

## **Nuclear Projects Update**

**LEAD OFFICER:** John Groves  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Denice Gallen

### **Summary and Recommendation:**

This paper provides a summary update of key projects relating to the Councils nuclear activities and Members are asked to note the current position and way forward.

## **1. NUCLEAR NEW BUILD**

- 1.1. NuGen came to the Copeland centre and gave a presentation to all Members. The presentation covered an overview of the project with expected planning and operational time scales and a brief explanation of the Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC).
- 1.2. The SOCC outlines how NuGen will carry out public consultation on the project it outlines what forms of media and communication they intend to use as well as a schedule of meeting and workshop events taking place throughout the county.
- 1.3. CBC officers are currently working with NuGen advising them on how they should carry out community consultation. The NSIP panel will be consulted on the draft SOCC on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March and the formal SOCC, which will be published in all the local papers for public consultation, will go to Exec on 24<sup>th</sup> March for official sign off.

## **2. NORTH WEST COAST CONNECTIONS PROJECT**

- 2.1. The National Grid held a Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) meeting on Kendal on the 21<sup>st</sup> Jan. At the meeting they gave an overview of the consultation process information feedback so far. Copeland Borough Council presented on our experience of the consultations that took place in our area and the Councils role in accessing the Adequacy of Consultation.
- 2.2. National Grid have not made any final decisions on the route corridor, a decision is expected shortly.

### **3. Geological Disposal Facility**

3.1. Following the launch event in London on the 30<sup>th</sup> September the Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) are talking with a variety of interested groups about the best way to conduct the screening exercise, discussing what attributes and information relating to the safety case should be included within the Guidance, and considering how the final outputs could help inform engagement between RWM and interested communities.

3.2. The event has the following aims and objectives:

- To give an overview of the national geological screening process, providing information regarding:
- the objectives for national geological screening
- how the process is being managed
- anticipated outcomes and outputs for national geological screening
- To engage with, and listen to the views and opinions of the delegates. (This will help RWM shape and focus the outputs for the national geological screening exercise.)

3.3. The Council considers that it is not necessary at this time to attend this event and will continue to keep a watching brief on the RWM process.

### **4. Nuclear Legacy Advisor Forum (NuLeAF)**

4.1. The Councils Strategic Nuclear Planning Manager – John Groves, attended a meeting held by NuLeAF and LLWR in Manchester on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to discuss the LLW strategy and the NDA Strategy III which is due for consultation on Sep 2015.

### **5. Nuclear Policies**

5.1. The Council is in the process of developing nuclear policies which outline Copeland aspirations for a sustainable and prosperous community. Members will be asked to participate in workshops to help to formulate the Councils position on a range of matters including:

- NDA Strategy III
- Long term legacy goals for the area to be delivered as part of the nuclear economic growth strategy
- Capitalizing on the opportunities and advantages of planning Nationally Strategic Infrastructures Projects (NSIPs).
- Strengthening the strategic infrastructure

- Education and Skills Infrastructure.

5.2. Officers are currently working with democratic services to arrange a suitable date in the immediate future and all Members will be asked to attend and contribute.

## **6. NDA Strategy III**

6.1. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) will begin formal consultation on their strategy III document in September 2015.

6.2. At the WCSSG meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2015 the NDA will undertake pre-consultation top level explanation of engagement process.

6.3. The NDA will be working on a strategic engagement strategy to include all relevant stakeholders prior to the formal consultation launch in Sep.