



NDA Update for Sizewell SSG

March 2025



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NDA Stakeholder Update

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

Government Update

Following the re-establishment of Parliament in the Autumn the running of government the selection of representation for select committees has concluded alongside familiarisation visits for key Ministers and officials into their appointment areas.

Key appointments include local Sellafield MP Josh MacAlister as Parliamentary Private Secretary (an MP who serves as an unpaid assistant to a government minister) to The Rt Hon Pat McFadden MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations.

In his new role, Josh will now adhere to the Ministerial Code and will be expected to support the government in divisions in the House. His role will affect how he speaks publicly about the NDA, as Josh is unable to speak in the Commons on matters related to his department. While he can serve on select committees, Josh will be expected to withdraw himself from inquiries concerning the Cabinet Office. Worth noting Josh is was also Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Nuclear, which is has since stood down from, and a member of the DESNZ Select Committee.

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

David Peattie, along with Corhyn Parr and Euan Hutton, appeared before the ESNZ committee on the 18th December and answered questions on a wide variety of subjects connected to the NDAs mission. If you've not had a chance to watch proceedings, the hearing is available to view online [here](#).

Spending Review

John McNamara will give a verbal update on the Spending Review and NDA settlement

Outreach activities

- On the 15/16 January the UK decommissioning sector came together in Telford. On 15 January DECOM 25 took place with delegates from across the



decommissioning sector discussing a whole range of topics, including the development of the UK sites and the opportunities for the supply chain, the skills needed to succeed, decommissioning in other sectors and the challenges of preparing for the future of decommissioning. On 16 January there was an NDA supply chain event proving 1700 delegates the opportunity to connect with 300 exhibiting companies – one of the biggest supply chain events in the UK.

- Some stakeholders may be aware that the NDA recently launched its new on-line Stakeholder Survey. Field work continues and we will share key headlines from the survey in due course.
- The latest **Cross-Party Group** took place in the **Scottish Parliament** with the main topic being 'Radioactive Waste - dealing with the legacy'. Topics including how waste was generated, how it is dealt with in Scotland, movement of waste located in Scotland and non-energy sources of radioactive waste. There were around 40 attendees both in person and via Teams.

Engagement priorities for 2025

- The NDA celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, and we are planning some events around this. We would like to mark an SSG meeting at each site with a special presentation reviewing the progress over the last 20 years – more details to follow.
- We plan to communicate more on the SSG Review in the near future. There are four main areas of recommendations on how to modernise and provide more support to SSGs. 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.
- Nuclear week in Parliament took place at the end of January and was a very positive platform for engagement with parliamentarians. The NDA, Sellafield Ltd and NRS were all involved in special events and receptions during the week.
- As you will be aware preparation is underway for **Strategy V**. 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 strategy is planned to go out to consultation in May 2025.



- The NDA has been working closely with the Nuclear Industries Association (NIA) to establish a **Cross-Party Group on the Civil Nuclear Industry in the Welsh Parliament**. The first meeting took place on the 21st January.

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
- 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 **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 Public Accounts Committee will visit Sellafield in February with a hearing taking place later this Spring.
- 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 \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Following the publication of the Chapelcross masterplan in August 2024 the NDA has been leading work to identify a strategic partner for the development that will deliver the vision for the sites transformation into a green energy hub. We are now evaluating the proposals from potential partners and hope to be able to make an announcement this Spring.



- The NDA funded a [project](#) in North Wales which has delivered a range of successful outcomes for the low-carbon sector across North Wales. M-SParc's Egni team, based on Anglesey, has worked with a range of partners throughout the three-year programme to deliver impactful projects that support businesses, drive investment and educate the next generation.
- The Egni team was created in 2021 with a £360,000 grant from the NDA's Socio-Economic Fund. The team is now permanently established - with four full-time team members, four associate members and two interns - and will continue to meet the needs of the low-carbon sector as it develops in the future.

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
- 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.



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.



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