



West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group (WCSSG)

Community Engagement Co-ordinating sub-committee

Minutes from the eleventh meeting of the Community Engagement Co-ordinating sub-committee (CECSC) held on 25 August 2006 at the Copeland Centre, Whitehaven.

1 Welcome and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Elaine Woodburn, CECSC, Chair
Shirley Williams, British Nuclear Group
Cllr Carni McCarron-Holmes, Allerdale Borough Council
Ron Hargreaves, St John's Parish Council, Beckermeth
Karen Dickens, NDA
June Shield, British Nuclear Group
Phil Scriven, UKAEA
Peter Kane, Sellafield Trade Unions
Adrian Dalton, CALC
Steve Bradley, West Cumbria LSP Living Environment Well-being Group

Apologies received

Stuart Bowe
Martin Forwood
Tim Heslop
Felicity Wilson
Paul McKenna
Richard Mrowicki

Watching brief

Not in attendance: Geraint Williams, NII
Andy Mayall, Environment Agency

2 Minutes of June 2006 meeting

The minutes were agreed as read.

3 Ratification of revised Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct

The revised terms of reference had been taken before the WCSSG and were agreed. However Cllr McCarron-Holmes requested that the Code of Conduct



be amended to encompass the seven ‘Nolan Principles’ which are Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership.

The revised Code of Conduct covers most of these, with the exception of Accountability and Leadership. Because the CECSC is not a decision making body it was felt that the Accountability principle was not appropriate and as not all members of the group are holders of public office, then the Leadership principle is also inappropriate.

4 Consultations

A calendar of nuclear consultations was discussed to be used as a tool by the group, to ensure awareness of forthcoming consultations and, where necessary, to advise the WCSSG when it was felt appropriate for them to respond.

Members to check the dates of existing consultations and to add any new ones to the calendar.

ACTION: Karen Dickens/P Scriven

The question of why some consultations appeared to be much shorter than others was raised, i.e. the Future of Windscale nuclear licensed site. This is not a statutory consultation as the time allowed is far too short and only involves members of BNGSL, UKAEA, WCSSG, Trade Unions and the NII. The Chairman of the WCSSG, David Moore has therefore called for a meeting of the Chairs of all the sub-committees to provide a response within the short timescale given.

The following questions will be raised with the NDA with regards to the consultation on the Future of Windscale nuclear licensed site: Why was this method of consultation chosen as opposed to a full consultation? Why such a short timescale? Will there be visibility of comments?

**ACTION: Shirley Williams.
Completed see comment below**

The WCSSG Chairman’s sub-committee met on 29th August and the above concerns were raised. The NDA explained that this was not a consultation but a discussion document only. See minutes from the meeting on the WCSSG website.

Another consultation with a short timescale was that being carried out by Grant Thornton on the West Cumbria Masterplan. This is a consultation which will result in many more consultations that will extend for a number of years. The idea behind this consultation is to obtain input from a wide variety



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of groups e.g. the knowledge & skills group, to bring innovative ideas forward. All the ideas for West Cumbria that have been put forward over the past 20 years should be revisited. It was felt that the WCSSG should be involved with the Masterplan and that this should be raised at the next meeting of the WCSSG in October.

Karen Dickens agreed to contact Terry Ponting regarding the Masterplan to enquire when the document would be ready for consultation and how long it would be available for and also how wide the consultation would be.

ACTION: Karen Dickens

With regards to the consultation on the NDA's socio-economic plan it was felt that the NDA should give a presentation at the next WCSSG meeting, thus enabling the WCSSG to submit their response. The draft framework document is currently being put before the NDA's board before being released in October for public consultation. It will set out the NDA's proposals and priorities for its socio-economic plan. The closing date for the consultation period will be mid January 2007. A request was made to ensure that the document would be written in plain English.

The Government's consultation on their Policy Framework for New Build is outside the remit of the WCSSG as the WCSSG does not have a position on this.

A presentation will be made at the next WCSSG meeting on the NDA's Draft Annual Plan 07/08.

It was agreed that a mechanism for proposing when the WCSSG should respond to any given consultation should be introduced.

ACTION: Shirley Williams

It was recognised that because the WCSSG's meetings are so far apart, that on occasion the opportunity is being missed to respond to consultations; especially those with short timescales. The calendar is a useful document which should be added to the WCSSG website to alert members and the public to the various consultations.

It was felt that within the community there was a feeling that decisions are being made and then presented i.e. closed consultations and this needs to be addressed.



5 Calendar of awareness raising

A poster has been produced and was discussed. The general feeling was that the posters would be a good idea; however the text needed to stand out more and be legible. The poster could be adapted to any particular consultation, rather than using a generic format. The same format could be adapted to be used in the local media. It was pointed out that a lot of consultations overlap and therefore the posters would need to differentiate to avoid confusion.

An example of a WCSSG 'Pop-up' exhibition was displayed and discussed and the general opinion was that these were eye-catching and professional and would prove to be very useful when promoting the work of the WCSSG.

Rosina Robinson has introduced a draft 'Community News' which she is currently discussing with the chairman of the WCSSG. This can also be used to highlight consultations.

The representative from the Living Environment group explained how they had previously targeted one of the hard to reach groups, the age 15-17 group and had established very good feedback. Pauline Farrell of BNGSL is also considering how we can key into the youth groups.

As many of the stakeholders actually work for BNGSL or UKAEA, it was suggested that perhaps lunchtime seminars might be a good idea or possibly tying into the cascade briefings.

BNES and other societies were also suggested.

6 Any other Business

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 1000 hours on Friday 27 October in the Copeland Centre Catherine Street, Whitehaven.