

D&CPC LIAISON GROUP MEETING – Thursday 3rd August 2023

Present	John Jennings, D&C PC (JJ)	Andy Pratt, D&C PC (AP)
	Sadie Clarke, D&C PC (SC)	Martin Walkingshaw (MW)
	Mike Pigott (MP)	Samantha McKenzie (SM)
	Samantha Ward (SW)	

Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table. There were no issues raised from the last meeting (27/06/2023) with one request for change to details in the minutes. *(Please see attached revised minutes with the below detail amended)*

- The map represented in the minutes was incorrectly labelled as SSSI. The map shows detail of the land acquisitions around the LLWR site made by the NDA as part of the 999-year lease, and not the whole SSSI as per the DEFRA website map that was shared by SC.

Safety Share

There has been a trend of serious incidents recently around construction activities, including one recent fatality at AWE. This has gathered heightened awareness in and around our industry. Given the changing nature of the works on site and increased construction activity, the site team are working with a greater level of control and supervision. This may add time and potentially cost; however, it is much better than the alternative and safety is always our top priority. We have just been awarded our 18th consecutive RoSPA gold award (the first as NWS, previously as LLWR) however the news of these incidents reinforces that we can't be complacent.

Outstanding Actions

- **Look to plan regular stakeholder update events to coincide with the WCSSG meetings. SM/AP**

AP shared dates for the forthcoming West Cumbria Site Stakeholders Group meetings as below.

- 7th November (Sellafield focused)
- 6th February (NWS Focused)
- 7th May (Sellafield focused)
- 6th August (NWS Focused)

He also clarified that there will be no separate LLW Repository focused group meetings going forward. The decision to look at stakeholder update events will now be looked at to potentially coincide with the Nuclear Waste Services focussed meetings. AP said the Village Hall may still be considered as a venue for this and so we may still be able to run events as planned. **Action Ongoing SM/AP**

Post meeting update: dates for the NWS Working Group are yet to be established but the first one is expected to take place in September/October where membership and terms of reference will be agreed. Once future dates are confirmed we can start to plan drop-in events around the NWS Working Group meetings.

- **Further detail required on the ownership of the mineral rights shown on SSSI map. SM**

MW explained that securing the mineral rights on the areas in question were down to being able to have continued access to our existing boreholes without the implications of potential trespassing. As a result of acquiring these, we can also stop others from interfering or creating new 'wells' etc which may alter sampling accuracy. JJ said a letter of comfort was sent out to residents a number of years ago about this as there were questions as to whether any new builds would have issues. SM/MW took action to seek a more formal assurance around this. MW was comfortable that there are no other parties currently doing water extractions in these areas and they were not identified as areas for development only manhole restoration and borehole repair. **Action ongoing SM/MW**

- **Invite Laura Hogg (NDA) to future meeting to discuss NDA perspective on potential NSD siting. SW**

L Hogg was unavailable to attend this meeting however, as the NDA strategy lead, there is intent to ask her to attend another meeting. MW also suggested Paul Skelton, the Programme Director at Nuclear Waste Services for Near Surface Disposal, could also attend to support the conversation and answer any early questions. There is a current requirement to support and lead this with the Scottish Government, an area in which Paul is coordinating as well as preparing for the outcome of the recent policy consultation. LH will be able to provide an update on the consultation process and the post consultation report when this is returned from DESNZ. **Action ongoing SW**

- **Follow up on FOI response re the potential cost of an NSD vs savings against a GDF. MW**

Paul Skelton and Laura Hogg will be able to give more of an update on this area. SC stated the specific area of interest was for the Parish, and any benefit in cost etc outside of this was not currently of interest, noting that the acceleration of making the waste permanently safer sooner at a potential NSD site located on the current LLW Repository site was not favoured by the community as it will bring it closer to Drigg village. MW expressed that PS would be able to talk through the current options available, and depending on how this is taken forward, what a timeline could potentially look like. However, as there is no decision on the policy or siting for an NSD, there currently were no benefits, such as the section 106 agreement attached to Vault 9 that could be discussed as it was too early in the process, as well as the practicalities such as local road infrastructure.

AP asked about security enhancements and at what stage would enhanced security arrangements be looked into. MW said that there are certain areas on site already that have been subject to enhanced security depending on the nature of the work, it is unlikely that the whole site would be reclassified.

Action ongoing MW.

- **Produce a heat-map of employment of local residents at the LLW Repository, including those in the LA postcode. SM**

SM spoke through a heatmap of salaried staff (not including agency and contracted workers) currently employed by Nuclear Waste Services, noting that this would not give an indication of how many employees travelled to site on a regular basis to work. This would require role call data. JJ said the data

they specifically wanted to know would be if there was a shift in employment numbers for those living in the parish being employed at the site, and if there was a change since the information was being shared regularly via the new website. SM took action to look into whether further detail could be provided.

SC said the information the parish would like is on the specific benefit the Repository currently brings to the community, including employment. AP detailed that this was part of the section 106 agreement, covering Vault 9. MW continued, saying that any future development of the site would be considered in much the same way, however we can't jump ahead to what any future benefit would be, however, a report on the current benefits for the Repository would be a good starting point for any future discussion.

New action SM.

GDF Update from Martin Walkingshaw

There is some planned photography being carried out by a contractor on the 9th, 10th and 11th August as part of a Landscape Familiarisation Survey. This has been communicated via the community partnerships at their meetings previously and will involve an early assessment by two Jacobs employees, at several data points in the parish and surrounding areas.

Baseline and scheduling work continues with 2050s still being outlined for the first waste emplacement.

MW visited Theddlethorpe this week, where it was good to meet the team. The community is well engaged but very different, highlighting the awareness for Nuclear in our local community.

MW visited Scotland on 2nd August to look at the borehole investigation aspect of the programme. This was an opportunity to meet with suppliers working currently in that field and to look at their present work and the possibilities in relation to our future plans.

Site Operations Update from Mike Pigott

MP went through the key highlights since the last meeting, noting the continued focus on Nuclear and Conventional Safety, Compliance, and Responsible Stewardship of the site.

General

Continued busy period of activity including:

- Commenced infrastructure framework contract market engagement.
- Northern Nuclear Conference.
- Repository Development Capping Operations community engagement event at Drigg Village Hall.
- Trilateral Technical Information Exchange Meeting on International Best Practice in Stakeholder Engagement (US, Canada, UK)
- Repository Stewardship Council focusing on conventional safety, construction sequence, logistics and its complexities as well as funding.

Containers

- Grout campaign underway
- 0 Receipts year to date, with 56 expected this financial year. MW noted previously this would have been up to around 900, highlighting the success of diversion.
- Current statistics: 55 Grouted, 16 Groutable, 35 on-hold, with 160 overweight top ups.

Treated Radwaste Store Drums

- All 700 drums on site now emplaced (awaiting arrival of the remaining 368)
- Next deliveries – 100 expected in August, and another 100 in October.
- TRS infill work up to date with disposals.

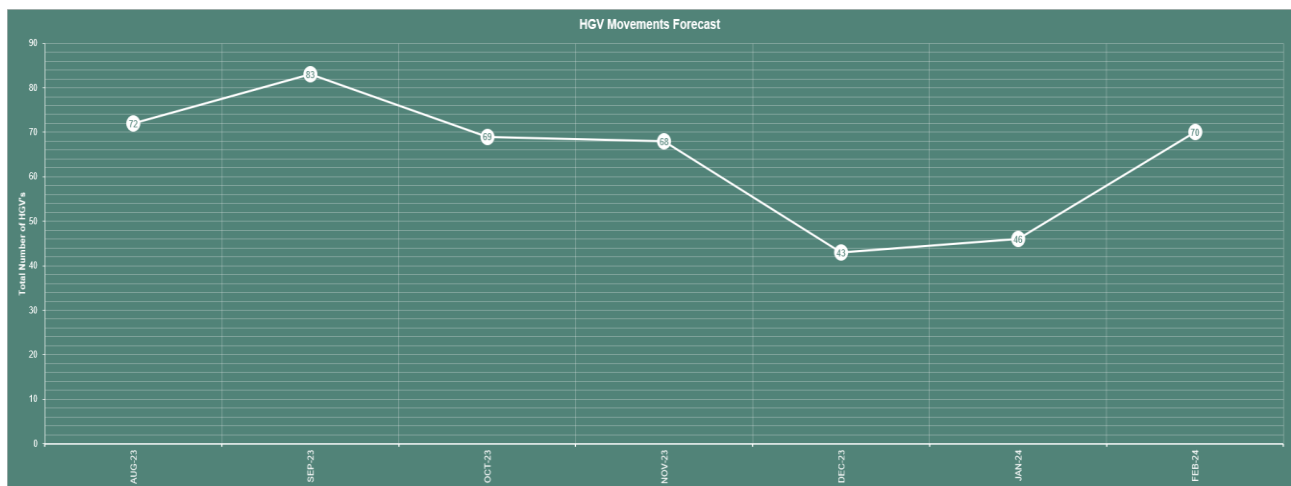
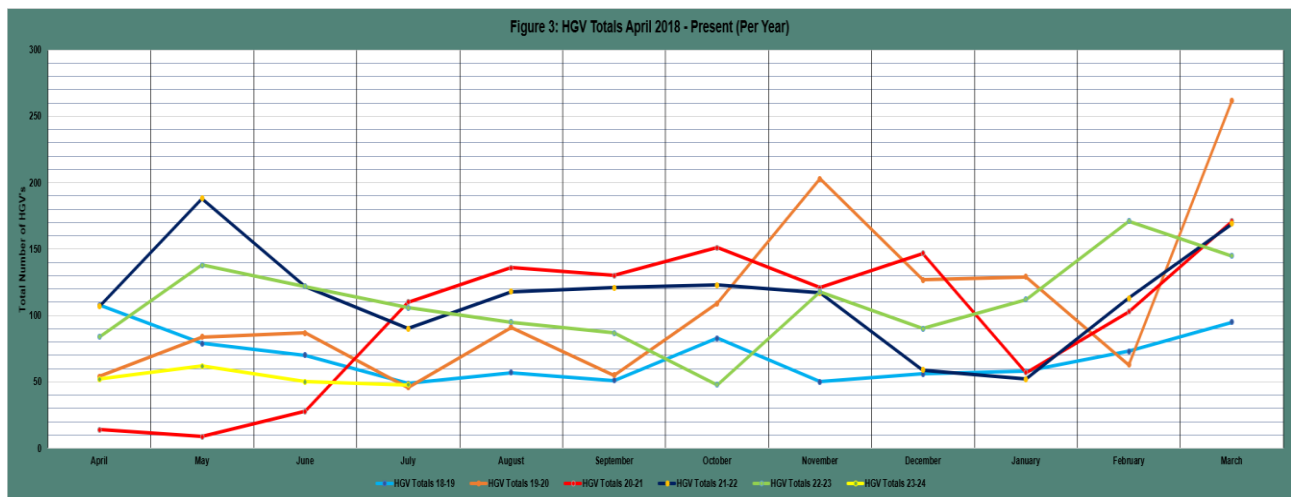
Infrastructure

- Waste routes now defined, the first shipment is due to go off-site later this month.

HGV summary

Graphs were displayed to show HGV deliveries per month, between April 2018 to the present date to show any trending data. In addition graphs were shown of the forecasted HGV and planned train moves for the next six months. A request was made to combine the planned HGV moves data onto the graph of actuals.

New action SW



Following our last meeting, HGV summarised data is as below:

- Actual HGV Deliveries: 41
- Actual Rail Deliveries: 0
- Curfew Breaches: 1
Racer Ordered a power distribution board, delivery wasn't expected on a HGV, numerous unsuccessful attempts were made to contact the driver to convey the curfew times. The driver arrived at the site at 15:28 and left at 15:41.
- Unplanned deliveries: 6

Repository Asset Care, Enhancement, and Remediation

- LMS (Leachate Management System) 6 manhole repairs has progressed well, targeting early December for completion.
- LMS2 Vault 9 pumping system improvements progressing well, targeting end of calendar year.

Capping Operations (capping of the existing vaults and adjacent trenches – previously referred to as Repository Development Programme (RDP))

MP showed photos of the STIM (Southern Trench Interim Membrane) Herringbone drainage work which is now well underway.

Recent learning has been taken from our commitment to use white noise beepers for our onsite equipment wherever possible. Two were found to not have these fitted, which has now been rectified.



Photo showing progress of STIM early works 'herringbone drainage' installation at the Repository site.

AOB

JJ raised an issue about the blocking of a suspected public right of way. A local resident had blocked the bridge at Stubble Green preventing dog walkers from using the route. Upon discussion of the location, MW believed the piece of land belonged to Network Rail, where we mow as part of a clearway. SC believed the gate had a lock placed on it, by the resident, as a result of dog mess being left around the area close to his property. MW suggested the possible introduction of some dog waste bins in the area however this would

require some council liaison. SM said she would look into again with the legal team but this may be parish matter out of the Repository's control. **New action SM.**

SC asked for some help printing some large-scale maps for use in Drigg Village Hall. SW asked for these to be sent over and we would see if these could be printed on the plotters. **New action SC/ SW**

New actions

- **Production of a report to show the current benefits the LLW Repository brings to the Drigg and Carleton parish - SM.**
- **HGV data, changes to be made to graphs to show actual data, as well as forecast data on the same graph- SW.**
- **Detail to be provided on the land ownership of the area being blocked on the bridge to the stubble green area- SM.**
- **Printing of A0 size maps for use in Drigg Village Hall- SC/ SW.**

Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting Tuesday 26th September 4.30pm, Drigg Village Hall

Current Vacancies

All current vacancies can be found at <https://rwm.hireserve-projects.com/current-vacancies.html>