



Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(Meeting No. 81)

Agenda

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

Via ZOOM Meeting, to commence at 19:00

1. **Welcome from the Chair**
 - Apologies for absence
2. **Approval of the minutes of the 80th meeting – 1 April 2026**
3. **Matters arising from the previous minutes**
4. **Bradwell Site Director's Report - Alan Walker**
(including NRS Corporate Update)
5. **Environment Agency Report – Aidan Kelly**
6. **AOB**

Next meeting date: TBC

Please be reminded, following a request from the Chairman, any requested amendments to the previous minutes should be submitted to the LCLC Secretariat, in writing, prior to the meeting: bradwell.lclc@nrservices.uk



Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC)

1 April 2026

Held via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Brian Main	Chair
John White	Vice Chair
Cllr John Driver (Maldon District Council)	Voting Member
Cllr Robert Davidson (Colchester City Council)	Voting Member
Peter Davidson (Bradwell-on-Sea Parish Council)	Voting Member
Andy Blowers (BANNG)	Member of public
Ian Clarke (BANNG)	Member of public
Paul Burgess	Non-Voting Member
James Heavingham	Environment Agency
Alan Walker – Site Director	NRS
Kayleigh Ridley	NRS
Tonya Hughes	NRS
Cara Webb	NRS

Apologies for Absence

Aidan Kelly (Environment Agency); Terry Burns (Essex Council); John Akker MBE (West Mersea Town Council)

1. Welcome and Introduction

3390 The Chair opened the meeting at 19:06 and confirmed the meeting would also serve as the AGM. Apologies were noted and members welcomed.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

3391 The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record. Andy Blowers maintained that the distinction between voting and non-voting members was unnecessary and inconsistent with practices in other Site Stakeholder Groups. He concluded by saying he would leave the matter there for now.

Brian Main replied that he did not wish to revisit all prior discussions but noted that he had encountered situations where individuals seeking voting status did not have any substantial supporting membership. He stated that the constitution had been ratified and would remain the framework for the group's governance.

3. NRS Bradwell Site Report

3392 Bradwell remains in care and maintenance in a passively safe condition. No incidents or security events were reported.

Environmental and site updates included planned beach clean, improved signage reducing fly-tipping, and biodiversity measures such as wildflower areas.

Routine maintenance continues across the site including ISF, crane inspections, and infrastructure checks.

Waste movements remain limited, with some exports completed and minimal low-level waste generation.

Approximately £18,000 socio-economic funding awarded; applications now open.

Key questions and responses

- Brian Main asked whether there was a process for smaller grant applications.
 - Alan Walker confirmed that applications up to £2,000 follow the same process and should be submitted via Kayleigh Ridley.
 - Brian Main thanked him and confirmed he would pass this information on.
- Cllr John Driver asked how long annual hazardous waste removals would continue.
 - Alan Walker explained the waste mainly consists of small amounts of paints and oils, which will continue to be generated until site operations fully cease. He emphasised quantities are minimal and pose no unusual hazard.
 - Cllr Driver noted and accepted the explanation.
- Cllr John White asked what monitoring or action was in place for groundwater in the vaults, noting levels had stabilised.
 - Alan Walker confirmed levels are continuously monitored and remain very low compared to the size of the vaults. Investigations are ongoing to identify the source, with specialist studies underway.
 - Cllr John White thanked him for the explanation.

4. Environment Agency Report

3393 Regulation remains proportionate to the reduced risk profile. No compliance issues identified.

Groundwater ingress is slightly higher than predicted but stable; Best Available Technique (BAT) review ongoing.

James informed the group that in December, NRS had submitted two significant regulatory documents: the Site Wide Environmental Safety Case (SWESC) and Waste Management Plan (WMP). These documents were required for all nuclear

sites and would be maintained “live” to support the eventual permit surrender phase when the site approached its end state. The Agency’s focus would be on ensuring these documents were kept updated as the site transitioned through its lifecycle.

Environmental monitoring shows no concerns; radiation levels remain well below public limits.

Key questions and responses

- Cllr John Driver asked whether Bradwell’s performance was consistent with expectations in care-and-maintenance.
 - James Heavingham confirmed the site was performing broadly as predicted and that the Environment Agency was satisfied with NRS’s arrangements.
 - He noted only slightly higher-than-expected groundwater ingress, which continues to be monitored and investigated.
- Brian Main asked whether radiation levels remained well below Government reference levels.
 - James Heavingham confirmed this was the case, with Environment Agency monitoring and RIFE reports showing no off-site concerns.
- Professor Andy Blowers asked about progress on Bradwell’s long-term end state.
 - Alan Walker explained that final site end states are expected to be confirmed within the next ten years.
 - He confirmed Bradwell’s plan remains full reactor dismantling and site clearance, with lessons from Dungeness A and Trawsfynydd helping shape the approach.
- Professor Andy Blowers asked whether the boilers would be removed alongside the reactors.
 - Alan Walker confirmed that Bradwell’s boilers are expected to be dismantled as part of reactor dismantling and currently require no earlier intervention.
- Cllr John White asked whether the Environment Agency relied solely on NRS reporting issues.
 - James Heavingham confirmed that the Agency carries out independent inspections, reviews incident logs, and also receives mandatory reports from NRS.
 - He noted that Alan Walker’s team often reported issues beyond what was legally required, showing a high level of transparency.
- Cllr John White asked whether the Environment Agency could undertake unannounced inspections.
 - James Heavingham confirmed that it has legal powers to do so and that independent contractors also verify monitoring and sampling activities.

5. Any Other Business

- 3394**
- New parish representative, Peter Davidson, welcomed and support offered.
 - Fly-tipping concerns raised near National Grid land – investigation to be undertaken.
 - Outstanding NDA response on zirconium pins to be circulated when received.
 - Fingleton Review noted; updates to be provided in future reports.
 - Cllr Robert Davidson reported that local government reform in Essex had now been formally announced. Tendring, Braintree and Colchester would form a North Essex Unitary, while Maldon and Chelmsford would form Mid Essex Unitary. Elections for shadow authorities would take place in May 2027. He suggested that the LCLC distribution list might need updating accordingly.
 - No confirmed plans for SMRs at Bradwell.

Actions

- Investigate fly-tipping and report appropriately (Alan Walker).
- Circulate the outstanding response to the zirconium pins query raised by Ian Clarke once it has been received. Alan Walker to review the query as well and provide any additional information if possible (Secretariat).
- Review membership in line local government changes and ahead of the new shadow unitary authorities being elected in May 2027 to ensure correct Cllr representation. (Secretariat and Chair).

6. AGM – Chair and Vice Chair Confirmation

- 3395** Brian Main and Cllr John White were unanimously reconfirmed as Chair and Vice Chair.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, 23 September

Environment Agency Report to the Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council

September 2026

This report covers the Environment Agency's regulation of Bradwell nuclear site and related issues for the period March to September 2026.

Our Regulation

Operators of nuclear sites in England must have a permit for radioactive substances activities from the Environment Agency. The environmental permits we issue contain strict conditions and limits that operators must be adhered to. Permit conditions are designed to make sure that operators' activities do not harm people or the environment. The conditions also require operators to use Best Available Techniques (BAT) to minimise the amount of radioactive waste produced, and radioactivity discharged. We assess compliance with the environmental permit through a range of regulatory activities including inspections of on-site arrangements, review of documentation and reports of events. Details of our assessments and any non-compliances identified are included in Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Reports (RASCARs), which are placed on our online Public Register. See the 'further information' section at the end of this document to find out how to request documents from our public register service.

We regulate and control other activities on nuclear sites that also require an environmental permit, including surface water discharges and combustion activities. In addition, we are part of the competent authority, alongside the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), for assessing compliance with the Control of Major Accident Hazard (CoMAH) regulations, which apply to some nuclear sites.

Site Regulation

Nuclear Restoration Services Limited (NRS) holds an environmental permit, EPR/ZP3493SQ, to conduct radioactive substances activities at Bradwell. The site is managed by NRS staff based at Sizewell A because Bradwell site is currently in a period of deferred decommissioning, referred to previously as Care and Maintenance.

We continue to hold monthly meetings with NRS to discuss projects taking place on site or events which could have an environmental impact. No significant matters of regulatory concern have been raised since our last report.

In May we carried out an inspection, along with colleagues from our Essex area, to assess how surface water and radioactive effluent are managed at Bradwell. We found NRS has adequate arrangements in place to manage and carry out discharges of surface water and radioactive effluent. We also inspected the Active Waste Vaults

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

facility to view groundwater ingress into the subsurface vaults. Although groundwater levels are now stable NRS is currently revising its assessment of best available techniques for managing groundwater in the vaults. We continue to engage with NRS on this matter. We did not identify any non-compliances with the environmental permit.

Enforcement

We have not taken any enforcement action in relation to non-compliance with the environmental permit since our last report.

Environmental Permitting

We have not varied (changed) the environmental permit or made any changes to the associated CEAR¹ since our last report.

Discharge Reports

The environmental permit requires NRS to use best available techniques to manage its operations so that radioactive wastes and the activity of discharges to the environment are minimised. Disposal of wastes, as solids, liquids, or gases can only be made via permitted routes or by transfer to permitted sites.

NRS is required to report its liquid and gaseous discharges to us on an annual basis. We examine these reports and detail our assessment of compliance in our report (RASCAR). Our assessment along with the discharge returns are placed on the Public Register.

We received the annual discharge returns for the 2025 calendar year on time, in February 2026. Liquid radioactive effluent discharges and most gaseous emissions are based on standard reporting values because the measured dose from these emissions is very low and not expected to change significantly. Standardised reporting values are based on historical discharge data, measured over an appropriate period. For example, emissions data for the reactor buildings were taken from when defueling was completed in 2006 until 2010. NRS periodically monitors its emissions to check the standard reporting values remain valid. Where a measured result is greater than four standard deviations from the standard reporting value, NRS will reassess the standard reporting value used. Emissions from the reactor buildings, referred to as Safestores, were most recently monitored in September 2022. No change to the standard reporting values was required.

When mobile extraction units (MEU's) are used, for example during inspection and maintenance work, these discharges are also monitored and reported to us. There were no discharges from MEUs in 2025.

NRS no longer discharges radioactive liquid effluent from Bradwell. Rainwater is directed to the Main Drains Pit, which periodically discharges to the Blackwater Estuary. The activity concentrations for these discharges are reported as standardised values. These reporting values were re-assessed in early 2020 using data collected in 2019. As a result of this assessment reporting values were raised slightly but continue to be very low.

¹ Compilation of Environment Agency Requirements, Specifications and Approvals document

Environmental Monitoring

Radioactivity in food and the environment report

Our annual report for 2024 was published in October 2025 on GOV.UK [Radioactivity in food and the environment \(RIFE\) report](#) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

This report gives a detailed assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment and the public's exposure to radiation during a 2024. It demonstrates the public's exposure to permitted discharges and direct radiation near nuclear and non-nuclear sites is low and well within dose limits.

For Bradwell, the total dose to the representative person was less than 0.005 milli-Sieverts (mSv) in 2024, unchanged from recent years. This is less than 0.5% of the public dose limit of 1mSv per year. Levels of radioactivity found in the local environment remain low.

In parallel to this programme, operators of nuclear sites are required to carry out their own programme of environmental monitoring and to submit the results of this programme to us on a periodic basis.

NRS report the results from its environmental monitoring programme to us annually. This information is available to view through the online Public Register. The results of the environmental monitoring programme for the 2025 calendar year were received in March. Our assessment did not identify any non-compliances with the environmental permit. The reported results are consistent with our independent programme and do not indicate any trends of regulatory concern.

Further Information

The Environment Agency's Nuclear Regulation Group is responsible for the environmental regulation of radioactive waste disposals on or from nuclear licensed sites in England. We also support NRW in this role in Wales. We work closely with local Environment Agency teams, as well as external bodies such as the Office for Nuclear Regulation.

The Environment Agency's Lead Regulator for Bradwell is Aidan Kelly with support provided by James Heavingham.

NRG(S) Address	Environment Agency, Nuclear Regulation Group, Red Kite House, Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD
Email	nrg@environment-agency.gov.uk
Local Office Address	Environment Agency, Icen House, Cobham Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP13 9JD

For regular updates on our work in regulating radioactive substances and nuclear sites visit our LinkedIn page:

<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/regulating-radioactive-substances>

A public register service is available on the GOV.UK website at:

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

Alternatively, you can request access to public documents directly by contacting the Customers and Engagement Team in the Wallingford office. Please email:

WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Further information on how we regulate different types of nuclear sites, and protect people and the environment is available on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nuclear-sites-environmental-regulation>

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>

Our public participation statement on when and how we consult on permit applications is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-permits-when-and-how-we-consult>

UK Health Security Agency has placed guidance on ionising radiation dose comparisons on the GOV.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ionising-radiation-dose-comparisons>

All our open consultations will appear on this webpage [Nuclear consultations - Environment Agency - Citizen Space \(environment-agency.gov.uk\)](#)

National news items

Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce

In February 2025 Government [announced](#) its plans for nuclear energy, including setting up a review of nuclear regulation. The Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce reported directly to the Prime Minister and was led by John Fingleton. Read about [its role and Terms of Reference](#).

On 24 November 2025 the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce published [its final report](#).

The Environment Agency supports the work of the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce to deliver a stronger and more streamlined regulatory framework. We welcome the publication of this report and will work closely with the government as it assesses these recommendations and prepares a full response.

Chief Regulator's report

We have published the second Chief Regulator's report. It summarises the performance of the businesses and activities regulated by the Environment Agency in England in 2024-25.

[Environment Agency Chief Regulator's report 2024-25 - GOV.UK](#)

You can [read a summary](#) of our nuclear and radioactive substances work during 2024-25 in the evidence report.

Geological disposal: scrutiny of Nuclear Waste Services' work - annual reports

Our annual report was published on GOV.UK on 16 October 2025.

[Geological disposal: scrutiny of Nuclear Waste Services' work - annual reports - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Through our joint scrutiny work, the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) provide regulatory advice to Nuclear Waste Services about implementing geological disposal.

Read the press release [Scrutiny report about radioactive waste disposal is published - GOV.UK](#)