

Summary Report to the WCSSG Scrutiny Meeting October 2009

Socio-economic Sub committee

Key Items Discussed

- Formation of West Cumbria Vision Board
- NDA, NMP Ltd and Sellafield Ltd nuclear partnership
- NDA socio-economic activity
- NMP socio-economic activity
- Sellafield Ltd socio-economic activity
- National Nuclear Laboratory's socio economic activity
- Communities that Work strategy

Issues/findings

- The West Cumbria Vision Board has been established. It is expected the Board will approve a revised work programme during the latter part of 2009
- Sellafield Ltd, NDA and NMP recognise the importance of the Energy Coast Master Plan as the blueprint for regenerating West Cumbria and will be working together in a coordinated way to contribute to its delivery. The nuclear partnership intends to deliver a more strategic intervention, but with a preference for supporting projects that support the NDA Policy Objectives. Interface and governance arrangements with West Cumbria Vision Board and Programme Office are being established.
- NDA West Cumbria Socio-economic Investment Plans and Supply Chain Strategy are now available, both of which are landmarks in defining how socio-economic benefits will be delivered to communities affected by decommissioning operations.
- NMP has pledged £20million contribution to support West Cumbria Vision to deliver the Energy Coast Master Plan over a five year period. The funding will be made available to secure a strategic level intervention and delivery of transformational outcomes. Additionally, NMP has committed £2.5 million available to the Cumbria Community Foundation for social investment and charitable donations to support delivery of the Communities that Work strategy.
- The Sellafield Socio-economic Plan 2009/10 serves as a strategic framework for defining how the Lifetime Plan (which includes provision of community funding) will support delivery of the Energy Coast programme priorities. Since being agreed the Company has reported on:
 - formation of delivery partnerships with West Cumbria Vision and the Cumbria Community Foundation
 - building capacity for improving delivery of economic development
 - progress with transitioning to new funding arrangements
 - procurement spend with local suppliers and use of local labour

- use of funds and investments made over the transition period.
- The Communities that Work strategy has been compiled with the aim of directing nuclear sector funding for the purpose of sustaining communities likely to be affected by economic change.
- The recently established National Nuclear Laboratory will work along similar lines as the US laboratory operational models. Working to support local communities and provide socio-economic benefits, particularly in supporting enterprise growth and forming knowledge transfer partnerships, is a business imperative.

Actions Required

- More information is needed on the local labour situation and the use of local resources.
- An update from West Cumbria Vision Board will be sought post October meeting where they will be providing an update on organisational developments.