

Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

AGENDA

Agenda for the SSG meeting to be held on Wednesday 19 November 2025

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

-
- 1. (10:00 – 10:02) Chairman's welcome**
 - 2. (10:03 – 10:05) Announcements and apologies (*including any Declarations of Interest*)**
 - 3. (10:06 – 10:08) Minutes of previous meeting and Matters Arising**
 - 4. (10:09 – 10:29) Chapelcross Site Director's Report (*including update on NRS Socio-Economic Scheme*)- *Richard Murray, Chapelcross Site Director.***
 - 5. (10:30 – 10:45) NDA Update - *David Wallace***
 - 6. (10:46 – 11:00) NRS Update – *Bill Hamilton***
 - 7. (11:01– 11:35) Other reports from SSG bodies - ONR, SEPA, Scottish Government.**
 - 8. (11:36 – 11:38) External Meetings and Invitations.**
 - 9. (11:39– 11:49) CX Project Update - *Helen Emberson, CX Programme Lead*
*SoSE Update - Neil MacGregor***

10. (11:50 – 11:51) Any Other Business

11. (11:52 – 12:00) Public Forum

Next Meeting – 2026 TBC

OFFICIAL



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CHAPELCROSS STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT ANNAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB, ANNAN
WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST 2025**

Attendance/Apologies list

Attendance

Cllr Archie Dryburgh MBE	Annandale East and Eskdale (Chair)
Cllr George Jamieson	Annandale South (Vice Chair)
Cllr Sean Marshall	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Willie McNairn	2km Resident Representative
Carol Midwood	Federation of Community Councils/Canonbie and District CC
Neil Carruthers	Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council
Ian Park	NRS Trade Union Representative
Andy Stott	Restoring Annan's Waters

Operators and Officers

Claire Aitken	NRS
Bill Hamilton	NRS
Richard Murray	Site Director, Chapelcross
Peter Hughes	ONR
David Wallace	NDA
Ben Jackson	NRS
Grant Johnstone	NRS
Dr James McKinney	NDA
Koulis Efkarpidis	NDA
Helen Emberson	Dumfries & Galloway Council, CX Programme Lead
Diane Hamilton	Scottish Government
Geoffrey Dore	Minute Taker

Apologies

David Stone	SEPA
Donna Mounce	SOSE
Ruth Norbury	Site Inspector, NRS

OFFICIAL

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.00.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from David Stone, Donna Mounce and Ruth Norbury.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

Willie McNairn referred to paragraph 3 on page 3 and highlighted that the reference to 'blades' should be replaced with 'glazing'.

Sean Marshall requested an update following the SSG's letter to the Scottish Government, the NDA and NRS regarding concerns in relation to the lack of effort by Skills Development Scotland. He also noted that he had requested visibility of NRS's restructure. David Wallace stated that Skills Development Scotland had responded and had apologised for the delays. It would work to prepare a workforce plan. There would be a cross-party group meeting in December, and the subject would act as a follow-up to the original skills discussion from the previous year.

Bill Hamilton stated that NRS had restructured into different businesses. It was agreed that Claire Aitken would provide the SSG with a diagram that would detail the restructure.

ACTION: Claire Aitken to provide the SSG with a diagram detailing NRS's restructure.

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Willie McNairn and seconded by Sean Marshall.

Claire Aitken confirmed that she had received a copy of the Ironside Farrar masterplan and agreed to circulate it to SSG members.

Andy Stott noted that the action to schedule a site visit for SSG members had remained ongoing for a prolonged period. Claire Aitken stated that there had been several staffing issues and officials on site. Dates would be scheduled in the coming months.

4. CHAPELCROSS SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Richard Murray (Site Director, Chapelcross)

Richard Murray presented his report.

There had been no significant HSE events, and the TRIR had remained static, at 0.89. The site had proactively demonstrated its emergency arrangements.

Chapelcross intended to recover 18.6te of ILW and had currently recovered 3.85te. 18 of 39 ILW packages had been moved into the store, while six of 16 consignments of LLW had been dispatched. The reactor 4 south face cladding and glazing had been completed on schedule, and the potable water project remained ongoing. The design assessment review four for pond skip enablers was also on target.

There had been a great deal of recruitment, which continued for internal and external roles. Two electrical, control and instrumentation (ECI) technicians would be onboarded on 8 September, and a lead team administrator would start on 26 August.

The Scottish Government team and Craig Hoy had visited the site. There had been recent staff wellbeing activities, including Friday walks, coffee mornings and lunchtime yoga. These activities had helped Chapelcross to record the second-highest score for the staff engagement survey within NRS.

OFFICIAL

CXPP decommissioning was progressing well. Project 2, which was the process line active decommissioning, was also proceeding well. Three of the bays had been cleared, and the vacuum pump exhaust (VPE) tank had been retrieved and size reduced. This had involved setting up an orbital cutter within the ventilated cutting box to size reduce, and the discharges had been minimised.

Four Zeolite skips had been retrieved from the pond, and work was taking place to retrieve the fifth skip. A time-lapse video was played detailing the retrieval process.

Design work was taking place for the skip retrievals. Regarding sludge and sand retrievals, NSG had completed work setting and had commenced site acceptance testing. The wet waste transfer facility required more design work. Samples from the cooling towers had been sent to a laboratory for assessment; two concrete boxes had been moved into the ISF.

Asset care work would commence on the east and west faces. The potable water replacement work continued and was expected to be completed by August. There had also been transport improvements to the north site and main car park.

Richard Murray highlighted the socioeconomic fund and reported that the Creation Mill CIC had received £23,400 of funding for its tech hub manager role. Chapelcross had also supported Castle Loch Lochmaben by helping to fund improvements to the walkway.

George Jamieson asked if the Government cuts to decommissioning had impacted Chapelcross. Bill Hamilton clarified that there had been no cuts to funding.

5. NDA UPDATE

A. David Wallace (NDA)

David Wallace's report was taken as read.

Sean Marshall asked when the Cross-Party Group (CPG) would visit Hunterston. David Wallace responded that the visit was scheduled for 22 September.

Sean Marshall noted that he had been unable to register for the strategy 5 webinar that was due to take place on 5 September. David Wallace suggested that Sean Marshall contact him if he continued to encounter issues when registering. All SSG members would be able to join the webinar.

6. NDA DRAFT STRATEGY PRESENTATION

A. Dr James McKinney and Koulis Efkarpidis (NDA)

Koulis Efkarpidis explained that the NDA's mission was to clean up the UK's earliest nuclear sites safely, securely and cost-effectively. The Energy Act required the NDA to develop a strategy for its mission and to renew this at least every five years. Strategy 5 would be published by March 2026.

James McKinney said strategy 5 represented a collaborative document. It was important for the NDA to work with its stakeholders, and the document included several commitments. The strategy development aligned with UK Government policy, safety and environmental standards and public expectations.

The structure was built around four driving themes: site decommissioning and remediation, spent fuels, nuclear materials and integrated waste management. These themes were supported by critical enablers.

Since its last strategy in 2021, the NDA had made a great deal of progress, including completing reprocessing operations at Sellafield, commencing waste retrievals from all four legacy ponds and silos at Sellafield, and supporting the UK Government to finalise and publish the plutonium disposition policy. It had been trusted to do more by the Government and had brought its group closer together as one NDA.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

The draft strategy set out the NDA's ambitions. Over the next 25 years, it aimed to retrieve most radioactive waste from high-hazard facilities at Sellafield, repackage a proportion of plutonium, decommission most former Magnox sites, identify a suitable site for a geological disposal facility (GDF) and enable new development opportunities around its sites. These ambitions would be guided by four principles: mission first, proportionality, waste-informed decommissioning and efficient use of group resources.

Sustainability was embedded throughout the document, which also referenced the UN's 17 sustainability development goals. New developments included the new Government policy on plutonium disposition. This would involve major facility investment at Sellafield and long-term job creation.

Koulis Efkarpidis explained that work had taken place with stakeholders to identify the final form of critical enablers. Key updates in the draft strategy included the separation of health, safety and wellbeing environment into two; a new digital, data and AI enabler; and repositioning sustainability as a cross-cutting principle.

The document included nine questions, and the 12-week public consultation would conclude on 29 September 2025. There would also be a deeper dive into the strategic themes through a webinar on 5 September. All feedback would help to refine the strategy before its circulation to Government, for approval, and subsequent publication in March 2026. Both the draft strategy and integrated impact assessments reports were available on the NDA's website.

Andy Stott asked if the strategy had any linkage with international countries. James McKinney responded that the NDA worked closely with international partners, including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). France, the US and Canada were countries of interest. The UK was viewed as a leader within the decommissioning sphere.

Sean Marshall said the perception of the UK as a leader within the decommissioning space could also be a threat, and this needed to be considered. He welcomed the collaborative approach for the strategy and questioned the main differences. James McKinney said the NDA wanted stakeholders to work together and identify reasons for barriers. It did not intend to expand in other countries but would ensure that it was being peer reviewed and was sharing learnings.

Richard Murray noted that NRS had initiated pond diving at Dungeness and Sizewell before expanding this learning to Sellafield. This demonstrated a good example of cross-learning. There was also an intention for the IAEA to visit Chapelcross in Q1 2026. James McKinney highlighted that there was a container programme, and all learning was expected to be shared with all parts of NRS.

George Jamieson emphasised the importance of proportionality. While he welcomed the roadshows, he was keen to remove public confusion and ensure clarity. There was also a need for objectivity. James McKinney acknowledged George Jamieson's comments. It was important to build trust, look after the taxpayer's money and apply proportionality.

7. NRS UPDATE

A. Bill Hamilton (NRS)

Bill Hamilton presented his report.

Hunterston B would be integrated into NRS on 1 April 2026.

As part of the last two spending reviews, NRS had essentially received the same funding for the next three to four years. Although the funding did not account for inflation, there would be a stronger focus on efficiencies. NRS would continue with site-specific decommissioning strategies.

Sean Marshall requested an update on the integration of EDF sites. Bill Hamilton reported that the workforce integration was progressing well. David Wallace added that the Hunterston

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

B integration was running to schedule and was on budget. Regarding the impact on the spending review and the AGR decommissioning, the money was ringfenced for the AGRs.

8. OTHER REPORTS FROM SSG BODIES

ONR

Peter Hughes presented his report.

An emergency arrangement exercise had taken place, and Chapelcross had been rated as green. ONR had additionally reviewed the arrangements for the Ionising Radiations Regulations, which had also been rated as green.

An enforcement letter had been issued to NRS and Altrad Services following the discovery of a fragile surface at one of Chapelcross's buildings. The actions identified within both enforcement letters had been completed.

Mike Finnerty had been appointed as the new chief nuclear inspector of ONR. The Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce had published its interim report. The report mainly focused on England and Wales.

Sean Marshall asked about the building that had contained a fragile surface. Peter Hughes stated that the fragile surface was on the Heat Exchanger Pump House roof

SEPA

It was noted that a written report had been issued.

Sean Marshall asked if SEPA's work on the EASR permit had been delayed. Richard Murray said SEPA had committed to a two-year turnaround for its permits.

Scottish Government

Diane Hamilton presented her report.

Diane Hamilton thanked Richard Murray and Claire Aitken for hosting the Scottish Government during its site visit. Her team had also visited the UK Health Security Agency laboratory in Glasgow and reviewed processes and samples for the RIFE report. Regarding the higher activity waste policy review, the Scottish Government had examined the 2011 policy and various papers produced by the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) and Greenpeace. Work had taken place with the NDA and SEPA in relation to current options for higher activity waste. The Scottish Government would review the real-world impacts from the policy, and there would be several meetings. The consultation would likely take place after the election.

Sean Marshall stated that it was appropriate for Scottish Government to visit sites and identify possible implications for near surface, near site and whether there would be a change to policy. He also noted that the Scottish Government had been working with the NDA on development of its strategy 5 document and asked if the intention to establish new storage centres only concerned waste storage centres. James McKinney responded that, while there would be a focus on ILW, this did not mean that the NDA would exclude LLW.

9. EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS

The Chair noted that he and the Vice-Chair had attended the following meetings:

- SSG Forum, 11 March
- SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum, 2 May
- SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs Forum, 6 June
- SSG Chairs and Vice Chair Dinner and Meeting, 1 and 2 July

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

- Briefing on NDA Strategy 5 via Teams, 11 July

The Chair and Vice-Chair were due to attend:

- NDA Group Draft Strategy 5 Webinar, 5 September

Sean Marshall asked if the chairs and vice-chairs had discussed the NDA's guidance for site stakeholder groups. The Chair responded that the constitution had been discussed during an SSG chairs and vice chairs forum. This would likely be addressed as part of the NDA's strategy 5 consultation. David Wallace said he understood that the chair of chairs had been tasked with discussing the implementation of the review with the SSG chairs and vice-chairs.

10. CHAPELCROSS PROJECT UPDATE

Helen Emberson presented the report.

Work had taken place with the NDA and its land agent, Avison Young, which had released a request for proposal for the private sector to develop the northern area of the Chapelcross site. The evaluation had selected a preferred development partner, and negotiations were ongoing. The ambition was for the developer to be in contract by yearend. Once the developer was in position, there would be greater knowledge of its aspirations for the land. All partners had signed a non-disclosure agreement.

Willie McNairn raised a question regarding the development outside of the playing fields. Helen Emberson stated that Green Cat Hydrogen was preparing to submit a planning application to install a hydrogen plant, which would utilise 10 acres. The remaining 16 hectares of land were being actively marketed.

Willie McNairn asked about the intentions for the area to the south of SOSE's land. Richard Murray said Chapelcross continued to work with the NDA on the disposal of this land. Willie McNairn stated that Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) had a majority shareholding in Elgin Energy, and Elgin Energy was of the view that it had access to the land between SOSE and the scrapyard. He asked if Elgin Energy had purchased the land. Richard Murray replied that Elgin Energy had not purchased the land but thought it would be leased from the NDA in future.

Willie McNairn said Elgin Energy had held two meetings, and this did not reflect well on NRS. Richard Murray clarified that the land was not part of NRS's commercial agreement. Willie McNairn asked if any developers of the surrounding land would need to share their plans with local residents. Richard Murray responded that they would, but they would need to as part of the planning applications and planning laws. The land was not part of NRS's core business. Bill Hamilton added that the NDA, and not NRS, owned the property. Local residents should address any failures with their local planning officers.

Sean Marshall asked how the relationship with the strategic development partner would operate given that there were licensed and unlicensed parts of the land. Richard Murray clarified that none of the land was part of the Site Licenced land the NRS operates on. The NDA owned the land. The strategic development partner would work with the programme board. Sean Marshall asked who would be responsible for the overall site. Richard Murray stated that NRS would only be responsible for security for Chapelcross. Sean Marshall asked if there would be any physical measures. Richard Murray said it was unlikely that there would be. Grant Johnstone stated that NRS would ensure interface with any partners so that all parties were aware of the risk that each site might hold.

The Chair asked if any discussions were taking place regarding the future and exercises undertaken by local emergency services. Richard Murray stated that NRS could not speak for other organisations. NRS would undertake demonstration exercises with ONR, and it would continue with its own internal exercises.

11. SOSE UPDATE

It was noted that Donna Mounce had provided a written report.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

13. PUBLIC FORUM

Ian Park asked how much internal recruitment had taken place. Richard Murray responded that approximately 50% of the recruitment had been internal.

Ian Park said development at the site needed to take place while decommissioning occurred. He added that a repeat of last year's funding represented a cut. Everyone was responsible for ensuring public involvement, and he questioned whether the SSG could do anything to encourage this. The Chair said the review would address the SSG constitution and public involvement.

Bill Hamilton stated that NRS was happy with the funding considering some of the possible alternatives. The £540 million represented a positive result.

The Chair stated that there would be a separate meeting on the SSG guidelines. Sean Marshall said he had wanted to explore the proposal to move away from in-person meetings to hybrid meetings. The Chair said it was important for the SSG chairs and vice-chairs to meet as a subgroup and share its views. He was also of the view that meetings should take place in person.

Next Meeting date: Wednesday 19 November 2025.

Actions from Chapelcross SSG Meetings

ACTIONS FOLLOWING SSG MEETING 20.08.25

ACTION	DETAIL	STATUS	DATE
Secretariat to arrange site visit for Site Stakeholder Group members wishing to attend – previous attempts to arrange had to be postponed.	Site visit date has now been arranged. CA to email to SSG voting members to invite them to the site for a tour in February 2025.	Ongoing	
NRS restructure diagram	A diagram of the new NRS reporting structure following the organisational restructure to be provided to the SSG	Ongoing	
Ironside Farrah Masterplan to be circulated to SSG members	SOSE has provided a copy of the Ironside Farrah report to SSG Members	Complete	13.11.2025
Richard Murray's presentation to be sent to SSG members following the meeting	A copy of the Site Director's presentation is uploaded to the SSG website following the meeting where it can be accessed.	Ongoing	

**CHAPELCROSS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST 2025 AT ANNAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB, ANNAN**

Chair's Opening Remarks

Cllr Dryburgh welcomed the attendees.

Chapeltcross Site Director's Report – Mr Richard Murray

There had been no significant HSE events, and the TRIR had remained static at 0.89. The site had currently recovered 3.85te of ILW. 18 of 39 ILW packages had been moved into the store, while six of 16 consignments of LLW had been dispatched. The reactor 4 south face cladding and glazing had been completed on schedule, and the potable water project remained ongoing. The design assessment review four for pond skip enablers was also on target.

CXPP decommissioning is progressing well. Four Zeolite skips had been retrieved from the pond, and design work was taking place for the skip retrievals. Regarding sludge and sand retrievals, NSG had completed work setting and had begun site acceptance testing. Samples from the cooling towers had been sent to a laboratory for assessment; two concrete boxes had been moved into the ISF. Asset care work would commence on the east and west faces. The potable water replacement work continued and was expected to be completed by August. Chapeltcross continued to provide support to the community and local businesses through its socioeconomic fund.

NDA Update – Mr David Wallace

The report was taken as read.

NDA Presentation – Dr James McKinney and Mr Koulis Efkarpidis

Dr James McKinney and Mr Koulis Efkarpidis presented the NDA's Strategy 5 document. The document was built around four driving themes: site decommissioning and remediation, spent fuels, nuclear materials and integrated waste management. The draft strategy set out the NDA's ambitions and included four guiding principles: mission first, proportionality, waste-informed decommissioning and efficient use of group resources. The document included nine questions, and the 12-week public consultation would conclude on 29 September. The document would be presented to the Government for approval before being published in March 2026.

NRS Update –Mr Bill Hamilton

Hunterston B would be integrated into NRS on 1 April 2026. As part of the last two spending reviews, NRS had essentially received the same funding for the next three to four years, and it would continue with site-specific decommissioning strategies.

ONR Report – Mr Peter Hughes

ONR had reviewed the site's emergency arrangements and arrangements for the Ionising Radiations Regulations, and both exercises had been rated as green. An enforcement letter had been issued to NRS and Altrad Services; the actions identified within both enforcement letters had been completed.

SEPA Update – Mr David Stone

A written report was issued.

Scottish Government – Ms Diane Hamilton

The Scottish Government had visited the site and the UK Health Security Agency laboratory in Glasgow, reviewing processes and samples for the RIFE report. Regarding the higher activity waste policy review, Scottish Government had examined the 2011 policy and various papers produced by the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) and Greenpeace. Work had taken place with the NDA and SEPA in relation to current options for higher activity waste.

External Meetings and Invitations

Cllr Dryburgh noted a number of SSG chairs and vice-chairs meetings that had been attended.

Chapeltcross Project Update – Ms Helen Emberson

Work had taken place with the NDA and its land agent Avison Young, which had released a request for proposal for the private sector to develop the northern area of the Chapeltcross site. The evaluation had selected a preferred development partner, and negotiations were ongoing. All partners had signed a non-disclosure agreement.

Public Forum

Individuals from the public forum were invited to comment and ask questions.

Questions were asked by members after each presentation, the detail of which can be read in the full minute of the meeting, available from the Secretariat.

Next Meeting – Wednesday 19 November 2025



NDA Update for CPX SSG

November 2025



Contents

1.0 NDA Stakeholder Update November 2025



NDA Stakeholder Update

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

Government Update

David Peattie, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Chief Executive Officer has informed the NDA Chair and Board of his intention to continue to serve the NDA group as its CEO until March 2027. He has shared his plans 18 months ahead of his intended departure to allow preparations to begin to find his replacement and ensure a smooth and comprehensive handover. As the CEO role is a government appointment a process will now be put in place to find a successor. The announcement can be found using the following link: [Leadership change at the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority - GOV.UK](#)

Outreach activities

Paul Vallance, Corporate Affairs Director for the NDA addressed the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Nuclear at the Palace of Westminster in early October. The event was attended by more than 20 parliamentarians interested in the nuclear sector. Paul updated on the following:

- The importance of decommissioning within the nuclear lifecycle.
- Resetting perceptions that decommissioning is a declining sector.
- The NDA Group's significant contribution to the UK Government's Plan for Change and economic growth.
- Euan Hutton highlighted Sellafield's role in energy and national security.
- Seth Kybrid outlined NTS's involvement in HALEU and the critical role of LLWR and GDF in completing the nuclear lifecycle.

The NDA group also hosted a Parliamentary reception in September at the Speakers House. The Rt. Hon. Sir Lindsay Hoyle hosted the event with speakers including Minister Shanks MP and former energy minister Andrew Bowie MP. David Peattie gave a keynote address to more than 150 guests to celebrate the NDA's achievements and milestones, and to mark the NDA's 20th anniversary.

Engagement priorities for 2025

As you are aware, the consultation on the NDA draft **Strategy 5** was launched on 7 August and closed on 29 September. 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. Once we have analysed all the comments the final document will be produced and published in March 2026.



This year's Stakeholder Summit was held virtually on 3 November. Marking the NDA's 20th anniversary, over 250 stakeholders joined the event with input from a range of speakers and panellists. The event was broken into 3 sessions and included key speakers from across the NDA and its Operating Companies as well as colleagues from the nuclear regulators.

Cross-Party Group

Met in September at HNA to update members on AGR transfer progress. Meeting was accompanied by sites tour of HNA/HNB and engagement with HNB workforce.

Next meeting of CPG will be on December 10th – 6pm at Scottish Parliament where main topic will be 'Skills update'.

SCCORS

The second meeting of the Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS) was held on 12 November in Glasgow. Amongst agenda items was an update on S5, future SCCORS engagement plans and consideration of Non-NDA Liabilities. A more detailed report on what was discussed will be given during the SSG meeting by David Wallace.

Festival of Politics

Held in August at the Scottish Parliament, the CPG hosted a public event celebrating 70 years of Dounreay titled – 'The Atomics – the story of Dounreay people'. The event was a sell-out and attended by members of Scottish SSGs as well as Scottish Government.

Publications, public service and policy updates

The NDA Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25 sets out the progress we're making 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.

As we mark our 20th anniversary, this year's report reflects a strong year of delivery across the NDA group with continued progress on our mission: safely decommissioning our sites, managing radioactive waste, and preparing to take on new responsibilities.

Key highlights from the last 12 months include:

- Sellafield is now removing waste from all four legacy ponds and silos – a major milestone in hazard reduction.
- Nuclear Waste Services is progressing with final capping at the LLW Repository.
- Visible skyline changes across the estate, including the demolition of Sizewell A's turbine hall.
- Ongoing work to identify a suitable site and community for a Geological Disposal Facility.



- Innovation in action: sail trials for NTS ships and autonomous security systems at Winfrith.
- Preparations continue for the transfer of the AGR fleet and potential decommissioning of the Vulcan site.

Additionally, we've seen improvements in safety, environmental performance, and cyber security, supported by the opening of a new cyber facility to boost collaboration.

2024/25 also saw another year of significant investment in our people and communities. We had a record early careers intake in 2025 with over 420 apprentices and 300 graduates. As well as that, we saw continued support for skills, schools, and supply chain development – part of our £49m annual investment. And finally, we saw the continued ongoing delivery of our Inclusion Strategy, with real progress on equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Read the report here: [Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Annual Report and Accounts 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

We are currently in the process of drafting the NDA Business Plan which we will publish toward the end of the year for an 8-week consultation between 8 December and 2 February. We will coordinate final publication of the Business Plan with the publication of the NDA Strategy 5 around Easter 2026.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat or raise with the NDA official at the SSG meeting.



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 2025

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Regulation Decommissioning, Fuel and Waste

Issue: 1

Published: October 2025

Record reference: 2025/36600

Foreword

This report is issued as part of our 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 our website: www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/lcsg-reports.

Our site inspectors 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 us via email at contact@onr.gov.uk.

Contents

1. Inspections 4

2. Routine matters 5

3. Non-routine matters..... 6

4. Regulatory activity 7

5. News from ONR 8

6. Contacts 8

References.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector made no inspections during the report period 1 July – 30 September 2025.

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); and
- 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, there were no routine inspections of Chapelcross.

Members of the public who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period can view site inspection records on our website:

www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records.

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. Other routine matters discussed during this period included:

- Decommissioning progress on the site; and
- Recent site safety matters.

3. Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. Our inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

There were no such matters or events of significance during the period.

4. Regulatory activity

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, we issue regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are usually collectively termed licence instruments but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

No licence instruments, enforcement notices or enforcement letters were issued during this period.

5. News from ONR

For the latest updates and information on our work, please subscribe to our regular email newsletter, ONR News, at www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter.

6. Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
Website: www.onr.org.uk
Email: contact@onr.gov.uk

This document is issued by ONR. For further information about us, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication, please email contact@onr.gov.uk.

If you wish to reuse this information, please visit www.onr.org.uk/access-to-information/copyright for details.

For published documents, the electronic copy on our website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.

Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update- Chapelcross

19th November 2025

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 NRS (Magnox Ltd) team on strategic issues have also continued as before.

SEPA has not undertaken an inspection at the Chapelcross site since the last SSG in August 2025.

SEPA continues in 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 inform the SSG when the public consultation starts.

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 since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

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 30 covers the year 2024 and can be accessed electronically at [RIFE 30, Radioactivity in Food and the Environment, 2024 - GOV.UK](#)

Dr David Stone

13/11/2025

Chapelcross Programme Update Report to Site Stakeholder Group

Date	11/11/2025	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 allocated 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. Strategic Development Partner 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 evaluated and a preferred development partner selected. Heads of Terms have now been agreed between the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and the development partner. A joint communications plan and press release are currently being prepared to announce the agreement. A contract negotiation period is currently underway that should see the partner in contract with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority early 2026. The development partner has commenced ecological investigations on site, with more intrusive surveys planned for the coming weeks. It is noted that the development partner will request to attend the next Site Stakeholder Group to outline their vision and plans for the site.			
Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period			
• NDA to conclude strategic developer partner contract • Public announcement on agreement to be released • Strategic development partner will conduct site investigations and gather initial data to inform delivery plans			

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE TO CHAPELCROSS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP – 19th NOVEMBER 2025

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING POLICY TEAM

Designation Directions for Decommissioning Hunterston B

We have been engaging with the DESNZ and the NDA on the amended Designation Direction that is required to transfer the Hunterston B site to the NDA for decommissioning, as required by the Energy Act 2004. A direction for Hunterston B was previously laid at the UK and Scottish Parliaments in 2021. This Direction allowed the NDA to undertake preparatory work before taking ownership of the Hunterston B site, including giving the NDA the necessary powers to be able to advise the UK and Scottish Governments regarding the future decommissioning of the site. This new Direction is required as it includes updated details following preparation work over the last few years and will enable the transfer in April next year. Scottish and UK Ministers will need to approve the new Direction, with the aim being for it then to be laid at both the UK and Scottish Parliaments early next year.

NDA Strategy V

Scottish Government are continuing to work with the NDA on the development of their Strategy V document, ensuring that Scottish Policy and practices are properly reflected. The public consultation closed on 29 September 2025. The document will need to be approved by both UK and Scottish Ministers, as well as being laid at both Parliaments, in accordance with the terms of the Energy Act 2004. The intention is to publish the Strategy in Spring 2026.

Parliamentary Business

The team has been dealing with some routine Parliamentary Questions regarding Scottish Ministers role in NDA governance. We have also had some parliamentary questions in relation to Scottish Ministers role in the potential transfer of Vulcan from the MoD to the NDA. The Parliamentary Questions and the responses can be found [here](#);

[Written question and answer: S6W-40499 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40558 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40500 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40557 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40556 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40559 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

Bill Kidd MSP also raised a Parliamentary Question regarding safety at Faslane following a number of media articles in relation to a reported incident at the Faslane base. Mr Kidds question and the SG response can be found here;

[Written question and answer: S6O-04914 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

Mr Kidd initiated a debate in parliament on the issue, which our team supported at parliament. The full transcript of the debate can be found here;

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-17-09-2025?meeting=16579&iob=141512>

Diane Hamilton
Scottish Government

Chapelcross Energy Transition Zone (SOSE) Update Report to Site Stakeholder Group**Progress this period****Summary**

Purchase of the former Zone 3 (17 acres) was successfully concluded in November 2023. Planning for roads, paths and drainage was granted in February 2025.

Hardies were appointed as contractors and completed the initial phase of roads and servicing works in April with the SUDS pond being completed in August. SPEN has installed the sub-stations and these are ready to be connected. Work continues with Scottish Water around drainage consents.

Green Cat Hydrogen is progressing a proposed development on 10 acres and has concluded its pre-planning consultation activity. They are preparing to submit a planning application for a green hydrogen generation facility imminently.

The remaining land is currently being marketed by DM Hall and can be found at

[For Sale - Serviced Industrial plots, Chapelcross, Annan - DM Hall Chartered Surveyors - Local property knowledge, expertly delivered](#)

There has been good interest in the remaining land but as yet no formal offers.

Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

- Continue to work with interested parties to develop out the remaining plots.

[Type here]

