection had 50 MW import capacity remaining, which would be consumed. The export capacity was fully consumed, but there was a pending reinforcement project, which was with MSPs to make the planning decision. There was interest in a private energy arrangement with solar developers. The NDA would appoint the strategic developer, but other organisations would be involved in the evaluation. There were assessment criteria including quality and price.

6. NDA UPDATE

A. David Wallace (NDA)

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David Wallace's report was taken as read. Since the UK election, Ed Miliband had become the new Cabinet Secretary. Lord Hunt was the new Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero. The number of SNP MPs in Westminster had been impacted. The Scottish election would happen in May 2026. The first cross-party group meeting in the Scottish Parliament had happened in late March. Nuclear decommissioning had been introduced, and the meeting had included nine MSPs. Two more had been recruited at a drop-in session the same day. The next meeting would be on 11 September and would focus on skills. The topic in December would be on waste policy in Scotland. The MSPs were keen to meet at the sites in future.

The stakeholder summit would be on 17 and 18 September, and SSG members were welcome to attend. Cllr George Jamieson would nominate attendees. David Wallace stated that there would be workshops and two panels on Strategy 5 and waste.

The Scottish Councils Committee On Radioactive Substances (SCORS) had not been active since 2019, but the NDA had agreed to fund an engagement officer to restart it. The role had been advertised, to close on 13 September. It would support Cllr Michelle Campbell at Renfrewshire Council working for Scotland and one for New Leaf to engage the Scottish local authorities with the NDA and Scottish Government work on concentrated high activity waste.

The NDA had had a secondee working in the Scottish Government on high activity waste policy for 18 months and would extend to year-end. A secondment was due to start in January 2025 for 18 months, and there had been several high-quality applications for this. Interviews would take place in two weeks with four candidates.

The new NDA chair was Peter Hill. His responsibilities would include stakeholder engagement and briefing Scottish Government ministers on decommissioning.

Cllr George Jamieson stated that an independent NDA group had reviewed the SSG's performance. It had determined that local community engagement needed to be less jagged and include more young people. Site groups had been asked to encourage young engagement. An independent survey had indicated that people wanted more objective and academic information to avoid bias. David Wallace stated that some focus groups had been set up, and the final report on engagement would be given at the stakeholder summit. He noted that other SSGs' efforts to bring in young people had not lasted. There was a lack of consistency, so best practice needed to be shared.

Cllr George Jamieson stated that the SSG would be reviewing the disposal of nuclear waste in the next year, including ensuring that it was understandable for an ordinary person. David Wallace stated that the cross-party group would submit views to that consultation.

7. NRS UPDATE

A. Bill Hamilton (NRS)

Bill Hamilton reported that nine of the 13 local MPs at NRS sites had been replaced due to the election. The NRS Chief Executive had sent a letter and briefing note to those MPs on nuclear power and NRS activities.

The new government had initiated a one-year spending review. The chief executive and finance director had been spoken to by officials. The annual budget for all of the sites was approximately £718 million per year. A significant portion of this was to be used to keep the sites safe so the regulators could ensure that the government maintained the required levels, with anything additional used for decommissioning.

NRS was moving away from a one-size-fits-all strategy for sites'. Those would only succeed with communities' involvement, so a long-term programme had begun to widen and deepen their understanding of each site's activities. An independent polling company called Thinks Insight had interviewed 12 people from each local area, including six young people. Some of those had then been brought together in focus groups: one for young people and one for adults. There had then been a quantitative poll of 2,500 people around all sites. A video would be circulated regarding what had happened.

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Next, there would be a deep dive into the communities to further deepen understanding of the sites. This would include a travelling exhibition on the past and how the sites had supported the country, the present and the decommissioning programme, and the future decommissioning strategies and uses for the sites. This would come to Chapelcross in the next few months. Two of the community focus groups would also be based at Chapelcross and would talk about future aspirations for the site.

Cllr George Jamieson asked whether discussions would include sustainable energy outside of nuclear. Bill Hamilton confirmed that it would be an open discussion.

Ian Park recommended that current younger SSG members help to recruit others and create a wider audience. He also recommended discussing recommissioning. Cllr George Jamieson noted that this could be a catalyst for more interest.

8. OTHER REPORTS FROM SSG BODIES

ONR

It was noted that Peter Hughes had offered his apologies. He had submitted a report and could be contacted with questions.

SEPA

David Stone had sent in his report. Two inspections had been undertaken since the last SSG. The first had been on the implementation and development of the environmental monitoring programme, which was used to monitor local radioactivity caused by the disposal of waste from the site. Results were regularly reported. The inspection had found no issues for concern with the programme, and there were triggers for further updates.

The second inspection had been on the site's progress with managing and disposing of legacy LLW. SEPA had previously put pressure on disposing of that waste and asked for an indicative timescale. The NDA had provided funding. Despite Covid stoppages, disposal had progressed, and there was a comprehensive tracking database.

The variation for an increase in the sublimit for gaseous radioactive waste from the operation of the AVDS had been determined. There would also be an application for a further increase to the site limit for gaseous radioactive waste discharges, which would be publicly consulted on.

SEPA had also engaged the site on the best practicable means to remove high activity and LLW that was currently stored in the ponds.

Scottish Government

Diane Hamilton had circulated a report. A Scottish nuclear site stakeholder group had met virtually on 14 August. The meeting had not been well attended but had facilitated a good discussion on high activity waste policy. The policy would be reviewed and consulted on in early 2025. Oli Smith would lead this and had emailed the SSG to invite views on where the policy needed further development or clarification. Claire Aitken stated that the SSG consultation subgroup could meet to gather those views.

9. EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS

Claire Aitken reported that there had been an SSG review and the Chair and Vice Chair meeting in July. Upcoming meetings included the Stakeholder Summit on 17 and 18 September and the new Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) board with Liz Peace.

10. SOSE UPDATE

It was noted that Donna Mounce's update had been covered by Helen Emberson.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Peter Dreghorn advised differentiation between the definitions of green energy and renewable energy.

12. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments.

Next Meeting date: Wednesday 20 November 2024.

**CHAPELCROSS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE MEETING
WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST 2024 AT 11.00 AM AT ANNAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB, ANNAN**

Chairman's Welcome, Announcements and Apologies

Cllr Dryburgh welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Cllr Jamieson assumed the chair role. Apologies were read.

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Actions from the previous meeting were noted.

Chapelcross Site Director's Report – Richard Murray

The TRIR had been zero. Repairs and remediation work for the January 2024 storm damage were complete. Environmental and security compliance was positive. The annual emergency arrangements exercise had been successful. Waste removal and decommissioning projects were progressing. £5 million was budgeted for annual asset care. Seven new staff had been recruited and numbers were expected to remain steady. Rob Fletcher and David Clark had visited the site. The CMCIC had been awarded £23,400 to fund a textile hub manager at Langham. There had been positive response to the Youth Beatz work.

CX Project & SOSE Update – Helen Emberson

There had been interest in the land at the northern edge of the site, but the programme did not have an infrastructure package. There was an allocation in the borderlands growth deal of £15.3 million from the UK and Scottish governments and £5.5 million from the DGC. Ironside Farrar had created a Masterplan map, and local residents' viewpoints would be taken to the environment and infrastructure committee. The commercial developer would be commissioned by year-end. The business case would be submitted by summer 2027. The Council leader had proposed Chapelcross for Great British Energy.

NDA Update – David Wallace

The first cross-party group meeting in the Scottish Parliament had been in March and had introduced nuclear decommissioning. The stakeholder summit would be on 17 and 18 September. The NDA had agreed to fund an engagement officer to restart the Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCORS). The NDA had a secondee working in the Scottish Government on high activity waste policy and another would start in January 2025. The new NDA chair was Peter Hill.

NRS Update – Bill Hamilton

The NRS Chief Executive had briefed new MPs on nuclear power and NRS activities. The government had initiated a one-year spending review for which the chief executive and finance director had been spoken to. NRS was moving away from a one-size-fits-all strategy for deactivated sites' care and maintenance. An overview of Thinks Insight was discussed – they had conducted polls and focus groups of the Chapelcross community.

ONR Report – Peter Hughes

Peter Hughes had offered his apologies.

SEPA Update– David Stone

The report was taken as read. Two inspections had been undertaken on the implementation and development of the environmental monitoring programme and the site's progress in managing and disposing of legacy LLW. The variation for an increase in the sublimit for gaseous radioactive waste from the operation of the AVDS had been determined. There would be an application for a further increase to the site limit for discharges, which would be publicly consulted on. SEPA had engaged on the best means to remove high activity and LLW.

Scottish Government Update– Diane Hamilton

The report was taken as read. A Scottish nuclear site stakeholder group had met virtually on 14 August on high activity waste policy. The policy would be reviewed and consulted on in early 2025.

External Meetings and Invitations – Claire Aitken

There had been an SSG review and a Chair and Vice Chair meeting in July. Upcoming meetings included the Stakeholder Summit on 17 and 18 September and the new Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) board.

Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Public Forum

There were no comments.

Questions and Observations

After each presentation, several questions were asked by members. These can be read with the responses in the full Minutes of the meeting, available from the SSG Secretariat.



NDA Update for CPX SSG

November 2024



Contents

1.0 NDA Stakeholder Update November 2024



NDA Stakeholder Update

Please find below a brief update on main points of interest since the last meeting.

Government Update

As previously advised Sir Keir Starmer as the new UK Prime Minister, appointed the Rt Hon Ed Miliband as the Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero, with his team of Rt Hon Lord Hunt OBE as Minister of State for Energy and Net Zero, Sarah Jones MP as Minister of State for Industry, Kerry McCarty MP as Parliamentary Under Secretary for Climate, Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Energy Consumers and Michael Shanks MP as Parliamentary Under Secretary for Energy.

As part of the running of government the selection of representation for select committees has been underway alongside familiarisation visits for key Ministers and officials into their appointment areas.

Key appointments include local Sellafield MP Josh MacAlister, as Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Nuclear with David Mundell, MP for the area covering Chapelcross, as Vice Chair. The Energy and Net Zero Committee (ESNZ) has also made appointments which include site MPs Josh MacAlister and Julie Minns and there are three MPs with NDA sites located in their constituencies sitting in the Public Accounts (PAC) and ESNZ.

Board updates

Harriet Kemp recently (30th August) joined the NDA board. She has extensive background and experience in HR matters and remuneration matters including working at Compass Plc, Novartis and Pepsi.

Outreach activities

Following a site visit to Sellafield by the new **Energy Minister Lord Hunt** he recorded a short video about his visit which can be watched on the Sellafield Ltd Facebook page.

Engagement priorities for 2024

- We recently held our Stakeholder Conference on September 17/18 in Manchester. We'd like to thank all those that attended and engaged and if you haven't already would encourage you to provide us with feedback via Slido. In due course we'll be putting up videos from the event so check out the NDA linked In page. During the event David Peattie announced that the NDA would be investing an extra £5m over the next five years to support around 20 PhDs. This builds on the current annual spend of £45m in early careers, including apprenticeships, graduates and PhDs.



- As mentioned in previous updates, our independent review into the SSGs is underway. This exercise will provide an opportunity to reflect on the successes of the stakeholder voice in the local community over the last 20 years. It will also allow us to consider how best to address some of the challenges that face us as we think about the future. Our Chairs and Vice-Chairs played a role in helping to draft the scope of the review and they received a short progress update at the SSG Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting mentioned above.
- We are in the process of developing and designed our next broad **stakeholder survey**. More details will be available in due course.
- As you will be aware preparation is underway for **Strategy V** which we expect to publish in March 2026. Our strategy document is published every 5 years and describes our high-level approach to delivering our mission. Within that we identify several critical enablers essential to the successful delivery of our mission including public and stakeholder engagement. The NDA attended a recent Enablers meeting with West Cumbria stakeholders as part of our engagement process.
- The latest **CPG** took place in the **Scottish Parliament** with the main topic being 'Skills'. Actions included Vice-Convenor (SNP) to introduce motion into Chamber regarding skills gaps. Skills Development Scotland to consider work plan that pulls various activities together. NDA and DESNZ to report back on progress of Scottish Skills Hub. DESNZ to re-visit 'Destination Nuclear' campaign to re-consider where 'decommissioning' is positioned. **Next CPG meeting December 17th** – topic 'Radioactive Waste – dealing with the legacy'.
- We are working closely with the Nuclear Industries Association (NIA) to establish a **Cross-Party Group on the Civil Nuclear Industry in the Welsh Parliament**. The aim is to have first meeting in November 2024.

Publications, public service and policy updates

- We have now published our **Annual Report** which has also been laid in Parliament. The Annual Report sets out the progress made against our mission, from safely decommissioning existing sites to preparing to take responsibility for more, while managing radioactive waste for our existing programme and new nuclear
- The previous Government and devolved administrations published an updated policy for nuclear decommissioning and managing radioactive substances, including radioactive waste. Publication follows consultation undertaken last year on the proposals. [Read details of the policy here.](#)
- The policy included an expectation that the NDA should explore with stakeholders the potential for optimising the LLW Repository to take suitable, less hazardous intermediate level waste. Engagement with the local community and relevant stakeholders will be an important part of this work, alongside further technical evaluation. If appropriate, the project would proceed to creation of a final business case and seek necessary approvals. Nuclear Waste



Services will be working with relevant key stakeholders, including the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group, to inform its thinking

- As previously advised we expect the Scottish Government to start its review into its policy for higher activity radioactive waste (HAW). The policy framework is set out in a 2011 Policy and the 2016 Implementation Strategy. The anticipated timeline is: Commence review – late 2024, hold a public consultation – early 2025, issue a revised Policy document – late 2025.
- The new nuclear industry skills “roadmap” has been launched aimed at attracting and retaining the sector’s workforce of the future. The National Nuclear Strategic Plan for Skills (Skills Plan) is based on sector collaboration, investment in training, leadership development and improving diversity. The NDA is a signatory to the charter, which was signed at Westminster, that underpins the goal to double the number of new apprenticeships by 2026 and recruit 40,000 new jobs by 2030.
- The **NAO value for money study** into whether Sellafield and the NDA are taking a sustainable approach to decommissioning, leading to permanent hazard reduction has now been published and can be found via the following link [Decommissioning Sellafield: managing risks from the nuclear legacy - NAO report](#). The PAC is likely to consider the NAO report sometime before April.
- We have recently published our **Nuclear Heritage Strategy**. The NDA are tasked with decommissioning the UK’s legacy nuclear sites, sites and facilities which have been at the heart of delivering nuclear benefits for the UK, including national defence programmes and supplying safe, low-carbon power, for decades. The heritage strategy enables the NDA group to identify and preserve the tangible and intangible assets, objects, and memories of the nuclear industry, the people who worked in it, and the communities that supported it.
- NDA has published its **Socio Economic Report for 2023/24**, detailing a record investment in projects across the UK - [NDA group investing in our communities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Mission delivery

- The NDA recently launched its brand-new, specialised cyber facility to accelerate collaboration and innovation across nuclear operators and the supply chain, enhancing the collective ability to successfully defend against cyber threats. The Group Cyberspace Collaboration Centre (GCCC) provides a space for experts in cyber, digital and security to come together and share knowledge and learning on how best to defend against evolving threats. The centre is a multi-functional space for collaborating, brainstorming, workshops, talks, learning and tutorials, cyber exercising, incident management and more. It aims to encourage our cyber, digital and security experts to think and work differently, with our shared future foremost in mind.



- Future plans for our Chapelcross site in Dumfries and Galloway were unveiled in August, with a long-term vision to develop the site into a Green Energy Hub: [Chapelcross Masterplan - CX Project](#)
- NWS and the NDA have established an innovative partnership for the enhanced management of asbestos waste, awarding two contracts to establish the **Asbestos Innovation Partnership**. This partnership will work with the NDA group and the supply chain, to test and develop new solutions to treat asbestos waste, helping to deliver efficiencies and enable more effective waste management.
- A collaboration between NRS, NTS and NWS has achieved a significant milestone by transporting the final waste from the Treated Radwaste Store (TRS) in Winfrith to the LLWR for disposal. The completion of this project ahead of schedule means that the need for **waste storage at Winfrith** which closed in 1990 has been removed, leaving the site ready for decommissioning.
- NDA and NRS have underlined their commitment to Government to, where possible, safely accelerate **land release at Harwell** site to maximise the economic impact of decommissioning. We have identified clear areas of strategic importance and will work together with the Harwell Campus joint venture on developing options for those areas. We are at early stages and still progressing the current release of plots, aiming to have a broader plan for land release this autumn.
- The hearing for the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) charges against Sellafield Ltd under the Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 2003 took place on 20 June at Westminster Magistrates Court in London. Sellafield Ltd entered a guilty plea to all charges. The sentence was pronounced on 2nd October with a fine of £332,500.00 being imposed.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat.



Nuclear
Decommissioning
Authority



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR Site Report

Nuclear Restoration Services – Chapelcross

ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services - Chapelcross

Report for period: 1 July – 30 September 2024

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Delivery Lead Decommissioning, Fuel, and Waste

Issue No.: 1

Publication Date: Oct-24

ONR Record Ref. No.: 2024/45208

Foreword

This report is issued as part of ONR's commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (<http://www.onr.org.uk/ilc/>).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact ONR.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of inspection

The ONR site inspectors did not undertake any inspections during the report period 1 July – 30 September 2024.

2. Routine matters

2.1. Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- the conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended)
- the Energy Act 2013
- the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74)
- regulations made under HSWA74, for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99)

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, no routine inspections of Chapelcross were held.

Members of the public, who would like further information on ONR's inspection activities during the reporting period, can view site Intervention Reports at www.onr.org.uk/intervention-records on our website www.onr.org.uk.

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

2.2. Other work

Throughout this reporting period, ONR's nominated site safety inspector held regular meetings with Chapelcross leadership team representatives to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear safety. No significant issues were raised with ONR.

3. Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements. During this period the following event was recorded by the licensee.

- Errors were identified in transport document for a radioactive consignment. The transport inspector has considered the licensee response as appropriate.

4. Regulatory activity

ONR may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed 'Licence Instruments' (LIs) but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an Enforcement Notice.

No LIs, Enforcement Notices or Enforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

For the latest news and information from ONR, please read and subscribe to our regular email newsletter 'ONR News' at www.onr.org.uk/onrnews.

6. Contacts

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Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update- Chapelcross

20 November 2024

Regulation

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)- Radioactive Substances

Following on from the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions, telephone communication with the site has continued including formal monthly telephone calls. Routine teleconferences with the Chapelcross site and the corporate Magnox Ltd team on strategic issues have also continued as before.

SEPA is determining the site's application for a variation to their EASR permit. This application relates to an increase in the site limit for the discharge of gaseous radionuclides excluding tritium. SEPA will be undertaking a public consultation on the application in early 2025. The stakeholder group will be informed when the consultation starts.

SEPA are also engaging with the site on a number of issues to support the ongoing decommissioning of the site. This includes the active commissioning of the modular active effluent treatment plant, the preparations for zeolite skip retrieval from the ponds and the work at the CXPP for retrieval of ILW.

SEPA undertook an inspection of the sites RADOS clearance operations and controls for the assessments of solid wastes on the 13th November. The outcome of the inspection will be shared at the next stakeholder group meeting.

Non-Rad Regulation

There have been no environmental issues relating to non-radioactive regulation since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

Environmental Events

There have been no environmental events reported to SEPA by the Chapelcross site.

Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)

RIFE is a collaborative report on work carried out by SEPA, the other UK environment agencies, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment in the UK. The RIFE reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation, including in the vicinity of the Chapelcross site. The RIFE report incorporates the results from the analysis of a wide range of samples and key information on local habits to demonstrate both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition of RIFE has just been published. RIFE 29 covers the year 2023 and can be accessed electronically at [Radioactivity in food and the environment \(RIFE\) report - GOV.UK](#)

Dr David Stone

Radioactive Substances Specialist

11 11 2024

Chapelcross Programme Update Report to Site Stakeholder Group

Date	08/11/2024	Stage	Outline Business Case
Progress this period			
Summary The Chapelcross programme is focussed on developing the site into a high quality, green energy-focussed regional employment centre acting as a transformational project within the region. Conditional funding of £15.3m has been given from the Borderlands Growth Deal towards the project. Together with funding of £5.5m, committed by Dumfries and Galloway Council, the capital investment will be used to unlock the site for development through servicing and road improvements to access the site. Work is underway to develop the Outline Business Case (OBC), based on the recent masterplan for the site. Strategic Development Framework / Masterplan The purpose of the development framework is to shape a site layout, transport assessment and service requirements as an input to the OBC for Borderlands. The masterplan defines a series of development campuses, creating an adaptable land-use framework that build on the core site strengths, reflects national and regional policy and adopt industrial masterplan best practice. The hydrogen campus will be a core driver and enabler of Chapelcross' future as a Green Energy Hub. It provides a flexible, large-scale land area with the ability to offer downstream production and co-location with capacity for large-scale hydrogen production and related commercial and skills & innovation activity. The Green Industry Campus and Enterprise Campus provide the business space and infrastructure to accommodate energy transition supply chain and complementary commercial uses within the Green Energy Hub. The Energy Campus at Chapelcross relates to residual areas of the site within Nuclear Decommissioning Authority ownership – separate from planned Hydrogen, Green Industrial and Enterprise Campuses. It is included as part of the masterplan to ensure a coordinated approach to development across the whole site. The masterplan has now been used to replace the existing planning guidance in LDP2; this was approved at Economy and Infrastructure Committee on 5th November. This is not statutory guidance but provides additional context for subsequent planning applications. Strategic Development Partner The programme will now find a strategic partner who will bring expertise and private finance to help deliver the partners' vision for the site. Avison Young, land agent for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, released a Request for Proposal for the private sector to develop the northern area of the Chapelcross site. Responses were returned on 1st November and are currently being evaluated. Once evaluation is complete, a contract negotiation period will follow that should see the partner in contract with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority by spring 2025. SOSE and CX South Purchase of Zone 3 (6.46 Ha) was successfully concluded in November 2023. SoSE has completed topographic and ground investigations; Ironside Farrar have produced a masterplan for the SoSE site. Site fencing and access control have been upgraded; a 2MW electrical capacity and connection has been secured with SPEN. Consultants are appointed for road, water and SUDS design. Planning for roads, paths and drainage has been submitted to DG Council. Discussions are ongoing with interested developers. Scottish Government – Regional Hydrogen Hub Chapelcross is included in the Scottish Government Hydrogen Action Plan as a regional hub.			

Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

- Complete strategic partner selection
- Review the enabling works infrastructure scope of work and prioritise the interventions
- Commence the design team appointment for the enabling works with project and commercial management