DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP **DSG/SRSG(2026)M002**

SITE RESTORATION SUBGROUP

Minutes of the DSG Site Restoration subgroup meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2026 at 19:00 in the Ormlie hub, Thurso and via MS Teams.

Alan Scott (AS)	Site restoration subgroup chair
Gillian Coghill (GC)	Socio economic subgroup chair
David Alexander (DA)	DSG chair
David Broughton (DB)	DSG site restoration vice chair
Niall Watson (NW)	NRS Dounreay Trade Unions
Christian Nicolson (CN)	NHS
David Craig (DC)	Caithness West Community Council
Tor Justad (TJ)	HANP

In attendance:

Alex Pitsillos (AP)	ONR (Vulcan)
Cdr Ian Walker (IW)	MOD Vulcan
Gillian McArthur (GM)	NRS Dounreay
Ferne Mill (FM)	NRS Dounreay
Tina Wrighton (TW)	NRS Dounreay
Govinder Sangha (GS)	ONR (Dounreay)
Stewart Ballantine (SB)	SEPA
CI Dave McIntosh (DM)	CNC

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

AS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson — Orkney Islands Council
- John Deighan — Co-opted member of the public
- Cllr Raymond Bremner — Highland Council
- Cllr Jan McEwan — Highland Council
- Frederic Stalin — NRS Dounreay
- William McGillivray — Thurso Community Council
- Ken Nicol — DSG co-opted member of the public

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes from the last meeting held in April were approved at the public meeting in June. There were no changes to the minutes.

4. ACTION STATUS

DSG/SESG(2026)M04/A01: Magnus to arrange a meeting with Alan Scott and reps from local businesses

The meeting took place on July 16. AS will report back to the group. Action closed.

5. DOUNREAY UPDATE

Dounreay: GM reported

Funding has allowed the return to routine, decommissioning and asset care plans all to go ahead. This has meant a larger number of staff is required and use of the supply chain also needed to fulfil these plans.

The site has delivered a target regarding the carbon bed filter – work is now complete

There are two targets at risk. Site is working with the supply chain to improve this.

There has been an increase in slips trips and falls - this is being taken seriously to improve on.

Reactors vent work is ongoing and engagement with the supply chain is positive.

Breeder equipment failure is now recovered.

FCA filter change is positively progressing.

AS welcomed questions.

AS would like to raise an action with Frederic to come to the business meeting to discuss drafting of the report. **(DSG_SRSG/M002/A001 Frederic to join next BM to discuss report drafting)**

DC thanked the site for the particle reporting and complimented this system working well. He also commented about the roads issue and the review that took place. Actions are ongoing regarding this. Discussion followed.

DB asked what the shaft and silo cell wall is and what the shaft ATW and ETP are. ETP is the effluent treatment plant, advance transition work is ATW, and cell walls are for waste processing.

DB then asked about the breeder route to Sellafield and asked if this has happened in the past, GM confirmed that it has been a considerable amount of time since this has happened so training is required using different furniture, so it is not a like for like movement.

TJ asked how the 5-year plan looks forward then into the 40-year plan. He asked what equipment failed within reactors. GM said the longer vision and full plan are done, the plan is currently only 5 years to ensure more certainty. Within reactors the issue was with a manipulator that was faulty. It is now fully functional.

TJ then asked for a list of tasks happening after 2036. GM will look and see what she can provide. A discussion followed regarding this. This action can be built into future reporting.

AS thanked GM for her update.

SEPA: SB reported

The site is in an ongoing process of closing out an enforcement notice.

An inspection of LLW stores took place, and the vaults teams have been doing inspections themselves of many different arrangements, all satisfactory.

AS asked how inspections are done remotely on Teams, SB said this is mostly paperwork and written arrangements.

AS thanked SB.

ONR: GS reported

The report was taken as read.

ONR has carried out four inspections: LC11, COMAH, corporate governance and asset management.

DA raised a question relating to safety on site. A discussion followed regarding the different factors of safety on site and what ONR look for while inspecting these areas. DA requested the business group have more contact with ONR.

AS asked about how the site have a green mark but also ongoing issues with certain aspects of site; GS said the current work is adequate, but the work is not yet complete. The inspection is taken to ensure work is heading in the right direction.

A discussion followed around safety leadership.

AS thanked GS.

CNC: DM reported

Initial foundation officer programme - 110 has gone from six people in pipeline to five.

There is a continuation of recruitment, this is being pushed heavily.

DM has shared the roads report with his team, they see causes for concerns and have presence in this area.

CNC attended a road traffic collision at the end of the Dounreay junction.

The budget for CNC had a £50k underspend for period 4.

AS asked what percentage of the candidates were local and DM said five are local and others are from the wider highland region.

AS thanked DM for his update.

7. **VULCAN UPDATE**

MOD Vulcan: IW reported

Report was taken as read.

There was one health and safety event a minor injury occurred.

No non compliances within environmental issues.

The actions to address the discrepancies with the discharge reports and the non-conformances raised by SEPA are close to completion. SEPA are scheduled to visit Site in September to discuss the progress and close out of the non-conformances

One of the Site buildings is currently being reclad, driven by the condition and LfE from Dounreay if the asset management invention was delayed too much. Further buildings are scheduled for significant works in the next 18 months.

Vulcan formal demonstration of its emergency arrangements was held as planned in June. A training exercise for Post Event/Transition to Recovery that was planned to be held on completion of the formal demonstration will now be held in October. The formal demonstration of the security arrangements is scheduled for November.

AS thanked IW.

Rolls Royce:

No one was in attendance from Rolls Royce.

Any questions will be put through the secretariat.

It was noted that the report content could be improved so TW will raise with the new general manager Scott Cameron.

SEPA: SB reported

Report taken as read.

AS thanked SB for his update.

ONR: AP reported

Continue to engage around construction, close out soon.

AS thanked AP for her update.

DNSR:

No one from DNSR attended the meeting. A question was raised from a member who could not attend.

Vulcan NRTE Lonestar 26 Level 1 Demonstration Exercise: Why does the DNSR not report their assessment of the exercise?

It was advised that the report for the subgroup was produced before a formal answer was provided.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING**

There had been no correspondence since the last meeting.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

DA discussed the site visit to meet the staff, roughly 17 members of the trade unions met with members of the business group. DA also met with the NRS exec team and the TUs - he found this session useful.

The NRS Dounreay vacancies were mentioned with 200 vacancies currently being advertised. GM said take action to speak to capability group, extra funding etc. A discussion followed regarding this.

The multi-agency exercise notice was discussed.

AS closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their input.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG_SRSG/M002/A01 Frederic to join next BM to discuss the NRS report

DSG/SRSG(2026)M02/A02: Discuss Rolls Royce report and improving content

DSG/SRSG(2026)M02/A03: Request a revised draft vacancies chart – clearer filters to show types of jobs

Alan Scott

Site Restoration subgroup chair

22 July 2026