



Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group

Date: Tuesday, 12 May 2026
Time: Refreshments 13:45hrs, meeting starts 14:00hrs
Location: Winfrith Village Hall, Winfrith Newburgh, Dorchester DT2 8LR

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction (Chairman) Barry Quinn (10)
 - (a) Apologies for absence
 - (b) Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising
2. NRS Winfrith Site Report – Site Director Gary Reid (20)
Including NRS update
3. Regulators:
 - (a) Office for Nuclear Regulations (ONR) Graham Simpson (10)
 - (b) Environment Agency (EA) Rebecca Cleverley (10)
4. Project Update – SGHWR Carl Ponder (10)
5. Any Other Business Barry Quinn (10)
 - Winfrith Constitution

Chairman: Barry Quinn
Communications Lead: Bethany Sear | **Email:** bethany.sear@nrservices.uk
Secretariat: Tonya Hughes | **Email:** winfrith.ssg@magnoxsites.com

Date of issue: 28/04/2026



WINFRITH SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)

Tuesday 18 November 2025

Winfrith Village Hall

Meeting reference SG36

Attendees:

Barry Quinn	SSG Chair
Nic Johnson	Vice Chair and representative of Winfrith Parish Council
Gary Reid	NRS – Regional Site Director
Will Matheson	NRS - Regional EHSS&Q Manager
Emma Burwood	NRS - Employee Communications Manager
Bethany Sear	NRS - Harwell & Winfrith Site Communications
Debbie Paterson	NRS - Minutes
Matt Meldrum	NRS - Principal Waste Consultant
Jo Hodgson	NRS - Environmental Impact Assessment Lead
Alastair Findlay	NDA - Head of Regional Affairs
Elly Joyce	NRS - Site End State Manager Harwell & Winfrith
Stuart Clark	NRS - Property Manager
Rebecca Cleverley	Environment Agency (EA)
Graham Simpson	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Graham Duggan	Dorset Council
Irene Atkins	Parish Council
Ruth Evans	Resident
Cherry Coady	Resident
John Yonwin	Winfrith Parish Council
Keith Hislop	Resident
Eleanor Godsear	Dorset Council
Helen Hecus	Dorset Council

Apologies for absence – Andrew Buckingham (Owermoigne Parish Council), Rob Coan (NRS - Winfrith Site Manager) and James Heavingham (Environment Agency).

1. Welcome and Introduction – Barry Quinn

Barry Quinn welcomed attendees to the meeting.

- In preparation for today's meeting, the event was publicised on local Facebook community pages with our neighbouring parishes to promote engagement and inclusivity with local communities who are affiliated with the SSG.
- The SSG Chair/Vice Chair continue to receive regular site updates from Gary Reid, NRS Regional Site Director and Bethany Sear, NRS Harwell and Winfrith Site Communications both in person and via Teams.
- The SSG Chair and Deputy Chair were unable to attend the SSG/NDA Chairs meeting in July 2025 in Manchester due to health reasons and prior commitments.
- A response had been sent to the Environment Agency as part of the consultation process regarding the on-site disposal of waste prior to the planning application

being submitted by NRS to Dorset Council. An attempt was made to address misinformation on social media about the plans.

- The Chair and Vice Chair had attended a number of Teams meetings including a briefing on the NDA Draft Strategy for 2026 and had commented on the document. In line with other sites, the Constitution had been updated and is pending NDA feedback.
- The SSG Chair and Deputy Chair were informed at the beginning of November 2025 that a small number of NDA staff had chosen to take the Mutually Agreed Voluntary Exit (MAVE) scheme. This included John McNamara who has been the stakeholder lead for several years. A Chairs meeting was held via Teams on the 14 November 2025 to discuss the way forward. John McNamara had agreed to remain in post until March 2026 to ensure a smooth transition to his replacement who had not yet been identified.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

2. Winfrith Site Report – Gary Reid

Gary Reid introduced himself to the meeting. Updates were given on the following:

Health, Safety, Security, Environment & Quality Safety

- Additional sampling continues to be undertaken at the River Win. Tritium results had reduced since the previous SSG meeting.
- Gaseous and liquid effluent discharges from Site remain well within permitted limits with no observable trends.
- No significant issues with onsite safety and security and none raised via the Health and Safety committee (HESAC) since the previous meeting.
- Site Safety and Site Security exercises rated adequate.

Regulatory Topics

- EA inspections covering Low Activity Wastes, Environmental Monitoring Programme. No non-compliances noted.
- EA inspection on NRS written arrangements to support permit surrender – some minor issues to work through.
- ONR inspections covering physical and cyber security rated adequate.

Site Operations - Current Activities

- SGHWR reactor decommissioning.
- DRAGON reactor decommissioning.
- Waste – processing / consignment / legacy waste reduction.
- Plant and Structures – ALES operations and Decommissioning.
- DASA – Autonomous Security System trials.
- Thorium Project – Encapsulation trials.
- Asset Care – ALES Fire detection upgrade (Complete), Main Gate reconfiguration (Design) and roof / gutter repairs to building A544.

SGHWR

- Engineering effort currently focussed on underpinning design opportunities.
- Structural alterations continue within the facility.
- Decommissioning has continued with the ongoing removal of items.

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- Building alternations have continued in A544 as part of the reconfiguration to support decommissioning activities.

Mini-MILWEP

- Currently forecast to be delivered by the end of 2025. External cladding for the building had completed, control Cabin and EC&I Cabins were in place, the internal shield workstation had been installed and electrical installation works continue.

DRAGON

- Dragon is currently in the process of remotely removing the core of the reactor using a robotic arm and laser cutter. Work had drawn significant interest from across the global nuclear industry. An invitation was given to those who would be interested in visiting the site to view cutting operations. To convey an interest, please contact Bethany Sear. Bethany.Sear@nrservices.uk

Plant & Structures (P&S)

- Active Process Holding Tank (APHT) isolation, sludge clearance and removal of loose contamination had completed. Dismantling of structure FY2026/27.
- A51/52 Alpha contaminated pipe foam filled and decommissioned.
- A55 Redundant discharge pipe to ALES had been sampled and was with the laboratory for analysis.
- Blacknoll Reservoir – Infill donor soils had been sampled to prepare geotechnical report. Full Planning application was in the preparation stage. Schedule for demolition subject to funding priorities but unlikely to commence before Winter 2027.
- Sea Pipeline Decommissioning currently paused due to funding strategy.

Other

- Recruitment for 2025 under review as part of the current Business Planning cycle.
- 1 x Project Management (Level 6 / degree) apprentice joined in 2024 (4 year apprenticeship).
- 3 x Health Physics Monitor apprentices joined September 2025 (2 year apprenticeship).
- Winfrith Community Event.

DASA – Autonomous Security System Trials

- Supplier innovations are deployed onsite and were 10 months into their test and evaluation period.
- Mid-trial showcase with government bodies on the 25 / 26 June 2025 where suppliers had demonstrated their innovation capabilities to a range of Government stakeholders was well received. Final showcase at the end of January 2026.

Sustainability

- Solar hybrid generators had been installed to provide power to four projects operating at remote locations onsite. Cost saving of £71,800 in diesel for the period from 01 January 2025 to 01 October 2025 which equates to 132 tonnes of CO2 emissions.
- A series of nature walking routes had been mapped out so staff can enjoy the diverse array of plants and animals onsite during their lunchtime walks.

Magnox Socio-economic Funding Support 2025-2026

Winfrith funded projects to date = £41,298.00

- Ongoing multi-year support for Dorset Wildlife Trust Heathland Heritage Traineeships scheme - £26,910
- Winfrith Newburgh and East Knighton Parish Council towards replacing children's playground - £8,000
- Good neighbour projects - 5 projects totalling £6,388
- Funds for FY2025/26 had been allocated

For further information please go to:

[NRS working with our communities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/nrs-working-with-our-communities)

End State status update

- 2013 - Development discussions on how to achieve End State and the next planned land use taking into account a range of sustainability factors. 10+ years of technical assessment and stakeholder engagement.
- Environmental Permit applications submitted in December 2024. EA consultation period closed 05 September 2025. A range of publicity and some media interest. Awaiting EA technical feedback on the application.
- Planning application nearing completion.

Questions?

Q1: I received a letter regarding today's meeting which referred to the planning application, but it did not provide any detailed information around the planning application.

A1: Details around the planning application would be explained during the Winfrith End State presentation by Jo Hodgson.

Q2: Who would be consulted should any future planning applications be received to build housing in the vicinity of the pipeline?

A2: The Weld Estate would be consulted as part of the planning application process.

Q3: How many staff are based on the Winfrith site?

A3: There are approximately 150 / 200 staff and contractors working on site on any given day.

Q4: In the presentation, you mentioned that interest had been expressed in using the land for a Hydrogen processing plant.

A4: Winfrith was considered as a suitable site due to its access to rail connections, proximity of sea water and land. Discussions were in the early stages.

Q5: Following the recent announcement that Wylfa had been selected as the site of the UK's first small modular reactor (SMR), could Winfrith be considered as a suitable site?

A5: The preferred sites had already been selected. Wylfa is a vast site and Winfrith may be considered as being too small. The vision has always been that the Winfrith site would revert to heathland. As the saying goes never say never.

3. NDA Report – Alastair Findlay

The NDA Report had been issued prior the meeting and can be found by clicking on the link. [Site Stakeholder Groups \(magnoxstakeholdergroups.com\)](https://magnoxstakeholdergroups.com)

- Draft Strategy 5 launched in August 2025. Comments closed 29 September 2025. A good level of responses had been received. Final document expected to be published in March 2026.
- Strategic spending review in June 2025.
- Mutually Agreed Voluntary Exit scheme (MAVE) introduced to create efficiencies across NDA / NRS.
- New Nuclear Minister – Lord Patrick Vallance.
- Working closely with the new SMR development at Wylfa.

4a) Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) – Graham Simpson

- Asset Management themed inspection in November 2024 rated adequate.
- Physical / Cyber Security inspection in July 2025 rated adequate.
- Fire Regulatory Reform audit in July 2025 rated adequate. Minor improvements noted.
- Positive culture of reporting low level incidents on site to regulators noted.

The ONR Report had been issued prior the meeting and can be found by clicking on the link. [Site Stakeholder Groups \(magnoxstakeholdergroups.com\)](https://magnoxstakeholdergroups.com)

4b) Environment Agency (EA) – Rebecca Cleverley

- Weekly joint catch up meetings continue with Harwell & Winfrith.
- Recent inspections include Solid Waste Disposals and Management Arrangements. No non-compliances noted.
- Responses to the Permit Application would be reviewed by James Heavingham and specialists from the waste assessment teams. An update would be provided at the next SSG meeting.

The EA Report had been issued prior to the meeting and can be found by clicking on the link
[Site Stakeholder Groups \(magnoxstakeholdergroups.com\)](https://magnoxstakeholdergroups.com)

5. Project Update – Winfrith End State – Update on end state proposals and Planning Applications - Jo Hodgson

A presentation was provided which outlined the Planning Application for development required to support the continued decommissioning and restoration of the Winfrith site.

This included:

- What the application covers.
- Planning and permitting
- Timescales and submission documents.

[Insert link to the presentation?](#)

Questions?

Q6: When will End State be achieved?

A6: End State is expected to be achieved by 2040 subject to funding.

Q7: Are there any restrictions on the future use of the land for example for housing?

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A7: The model for any future land use is included as part of the Permit Application. The intention is that the land will be returned to heathland.

Q8: Would it be safe to build a house on the land? Would you want to live there?

A8: Yes. Radiation levels are less than you would receive when undergoing a dental x-ray.

Q9: Would the pine trees be removed when the land is returned to heathland?

A9: Yes. The pine trees would be removed as they are a non-native species.

Q10: As an owner of a property on Blacknoll, there is a covenant attached to my property which states I am unable to build on the land while the Winfrith site remains. When End State is achieved would the covenant become null and void?

A10: When the land is no longer designated as a licensed site, the local authority may lift any restrictions in place. You should seek your own legal advice.

Q11: Once decommissioning has completed, are there any considerations in place to carry out radioactive monitoring of dry materials and water monitoring?

A11: Yes. Climate change scenarios including flood modelling for several hundred years have been included in the plan.

Q12: The current Planning Application does not appear to provide for a Hydrogen processing plant?

A12: It has taken 7 years to reach the Planning Application stage. In the event the land is earmarked for alternative use, a new Planning Application would need to be submitted.

Q13: Could NRS personnel be available to attend Parish Council meetings to discuss the Planning Application for disposals as this would help address any questions.

A13: Yes.

6. Any Other Business – Barry Quinn

Barry Quinn thanked attendees for their participation and hoped they found the meeting useful. He commented that from the presentations and reports provided we could be reassured that the site continues to be operated in a safe and secure manner.

The question was asked if it were possible to have more prior notice of future meetings as the letter informing residents of today's meeting was only received two days ago. It was noted that while the meeting is publicised on social media, not all residents have access.

It was suggested that future meeting dates could be published in Parish magazines. The cut-off date for publication is the 15th of each month.

Date of Next Meeting – 12 May 2026 (to be confirmed)



Office for
Nuclear Regulation

ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd – Winfrith

ONR site report

Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd - Winfrith

Report for period: 1 July – 31 December 2025

Authored by: Nominated Site Inspector

Approved by: Head of Safety Regulation, DFW Subdivision

Issue: 1

Published: April 2026

Record reference: YYYY/XXXXX

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 Winfrith 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 Winfrith 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.

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1. Inspections

1.1. Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector made inspections on the following dates during the report period 1 July to 31 December 2025:

- 29 July 2025
- 15 October 2025
- 3 December 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, routine inspections of Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd Winfrith site covered the following:

- Fire Safety;
- Security emergency arrangements and Cyber preparedness.

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, our nominated site safety inspector held regular meetings with the leadership team at Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd Winfrith to maintain situational awareness of matters related to nuclear and conventional health and safety. We have undertaken a review of our regulatory approach covering the Harwell site in accordance with the principles of RITE (Risk-Informed Targeted Engagement). In summary, we will be focusing more attention on conventional health and safety than nuclear safety, in line with current safety risks, and holding Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd to account for the delivery of decommissioning.

The key outcomes of the review in to the regulatory approach affecting Winfrith were as follows:

- We will have an increased focus on conventional health and safety rather than predominantly nuclear safety, in line with current site risks. For example this will mean that we will not permission major projects unless they have a significant nuclear safety component. Rather, we will regulate them under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, in particular the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015.
- Regarding nuclear safety, we will target the following subset of licence conditions at Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd sites:
 - LC10 – Training
 - LC12 – Duly authorised and other suitably qualified and experienced persons
 - LC17 – Management systems
 - LC28 – Examination, inspection, maintenance and testing
 - LC32 – Accumulation of radioactive waste
 - LC34 – Leakage and escape of radioactive material and radioactive waste
 - LC35 – Decommissioning
 - LC36 – Organisational capability

However, all the licence conditions will still apply and we reserve the right to inspect against any of the licence conditions in the future should the need arise.

- We will conduct more themed inspections rather than inspections focused on a single licence condition. This is expected to reduce the number of inspections undertaken at Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd sites.
- We will strengthen the way we work with the Nuclear Restoration Services Ltd internal oversight team, to leverage increased assurance from them of day-to-day safety, consistent with our enabling regulatory approach.

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.

Reports detailing the above regulatory decisions can be found on our website: www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports.

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
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Merseyside
L20 7HS
Website: www.onr.org.uk
Email: contact@onr.gov.uk

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References

There are no sources in the current document.

Environment Agency report

Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group

May 2026

This report covers the Environment Agency's regulation of the Winfrith Nuclear permitted site since the last SSG report and meeting in November 2025.

Radioactive substances regulation

We regulate processes and systems associated with radioactive waste disposals. We do this through environmental permits that contain conditions and limits the operator must comply with, to minimise wastes and protect people and the wider environment. We check compliance with the permits through routine interaction with the operator and by undertaking regulatory inspections.

Working with colleagues across the Environment Agency, we also regulate and control other activities through our environmental permits, including surface and groundwater discharges. Through our corporate objectives, aims and general duties, we also provide advice and guidance to protect or enhance the wider environment and support sustainable development.

Regulatory compliance interactions are recorded in Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs). These summarise the type of work we have undertaken, describe any non-compliance or observations and good practice, and include actions or recommendations from our findings. They are public register records and can be provided on request (please see the 'further information' section at the end of this document to find out how to request public register records-in the link below).

Permitting

Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) Winfrith hold permits under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR): one covers Environment Agency regulated radiological discharges and waste transfers from the site (the Radioactive Substances Regulation (RSR) EPR permit); the others cover the discharge of non-radiological aqueous effluent via the Winfrith Sea Pipeline (the EPR water discharge permit).

Winfrith permit variation update

As previously reported to the SSG, NRS has applied to the Environment Agency to vary (change) its existing RSR Environmental Permit to allow it to make a small number of specified on-site disposals of solid radioactive waste at the Winfrith site. The application has been made to enable the partial infilling of the below-ground voids of the Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHWR) and Dragon Reactor with low-level radioactive waste from on-site demolition operations.

A separate 'Deposit for Recovery' permit application has also been made to cover the reuse on site of non-radiological and non-hazardous construction and demolition waste from the site. Waste recovery on land, or 'deposit for recovery', is when a company uses waste material in place of non-waste material it would otherwise have used to perform a function.

A key part of the decision-making process is checking whether on-site disposals of waste are optimised and can be implemented in a safe and compliant manner. Optimisation is the principle of ensuring that all exposures to radiation of any members of the public, and of the population as a whole, are kept as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA), taking account of economic and social factors. This principle is incorporated into UK law and balances reductions in the potential harm associated with the radioactivity against any broader benefits

customer service line **03708 506 506**

incident hotline **0800 80 70 60**

flood line **03459 88 11 88**

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to society, the economy, and the environment. We want to be assured that this proposed disposal route is the right thing to do considering social, economic, and environmental factors whilst ensuring that people and the environment are protected.

The nature of the radioactive waste

Both the SGHWR and Dragon reactors have large sub-surface structures or basements constructed from reinforced concrete. NRS plans to demolish all remaining site buildings, including the reactor buildings, to ground level. At SGHWR and Dragon, the plan is to use the wastes produced from the demolition of the above-ground structures to backfill the sub-surface structures. Some of the concrete floors and walls of the sub-surface structures have low levels of radioactive contamination. NRS is not proposing to dispose of any other type of radioactive waste on site or import radioactive waste from other locations. NRS has said that most of the radioactive waste will be Very Low Level Waste (VLLW) with a smaller proportion of Low Level Waste (LLW).

It should be noted that most of the demolition waste will not be radioactive and NRS has also applied for a 'Deposit for Recovery' Environmental Permit to allow it to use this non-radioactive demolition waste material to infill the sub-surface structures.

Permit determination update

Specialists from our Nuclear Waste Assessment team are continuing to review the information that NRS has submitted to support its permit variation application. On 10 March 2026, we issued a notice of request for more information to NRS. This was done because we required additional information and assurance on some aspects of the proposed waste disposals, such as the management and operating techniques that NRS will use. We are expecting NRS's response to this notice on or before 10 June 2026. We will consult the public again when we have made a draft decision on the applications.

The distinction between the permit applications and the planning application

NRS have requested provisions in environmental permits to allow it to dispose of demolition waste on site, in the sub-surface structures of SGHWR and Dragon only. The planning application will consider the restoration of the site taken as a whole. The permit determination process is independent of planning process.

Regulatory and compliance activities

We check compliance with the permits through regular contact with the operator and through site meetings and inspections. We also receive and assess a range of monthly reports from the site. For all inspections, we issue RASCAR reports.

We continue to hold weekly (virtual) meetings with the NRS environment team and the internal assurance regulator. This helps us to ensure permit compliance and reporting requirements remain fit for purpose during ongoing decommissioning work and assess emerging issues and progress with actions.

We hold monthly meetings with the site's nominated inspector for the Officer for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) to maintain good communications, and to make the most of opportunities to work together. This can help to minimise the burden on NRS of supporting multiple regulatory visits on the same subject.

In March, we attended the Quarterly Regulators' Meeting along with ONR. This is a regular meeting where NRS formally reports its progress to us on a set of metrics of interest to both regulators.

We also work closely with the Winfrith Site End State team and other relevant stakeholders (including Dorset Council, Natural England and ONR) to facilitate planning for the site's final stage decommissioning work. This work is required to meet the Environment Agency guidance on requirements for release of the site from radioactive substances regulation (once all the relevant decommissioning work and verification monitoring has been completed). Whilst the precise end state date for the site is still to be confirmed, preparatory work to achieve final stage decommissioning continues.

We have not undertaken a formal inspection since our last SSG report. We deferred our planned asset management inspection for Q4 2025/26 to the 2026/27 regulatory year to tie in with the same inspection being planned for Harwell.

Discharge reports

The site's environmental permit requires NRS to use Best Available Techniques (BAT) to minimise generation of radioactive waste and minimise any permitted releases into the environment. The site is required to report permitted liquid and gaseous discharges to the environment on a regular (quarterly) basis. We assess these reports and produce a RASCAR on our findings.

Limits are set in the Winfrith EPR permit to control the maximum level of radioactivity that can be discharged to atmosphere as a gaseous discharge or to sea, through the Winfrith Sea Pipeline.

Liquid effluent discharged to the sea at Arish Mell via the Active Liquid Effluent System (ALES) and Winfrith Sea Pipeline remain below 1% of permitted limits.

Atmospheric discharges also remain compliant and below 3% of permitted limits. Although these discharges remain low, it is noted that the relative level of these gaseous discharges may fluctuate as the decommissioning programmes progress.

Environmental impact

Environmental monitoring reports

The site environmental permit requires the operator to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment. NRS provides us with quarterly environmental monitoring reports for a variety of locations and types of samples.

NRS did not provide grass sampling results in the Q3 environmental monitoring report as it should have done. Samples were taken in the correct quarter as specified in the site's environmental monitoring programme. NRS has reviewed the reasons for the omission of grass sampling results from the Q3 return, which stem from an update to the environmental monitoring programme. It has updated its arrangements to ensure that future returns will be complete on first submission. We have accepted the reissue of the Q3 return which included grass sampling results for 2025.

Monitoring undertaken by the operator, since the last SSG indicates that the environmental impact from the permitted discharges remains low.

Radioactivity in Food and the Environment report

The Environment Agencies and Food Standards Agency also conduct independent environmental monitoring around nuclear sites. These monitoring programmes support our regulatory function and provide reassurance that public radiation exposures are within legal limits. The results of this work are published annually and the latest report, *Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2024* (RIFE 30), was published on the GOV.UK website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports/rife-30-radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-2024>

The current edition of RIFE contains information on radiation exposures (dose) to the public and radioactivity levels in the environment in 2024, from nuclear sites and other industrial and landfill activities.

Radiation doses to the most exposed people are calculated and measured using radioactivity concentrations in samples of food and the environment collected around UK nuclear licensed sites, external dose rates from radiation in sediments, and information on the habits of people living locally around the sites.

The report for 2024 continues to show that total doses to the public, from permitted discharges and direct radiation around UK nuclear sites, remained below the annual legal limit to protect members of the public (set at 1 millisievert per annum (mSv)). Radioactivity from natural background, rather than nuclear sites, continues to be the more significant source of exposure to communities in all areas of the UK.

The 2024 data from RIFE 30 for Winfrith, indicates that the total dose to individuals and members of the public from all pathways and sources of radiation from the site was 0.015 mSv. This is a decrease from 0.054 mSv in 2023. For the Winfrith site, the representative person in 2024 was an adult living near the site, which is the same potential exposure pathway as identified in previous years.

The primary source for the attributed dose is from direct radiation from site operational activities rather than discharges and emissions. The decrease in 'total dose' in 2024 was mainly attributed to a lower estimate of direct radiation from the site, compared to that in 2023.

Within the overall estimates for total dose, exposures associated with the permitted aqueous or gaseous discharges from the site, remain a very small component of the total dose. On decommissioning sites that total dose will vary over time depending on activities required to achieve the end state.

Incidents and enforcement

Waste shipments dispatched with incorrect radionuclide inventory

As previously reported to the SSG, we have been reviewing an event where NRS identified a consignment of drums removed from site in October 2024 did not have a complete radionuclide fingerprint. Two radionuclides were not reported in the inventory although these only accounted for less than 0.1% of the total activity. There was no direct environmental impact from this error. The drums were suitably packaged, transported, and complied with the waste acceptance criteria for disposal at the receiving site. At the time of the last SSG, the error had been identified as a potential breach of permit, and we have now concluded that this is the case. We have scored this as two category 4 non-compliances. A category 4 non-compliance is defined as one with no potential for impact on human health or the environment. Our regulatory action following this event is to provide regulatory advice and guidance. NRS has put a number of actions in place to improve its arrangements and prevent any recurrence. We have provided further actions to ensure these are completed in a timely manner.

More information on how we score non-compliances is available on GOV.UK here: [Radioactive substances activities: assessing environmental permit compliance - GOV.UK](#)

Further details

A public register service covering all aspects of the Environment Agency's work is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/index>

Further information on our role in regulating the use of radioactive substances and related activities on nuclear licensed sites can be found on the Environment Agency pages of the Gov.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-regulation-in-the-environment-agency>

Our enforcement and sanctions policy is publicly available on the GOV.UK website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy>

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has placed guidance on ionising radiation dose comparisons on the GOV.UK at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-dose-comparisons>

UKHSA has updated its publication *Living with Radiation*, which is available online here: [UKHSA: Living with radiation](#)

The Environment Agency's lead Nuclear Regulator for the NRS Winfrith site is Rebecca Cleverley. Rebecca works within the national Nuclear Regulation Group ((NRG South)), based at the Environment Agency's Wallingford office in Oxfordshire.

James Heavingham will be leading the Winfrith permit variation and deposit for recovery application process as the Permit Project Manager.

NRG (South) undertakes environmental regulation of radioactive substances on nuclear licensed sites in southern England. It works closely with external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation and local Environment Agency teams that cover other general (non-radioactive substances) environment protection matters such as regulation of groundwater, contaminated land, waste management, and water abstraction. Contacts for these activities can be arranged through Rebecca.

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Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) Constitution (February 2026)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Winfrith SSG is an independent standing forum which is part of formal arrangements for communication between the local community, Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) as the site operating company, and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA). This Constitution has been drafted in accordance with the NDA guidelines for SSGs issued on 26 June 2025.
- 1.2 The meeting has the overarching aim of ensuring that the NDA's interactions with the local community are conducted openly and transparently and that decisions taken by the NDA are informed by the views of the local community. The SSG will not have a formal decision-making role in respect of site activities, but it will be responsible for reflecting local views by inputting advice, expressing opinions and commenting on the progress of work on the site.
- 1.3 The NDA also supports the view of the SSG Forum, that the meetings are fundamentally "open to all, and all are welcome". It is in the interests of the operators, the regulators, and not least the host community itself to aim for an inclusive approach to scrutinising the work of the nuclear industry and its regulators.
- 1.4 The primary objectives of the SSG are:

	Objective	Examples of how this could be delivered
1	Scrutiny - To provide an opportunity for questioning the operators, NDA, operating company, regulators and the supply chain on behalf of the community.	- Information circulated by NDA, operating company or regulators on local or national issues. - Presentations, briefing papers and structured questioning time.
2	To receive and comment on progress reports and forward plans for the sites.	- Receive updates on site progress. - Request updates on issues of interest.
3	To represent the views of the local community through the provision of timely advice to NDA, operators and regulators.	- Represent local views at local and national level: e.g. National Stakeholder Summits, SSG Chairs' Forum, as well as SSG meetings and other ad hoc meetings. - Raising issues of local concern. - Responding to NDA consultations.

		• Input on site socio-economic fund applications.
4	To act as a two-way conduit for information between the Members and the operating company, NDA and the regulators.	• Representatives are expected to give feedback from SSG meetings to members of their organisations in a timely and impartial manner; circulate the minutes of SSG meetings and other relevant paperwork to the organisations they represent; and represent the views of their organisations at SSG meetings, including asking relevant questions on their behalf.
5	Respond to NDA consultations (and Other relevant consultations as required) in a timely manner.	• Circulating the consultation and relevant supporting information to SSG members in good time to allow proper consideration of the issues at hand. • Receiving presentations and/or briefings from NDA staff as required. • Ensuring the SSG responds in a timely manner to consultations, reflecting the full balance of views expressed by the membership rather than trying to seek a consensus.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Membership of the Winfrith SSG (see Appendix 1) will include elected representatives of the local community such as Parish, and Dorset councillors. Attendees may also include nominated Dorset Council officers, the Emergency services, regulators, union representatives, the business community, the NDA and other identified stakeholders as appropriate. In particular, opportunity will be given for a representative of local Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) to be a full member of the SSG. Organisations that warrant inclusion on the SSG must have a clearly defined local interest in the Winfrith site operations supported by a formal constitution and not duplicate the roles of other organisations.
- 2.2 All members of the SSG will be appointed and subject to renewal by agreement. The Chair and Vice Chair (independent of both the contractor and the NDA) will be elected from the main body of the SSG and be subject to re-appointment every 5 years. Election will be by simple majority vote of members.
- 2.3 The Secretariat will inform members at least one month before the meeting detailing the purpose and the process of the elections to appoint a Chair and a Vice Chair. Each Member is entitled to one nomination per position. Nominees must be SSG Members and should consent to their nomination. If only one named nomination is received, the person nominated shall be deemed to have

been appointed and no election will be required. An anonymous ballot vote should be held at the next meeting. Elections will be decided on a simple majority basis. In the event of more than one candidate receiving the same number of votes, the successful candidate shall be decided by lot.

- 2.4 It will be the responsibility of the Winfrith SSG Chair and deputy to keep committee membership under review to maintain a correct balance of interests, experience and expertise as the site changes during decommissioning. Admission of new members will be an agenda item notified in advance and subject to a vote. The SSG will be required to agree (with the NDA) and publish this constitution, detailed terms of reference and code of conduct for meetings.

3. Duties of Members

- 3.1 As representatives of their constituents, Winfrith SSG members will be expected to fully represent their views and will be accountable for communicating both ways with their constituencies.
- 3.2 Members shall represent an organisation or community of interest which warrants inclusion on the SSG.
- 3.3 Be willing to abide by the code of conduct (appendix 2) of this constitution.
- 3.4 The Winfrith SSG meeting is open to the public who can ask questions and join discussions with members where appropriate. This participation is to be encouraged but is at the discretion of the Chair; only SSG members will have voting rights.

4. Duties of the Winfrith SSG Chair

- 4.1 The Chair is independent of the NDA group i.e not employed by the NDA or the operating company and is responsible for:
- Upholding the SSG's constitution in its entirety.
 - Ensuring that the agendas meet the needs of stakeholders, SSG members, site operator and NDA in the context of the SSG objectives.
 - Managing SSG meetings to ensure a balance of views is heard and that all members are able to contribute to discussions.
 - Liaise with the secretariat to enable the development of both new and existing members through appropriate training, site visits and other support.
 - In conjunction with other nominees, representing the SSG at national level and other meetings as required.
 - Circulating updates to SSG members from any relevant meetings they attend.
 - Assist the secretariat in assessing SSG activity requirements for the year ahead.
 - Code of Conduct for SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs
- 4.2 Ensuring SSG subgroups are formed if and when required, following approval by the NDA. Consideration will be given to use of virtual platforms if appropriate to reduce costs and secretariat resources. Membership will reflect that of the SSG as appropriate, and any outcomes will be fed back to the main SSG with an opportunity for discussion.

- 4.3 The Chair must be transparent about any conflicts of interest, by declaring them at the start of SSG meetings.

5. Duties of the Winfrith SSG Vice Chair

- 5.1 The Vice Chair is responsible for:

- Covering the accountabilities of the Chair in the Chair's absence.
- Provide support to the Chair.
- In conjunction with other nominees, representing the SSG at national level and other meetings as required.
- Upholding the SSG's constitution in its entirety.

- 5.2 The Vice Chair must be transparent about any conflicts of interest, by declaring them at the start of SSG meetings.

6. Duties of the Secretariat

- 6.1 NRS will provide secretarial support funded by the NDA through the site operation contract. The secretarial support would normally include:

- Administering Winfrith SSG meeting dates, venue and refreshments
- Reimbursing agreed out of pocket expenses for members on SSG business
- Booking travel tickets and accommodation for members on SSG business
- Administering the emolument for the Chair and Deputy Chair
- Drafting and promptly publishing minutes from the SSG and other related meetings
- Circulating papers to members as required
- Organising site visits for members, inductions and training for new members

7. Funding of SSG Activities

- 7.1 In order to carry out its role effectively the Winfrith SSG will be funded by the NDA through the site contract (and budget) as an identified allowable expense, including the provision of secretarial/admin support. SSG activities and their associated costs will be included in the Near-Term Work Plan and be subject to review as with all other planned activities on site.

- 7.2 To reduce barriers to engagement, members of the SSG will be entitled to claim out of pocket expenses to attend meetings away from the Winfrith site. NDA will consider reimbursement of other expenses on a strictly case by case basis.

8. Frequency and Location of Meetings

- 8.1 The Winfrith SSG will meet at least twice per year but depending on site circumstances and the wishes of the meeting itself, the SSG may decide to meet more frequently, for example during periods of rapid change on the site, or to deal with specific issues. Depending on the needs of the local community, current issues and the status of the site, the SSG Chair will be expected to convene special meetings at different times and in different locations to allow wider input of local views.

- 8.2 The Winfrith SSG, will normally meet in Winfrith Village Hall as it is the most easily accessible venue for Stakeholders. While the NDA Group supports face to face meetings, SSGs are encouraged to make more use of virtual or hybrid meetings on occasions, to enable attendance from as wide a range of stakeholders possible. Where possible, there should be the facility for presenters to call in via on line means to give presentations if they are not able to attend in person but it is recognised that Winfrith Village Hall may not be suitable for hybrid meetings.

9. Building Capacity

- 9.1 In order for the Winfrith SSG to function effectively, members will be given induction training to understand site activities and the processes used to manage decommissioning. In the event that the SSG decides to set up working groups to consider specific topics on behalf of the SSG or if there is a need to refresh member's knowledge, additional support or training will be given as necessary.

10. Representation at National Meetings

- 10.1 The Winfrith SSG will nominate two members to formally represent the SSG at the NDA National Stakeholder level. Although this would normally be the Chair plus Vice Chair each SSG has the ability to nominate whomsoever they like.

Signed Barry Quinn (Winfrith SSG Chair)

Date: 1 March 2026

Appendix 1**Winfrith SSG Membership – August 2025**

Organisation	No of Members
Dorset Council	2
Coombe Keynes Parish Meeting	1
East Stoke Parish Council	1
East Lulworth Parish Council	1
Owermoigne Parish Council	1
Moreton Parish Council	1
West Lulworth Parish Council	1
Winfrith Parish Council	1
Wool Parish Council	1
Tradebe – Inutec	1
Lulworth Estate	1
MOD	1
Prospect (Trade Union)	1
CPRE	1
Natural England	1
Dorset Wildlife Trust	1
Dorset Innovation Park	1

Appendix 2

Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group Code of Conduct

Participants of the Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group agree to adhere to the following code of conduct:

- Respect each person both during and outside of the SSG meeting.
- Prepare for the meeting by reading the agenda and reports.
- Participate fully in the meeting.
- Listen to what others have to say and keep an open mind.
- Do not talk while others are talking – allow people their say.
- Contribute positively to the discussions.
- Try to be concise and avoid speeches.
- Challenge only ideas, not people.
- It is the Chair's responsibility to bring the meeting to order.
- The Chair has right of sanction against Members.
- Have the best interests of the organization you represent in mind at all times.
- Be prepared to contribute to the SSG on behalf of your organisation by reading meeting papers in advance of each meeting and, where possible, representing the agreed view of your organisation.
- Be punctual.
- Send apologies to the Secretariat if you are unable to attend a meeting and, where possible, nominate a deputy to attend on your behalf.
- Turn off mobile phones and other electronic devices that may interrupt the meeting.

Appendix 3:**Code of Conduct for SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs**

- Uphold the SSG Constitution in its entirety.
- Ensure the SSG fulfils its primary functions and delivers the objectives agreed in the NDA Guidance.
- Ensure that SSG meeting agendas reflect the SSG's core business and that meetings run smoothly and to time.
- Ensure that SSG membership includes broad representation from the local community, including representation from the stakeholders identified in the agreed NDA Guidance, and is not dominated by one stakeholder opinion.
- Demonstrate that reasonable efforts are being made to encourage SSG attendance and representation from the wider community, including seldom heard groups.
- Lead an annual review of how the SSG is fulfilling its functions, preferably informed by 360° feedback from relevant stakeholders.
- Maintain an open and productive relationship with the NDA Group and Operating Groups to ensure that any issues arising are appropriately discussed and resolved, following the protocol set out in Section 5.6 of the agreed NDA Guidance.