

West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership



Meeting Report

From 10th December 2010
At The Copeland Centre, Whitehaven

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Author:	3KQ (see note overleaf)
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Note:

This report is a summary of discussions at the meeting. It is compiled by independent facilitators 3KQ, operating on behalf of all participants. Note that it is meant as an aide-memoire for participants and a means of update to non-attendees, rather than a definitive record of every detail.

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3KQ Ltd is a company that helps organisations engage the public and stakeholders around contentious issues within the environmental sector. For more information see www.3kq.co.uk.

Front cover image is from a community drop-in event in Wigton, November 2010.

Executive Summary

Overview. The 13th meeting of the West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS) Partnership took place on 10th December 2010. 33 people attended with 3 members of the public present to observe the meeting. The main objectives of the meeting were to: consider international experience of community benefits and discuss potential principles that could be applied in West Cumbria; agree the way forward concerning possible international site visits; agree principles concerning inventory and how the community might influence it; and agree the way forward on various operational issues.

Updates. Carlisle City Council and Cumbria Tourism have now formally joined the Partnership. The Steering Group has asked Wood Holmes, the new Partnership evaluators, to conduct a review of the operation of the Partnership as part of their brief. A geology information seminar was organised in November to explore the British Geological Survey (BGS) report. *Into Eternity*, a film about geological disposal in Finland, will be screened after the next Partnership meeting in January. The first Geological Disposal Implementation Board meeting was held in November, chaired by Charles Hendry, Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). DECC provided updates on: pricing of waste management for nuclear new build, and actions that the Government has taken to elicit further 'Expressions of Interest' in taking part in the MRWS process. The Environment Agency gave an update on its scrutiny of the NDA Radioactive Waste Management Directorate's work on geological disposal.

PSE Updates. 10 community drop-in events took place in November and December – 482 people attended in total. An exhibition was also held at Dunmail Park Retail Centre in Workington. Over 800 discussion packs have been distributed. The Partnership now has a Facebook page, a Twitter profile, and the DVD is on YouTube. A newsletter was sent to all households in West Cumbria in November, and a further one will be sent in mid-January. Advertorials have been placed in all local newspapers and there has been coverage on TV and radio. The Residents' Panel and the Stakeholder Organisations Workshop will both take place in January.

Register of Interests. The Partnership agreed that a 'Register of Interests' will be published on the Partnership website by the end of January 2011.

Final Reporting. Following individual conversations with all Partnership members, a discussion paper regarding a process and timetable for the Partnership's final reporting process was presented to the meeting. The proposals were discussed and agreed.

Community Benefits. The Partnership heard a presentation about research into international experiences of community benefits packages. A set of potential principles that could be applied in West Cumbria was developed by Partnership members and these will be developed further by the Community Benefits Sub-Group.

Site visits. A range of views exist on the necessity of visiting other sites to learn about the realities of hosting a GDF. Members will be canvassed on their individual interest.

Inventory. The Partnership considered a discussion paper on potential principles concerning the inventory of wastes for disposal, and how the community might influence it. A set of draft principles was agreed as a basis for discussion with the Government.

For future meeting dates and more information please see the Partnership's website www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk.

1. Introduction

1.1 – Objectives

Specific objectives for the day were to:

- Consider international experience of community benefits and discuss potential principles that could be applied in West Cumbria (Tasks 3a(ii+iii)).
- Agree the way forward concerning possible international site visits.
- Agree principles concerning inventory and how the community might influence it (Task 4b(i)).
- Agree the way forward on various operational issues.

The full agenda is in Appendix 1.

1.2 – Attendance

33 participants¹ attended at The Copeland Centre in Whitehaven on 10th December 2010. A full list of those in attendance is in Appendix 2. The meeting was open for the public to observe and 3 members of the public attended.

2. Updates

2.1 – New members of the Partnership

Following the first round of public and stakeholder engagement (PSE1), invitations to join the West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS) Partnership were issued to various organisations. Cumbria Tourism joined as a result of this invitation and will now be represented by Richard Greenwood, Director of Development. Carlisle City Council has also now joined and will be represented by Jason Gooding, Deputy Chief Executive Officer.

2.2 – Chairing

The Steering Group has reviewed the issue of who chairs the Partnership. 3 options were considered: status quo (rotating chair), an independent chair, and no chair. After some discussion, the Steering Group was not able to agree a way forward. This means that, for now, the status quo is maintained whereby each Principal Authority (Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council) holds the chair for 6 months.

There was a discussion about the different views that are held regarding chairing of the Partnership – please see section 3.2 for more detail.

2.3 – Operational review

Partly as a result of the chairing discussion above, the Steering Group has asked the new evaluators (see 2.4 below) to conduct a review of the operation of the Partnership as part of their brief. More detail is available in Document 122 – Operational Review Proposal, which is available in the Documents section of the Partnership website (http://www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk/all_documents.asp).

¹ Plus 6 from the facilitation team, secretariat and presenters. Note that a number of people left the meeting at lunch time for various reasons.

2.4 – Procurement

Various contracts have recently been appointed or are being let:

- Communications Support: Osprey Communications have been re-appointed.
- Evaluation: Wood Holmes have been appointed.
- Community Benefits Advisor: a tender process is underway to appoint an advisor.

2.5 – Geology information seminar

An evening seminar was held on 15th November 2010, to enable Partnership members and their colleagues to explore the British Geological Survey (BGS) report and hear the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's (NDA's) views on why they believe it is worth looking at West Cumbria for potential sites. Notes, including the slides from the seminar, will be published on the website shortly, together with a briefing note setting out the NDA's views (Document 123).

The Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) asked whether it would be possible for the NDA to elaborate further on these views, as there are questions about this issue both nationally and locally. It was confirmed that the NDA's briefing note is being updated and that the Steering Group is discussing this issue. One possibility is that the NDA could be asked to produce a further paper.

The Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) noted that a collated set of comments from some of its members has been passed to the NDA regarding its draft paper – contact CoRWM for further details.

2.6 – *Into Eternity* film screening

Into Eternity is a film about geological disposal in Finland. It will be screened after the Partnership meeting on 19th January 2011, in the lecture theatre at Energus near Workington (www.energus.co.uk). An invitation will be sent to Partnership members and their colleagues.

2.7 – Documents published

Since the last Partnership meeting the following documents have been published in the Documents section of the Partnership website

http://www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk/all_documents.asp:

- 128. Contact Note from Dunmail Park Exhibition Stand, 27 November 2010
- 126. Notes from CALC and Environment Agency Meeting on Regulatory Resources, 16 November 2010
- 121. Steering Group Minutes from 10 November 2010
- 120. Report from CoRWM Seminar, 22 September 2010
- 119. Partnership Meeting Report from 28 October 2010
- 116. British Geological Survey Report
- 115. British Geological Survey Report – Non-Technical Summary
- 114. E-Bulletin 6, 28 October 2010
- 113. Peer Reviewer Statement on Final BGS Report, FWS Consultants Ltd
- 112. Peer Reviewer Report on 1st Draft of BGS Report, FWS Consultants Ltd
- 111. Peer Reviewer Statement on Final BGS Report, Prof. Agust Gudmundsson
- 110. Peer Reviewer Report on 1st Draft of BGS Report, Prof. Agust Gudmundsson
- 109. Ipsos MORI Technical Note on Surveys
- 107. Independent Convening Agreement with 3KQ
- 106. Engagement Package Funding 2009 – 2011
- 105. Interim E-Bulletin, 14 October 2010
- 104. Steering Group Minutes from 29 September 2010

- 103. Contact Note from Lake District National Park Authority Partnership Meeting, 7 September 2010
- 102. Steering Group Minutes from 1 September 2010
- 101. Contact Note from Cumbria Association of Trades Councils, 21 August 2010
- 100. NGO Involvement Overseas, NDA
- 99. Notes from Presentation of BGS Draft Report to Steering Group, 18 August 2010

2.8 – Future Partnership meeting dates booked, and potential for weekend meetings

Future dates for Partnership meetings through to January 2012 have now been booked (see table of meeting dates in Section 9.6).

A discussion took place about the pros and cons of meetings being held at weekends to allow more members of the public to attend. Some members felt that a weekend meeting should be trialled, but others felt that there was a danger of losing attendance from Partnership members, and that this risk is not worth taking given the considerable effort that is already going into providing information to members of the public. It was noted that Partnership meetings are meetings held in public, not public meetings.

It was agreed that the current programme of dates will remain as it is, but that as new events/activities are scheduled, the Programme Manager will consider which are suitable to run at weekends or evenings.

2.9 – PSE Updates

2.9.1 – Community drop-in events

All 10 community events have now taken place. 482 people attended the events in total: 248 questionnaires were completed and 166 further written comments were received. Members of the public were appreciative of the opportunity to find out more and add their voice to the debate, as indicated by the fact that most people took 30 – 45 minutes to look around the exhibition and give their comments. Others stayed longer to listen to presentations and make full use of the opportunity to talk to specialists from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the NDA, the Environment Agency (EA) and the BGS. There was a broad spread of opinion expressed by participants on all sides of the debate. All of the input will be analysed over the next few weeks and reported as part of PSE2.

2.9.2 – Discussion pack

Over 800 discussion packs have been distributed across Cumbria, including to schools, parishes and community groups as well as individual members of the public who could not attend a community event or wanted to take information away. Partnership members were asked to ensure that their organisation and contacts run at least one session. The deadline for responses is 11th February 2011.

2.9.3 – Social media

The Partnership now has a Facebook Page and a Twitter profile, and the DVD is on YouTube. These can be found at:

- *Facebook* – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Cumbria-Managing-Radioactive-Waste-Safely-Partnership/169062599779322?v=wall>.
- *Twitter* – <http://twitter.com/westcumbriamrws>, or if you are on Twitter, follow @westcumbriamrws.
- *YouTube DVD* – <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z935RpxQsc>.

2.9.4 – Publicity

The latest newsletter was sent to 79,000 West Cumbrian households during the week of 8th November, as well as a similar update going to all Cumbrian households in Your Cumbria, the Cumbria County Council (CCC) magazine. Large advertorials have been placed in all of the local papers, and posters for the community events were sent to parish councils, supermarkets, dentists, schools and doctors surgeries. The process has been covered by local press around 40 times in the last 6 weeks, on TV, radio and in the newspapers. A further newsletter will be delivered in mid-January 2011.

2.9.5 – Exhibition at Dunmail Park Retail Centre in Workington

On Saturday 27th November, the Partnership held a small exhibition at Dunmail Park Retail Centre in Workington to publicise the MRWS process. About 200 people passed through. It was apparent that more people had heard of the process than at a similar stand at Whitehaven Festival in June 2010. See the contact note (Document 128) for more information.

2.9.6 – Talks

Various talks are being given in response to requests from around Cumbria, for example Rotary Clubs, Probus Clubs, Engineering Societies etc.

2.9.7 – Further events

The Residents' Panel is scheduled for 8th January 2011 at the Copeland Centre. The Stakeholder Organisations Workshop will take place on 13th January at the Hunday Manor Hotel near Workington.

2.10 – ‘Aarhus Convention and Nuclear’ Roundtable

The NDA is offering to sponsor up to 3 places for Partnership members at this event which will take place on 20th – 21st January 2011. The NDA would also like ideas for case studies on building the technical capacity of stakeholders, and a potential co-presenter at the event. Please contact Jay Redgrove (jay.redgrove@nda.gov.uk) for more information.

2.11 – Geological Disposal Implementation Board

The first Geological Disposal Implementation Board (GDIB) meeting was held on 30th November, chaired by Charles Hendry, Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change. Further information, including the papers from the meeting, is available on DECC's website at the following link: http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what_we_do/uk_supply/energy_mix/nuclear/forums/forums.aspx. The minutes from the meeting will be published shortly.

2.12 – Government response to report from the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee

This response has now been published. It covers various areas, but a key theme is the committee's recommendations that the speed of implementation should be picked up and clarified, and the Government's overall response to this that the process relies on voluntarism and partnership. For more detail go to: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/science-and-technology-committee/news/governmernt-response-to-rwm-a-further-update/>.

2.13 – DECC update on pricing of waste management

The Government's preference is to dispose of intermediate level waste (ILW) and spent fuel from new nuclear power stations in the same geological disposal facility (GDF) that it intends to build for legacy wastes. In line with this, DECC has been developing a methodology to determine the price that the Government would charge new nuclear

operators to provide this waste disposal service. A consultation on this subject was published in March 2010. The Government response to that consultation, together with revised proposals, was published for further consultation on 7th December 2010. This consultation will run until the 8th of March 2011.

The methodology is based on the NDA's estimates of the cost of a GDF, using the current reference case. However, it also recognises that there are considerable uncertainties e.g. around the disposal concept, the geological environment and timing. Therefore the price charged to new nuclear operators will include a risk premium.

This work does not place any new constraints on the MRWS process. A new-build operator will be required to ensure that their ILW and spent fuel is disposable in the GDF (wherever it is located) at the date specified for its disposal.

The Government proposes that the setting of a new-build operator's price should not be done at the outset but rather should be deferred for a specified period, to enable uncertainty to be reduced through progress in the MRWS process. This gives an added flexibility to the process, to enable the price to be set when some of the key uncertainties should have been removed, or at least significantly reduced.

It was noted that any agreements that are made regarding non-legacy waste will potentially affect the control that potential host communities have over the inventory. It was agreed that this issue should be discussed in the item on inventory (see Section 6).

DECC had provided this information in response to a request at a previous meeting with regard to the prices that would be set for operators disposing of waste from new build. They stated that this is probably a separate conversation to the one about inventory, and that the Partnership needs to decide if it wants to respond to this latest consultation. The Programme Manager confirmed that, whilst this work is outside/on the edge of the remit of the work of the Partnership, the Partnership had previously agreed that it needs to be kept informed by DECC and that it will be keeping an eye on what is happening with regards to this issue.

2.14 – DECC actions to elicit further ‘Expressions of Interest’

The Government has undertaken a number of activities to encourage other areas to come forward, to raise awareness of the invitation and to provide factual information to as many people as possible. This has included:

- The initial invite was coupled with the launch of the MRWS White Paper in June 2008 to maximise its publicity.
- A ministerial letter to all local authorities in England in June 2008 raising awareness of the invite, and offering any further background needed.
- MRWS launch information included in June 2008 Local Government Association (LGA) weekly local Government electronic alert to all authorities.
- A dedicated MRWS website with several layers of background information on radioactive waste and its long-term management aimed at a range of audiences (see <http://mrws.decc.gov.uk/>).
- A series of short, easy to read factsheets designed to summarise the key aspects of the MRWS white paper and siting process.
- Looking to ensure that information and articles on the MRWS process make it into relevant magazines/journals.
- DECC information stands at a number of local Government conferences and exhibitions: 2009 LGA Annual Conference, 2009 National Association of Local Councils Annual Conference, 2010 Royal Town Planning Institute Planning Conference.

- In 2009, presentations to Regional Development Agency and Government Office groups to raise awareness and aid dissemination of information at a regional level.
- In October 2009, a second ministerial letter to all local authority leaders in England updating them on the process, making clear that the invite is still open and offering more information or discussion with DECC officials.
- MRWS update included in October 2009 LGA weekly local Government electronic alert to all authorities.
- Information on MRWS disseminated via other Government policy engagement – e.g. specific information on MRWS included at draft Nuclear National Policy Statement public engagement events around the country etc.

The NDA also continues to develop and present new material useful for the promotion of MRWS as its implementation programme progresses. The Government continues to look for opportunities, and is presently reviewing this to explore further opportunities to raise the profile of the invitation. The Government will be pleased to attend meetings and provide presentations to anyone who requests it.

DECC were asked whether there had been any response to the second ministerial letter. DECC stated that they have discussed issues with people throughout this period, but that there have been no further 'Expressions of Interest' at this time.

2.15 – Environment Agency's scrutiny of the NDA Radioactive Waste Management Directorate's work on geological disposal: Annual Review 2009/10

The EA has an ongoing programme to examine the work of the NDA's Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD), and provide advice on matters within the EA's regulatory remit. Each year the EA produces a report summarising this work. Their report for 2009/10 is on their website (see <http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk>, product code GENW1010BTEC-E-E). In future years, the EA will publish a joint report with the Health and Safety Executive and the Department for Transport. Key findings from this work in 2009/10 include:

- Some of the EA's comments on drafts of RWMD's generic planning and implementation documents aimed to improve the accessibility of the text to people. RWMD took these on board and made improvements.
- The EA disagreed with RWMD's interpretation of disposal system design optimisation. They are working with RWMD to resolve their differences.
- The EA want RWMD to demonstrate how it will consider the options of co-location and deep borehole disposal.
- The EA are satisfied with RWMD's progress on a generic Strategic Environmental Assessment for MRWS Stages 1 – 3. The EA suggested some areas for improvement.
- RWMD's research and development (R&D) strategy and programme are well structured and appropriately focused. The EA encouraged RWMD to publish its R&D programme for wider scrutiny and input.
- RWMD's generic plans to characterise a site for a GDF will need to be flexible to address site-specific challenges.
- RWMD has made good progress in developing as a company to hold a nuclear site licence but further steps are required. The EA will continue to assess RWMD's organisational developments and progress in this matter.

The EA noted that this is just a brief summary of their work and does not provide the full range of their advice to RWMD. They encouraged people to read the annual review for more information.

2.16 – CALC and Environment Agency meeting to discuss regulatory resources

CALC and the EA met on 16th November 2010 to discuss issues arising from the presentation that the EA gave to the Partnership on 13th January 2010 (see Document 47.1, Section 4). The issues included the resources that the EA will have, plus staged authorisation. Further details of this meeting are included in the meeting note (Document 126).

2.17 – Request for updates to be circulated earlier

It was noted that the amount of information included in these updates at Partnership meetings is increasing, and that many of the items are substantial. There was a request for the updates to therefore be circulated before the meeting (e.g. 24 hours beforehand) and it was agreed that this would be attempted for future substantial updates such as these.

2.18 – DECC frequently asked questions

DECC now has a version of frequently asked questions (FAQs) about geological screening available for download. It can be found on DECC's website at: http://mrws.decc.gov.uk/en/mrws/cms/disposal/site_selection/initial_screen/west_cumbria/west_cumbria.aspx, along with other information about the initial geological screening of West Cumbria. The DECC FAQs about the MRWS process in general are available at: http://mrws.decc.gov.uk/en/mrws/cms/further_inform/faq/faq.aspx.

2.19 – Request for larger scale BGS maps

CALC asked whether bigger/more detailed maps of the BGS results were going to be made available, to enable e.g. parish councils to be overlaid on a map to help understanding of where parishes are in relation to the areas that have been excluded for the underground facilities of a GDF. The Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) added their request for the National Park boundaries, and other protected areas, to be overlaid as well. DECC confirmed that a large scale map was taken to the community drop-in events, but highlighted concerns about creating any larger representations due to the potential risks of the resulting information being misleading. It was agreed that DECC would talk to CALC and the LDNPA about their requests.

3. Register of Interests, and Other Operational Issues

3.1 – Register of Interests

3.1.1 – Background

A proposal has been drawn up to create a 'Register of Interests' for full members of the Partnership (full members are defined in the Partnership Terms of Reference, see Document 2). The proposal was, in part, raised in response to a parliamentary question about the issue. For further details see Document 129, Register of Interests Proposal.

3.1.2 – Aim of a Register of Interests

The main aim of publishing a Register of Interests is to provide information about personal or business interests that could have a bearing on the work of the Partnership, in order for the Partnership to be seen to be operating openly and transparently. For councillors, this information is published already under LGA rules, and this would now be extended to non local authority members of the Partnership to ensure consistency.

It was acknowledged that some members are not used to this sort of process and that they should be certain of what they are being asked for before agreeing to it. It was also noted that the Minister's response to the parliamentary question did not require this level of declaration (see Appendix 1, Document 129).

3.1.3 – Actions and way forward

It was agreed that the Partnership would proceed with publishing a Register of Interests on the Partnership website by the end of January 2011. The Programme Manager will contact members who need to submit a profile.

3.2 – Discussion re chairing of the Partnership

3.2.1 – CALC's proposals to have an independent chair of the Partnership

In response to update 2.2 above regarding the Steering Group's discussions about chairing of the Partnership, CALC stated that they still favour having an independent chair for the Partnership and that they would like the decision to be taken by the Partnership, and not by the Steering Group.

They acknowledged that they recognised that, at this stage in the process, it could be difficult to make this change. They stated that they would therefore be happy with the alternative suggestion for the Partnership to have an independent convenor, and that they would be happy if this was 3KQ. They confirmed that this relates only to the full Partnership, and that they are happy for the Steering Group to retain the system of rotating chair.

3.2.2 – Steering Group discussions

It was confirmed that the Steering Group had not been able to come to a consensus on this issue, and that they had therefore agreed to continue with the current system of having a rotating chair. A key issue that they could not agree on was what the role of an independent chair would be, and concerns were therefore expressed about asking the meeting today to take a decision about something that has not been defined.

3.2.3 – Clarification of CALC’s concerns

CALC were asked to clarify the underlying concerns behind their preference for an independent chair. In response, CALC stated that:

- There are concerns about public perceptions that Allerdale and Copeland Borough Councils, and Cumbria County Council, are seen to be the ‘external’ voice of the Partnership, and that press releases and letters are always signed by the Partnership Chair or a member of the Councils.
- Another reason that CALC feels strongly about this issue, is that the paper that they presented to the Partnership in January 2010 regarding chairing (and other issues), never went onto the Partnership agenda, nor were CALC ever invited to make a presentation to the Partnership about it. For this reason they feel that it has not been properly addressed.
- With regard to the reasons behind the original proposal for an independent chair, CALC’s view is that the Partnership’s final report will be more credible, and will be in a stronger position in the eyes of members of the public, if it has been put together under the guidance of an independent chair, rather than under the guidance of the Principal Authorities that it is going to.

In response, it was noted that, whilst articles may be signed by the Chair, they are written on behalf of the Partnership. It was also noted that CALC had previously requested not to be part of press releases. It was acknowledged that the question of who would speak on behalf of the Partnership would need to be addressed if any changes were made.

A discussion was held later in the meeting about the final reporting process – see section 4 for further detail.

3.2.4 – Different views on the way forward

Views from other members on the way forward with this issue included:

- That the Partnership should carry on as it is.
- That the Partnership is too far into the process for it to make enough of a difference to make such a change.
- That too much time was being wasted on discussing operational issues that would make little difference.
- That, *if* the proposal is going to be considered, it needs more thought about the roles, so the decision should therefore go back to the Steering Group.

3.2.5 – Public perceptions

It was agreed that some of the concerns about public perceptions could be addressed by including more comments from other members of the Partnership in future newsletters, articles and press releases.

3.2.6 – Agreement on way forward

CALC stated that they would like to move forward, that they were willing for the status quo to continue, and that the issue should *not* be taken back to the Steering Group. They requested for it be recorded for future reference that CALC had made the point at this meeting, and noted that they were keen to ensure that these discussions would not be forgotten.

It was agreed that the rotating chair system should stay as it is, but that the issues raised today would go back to the Steering Group for a brief discussion as required.

3.2.7 – Evaluation process

It was noted that this issue had been included in the brief for the operational review of the Partnership by the new Partnership evaluators (see 2.3 above). Gareth Powells of Wood Holmes confirmed that he, or his colleague Stuart, would be contacting people shortly re the evaluation process.

3.3 – Attendance at meetings

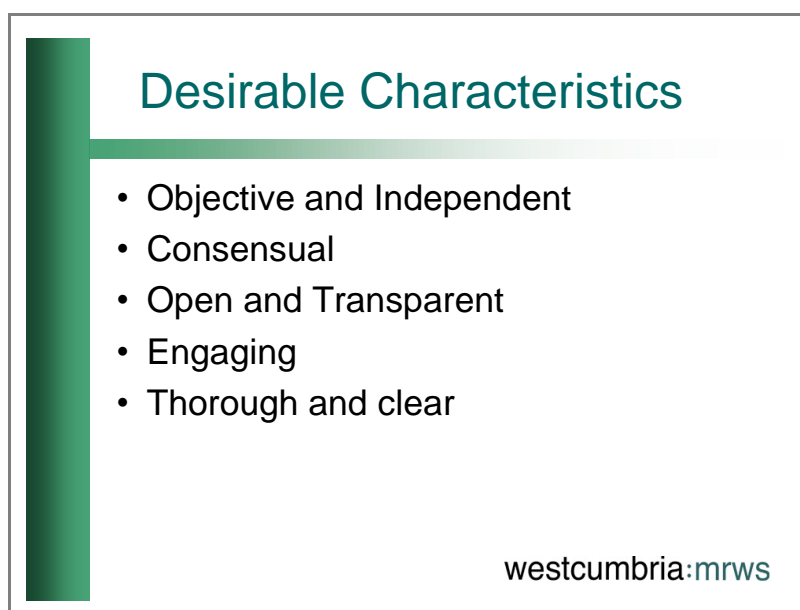
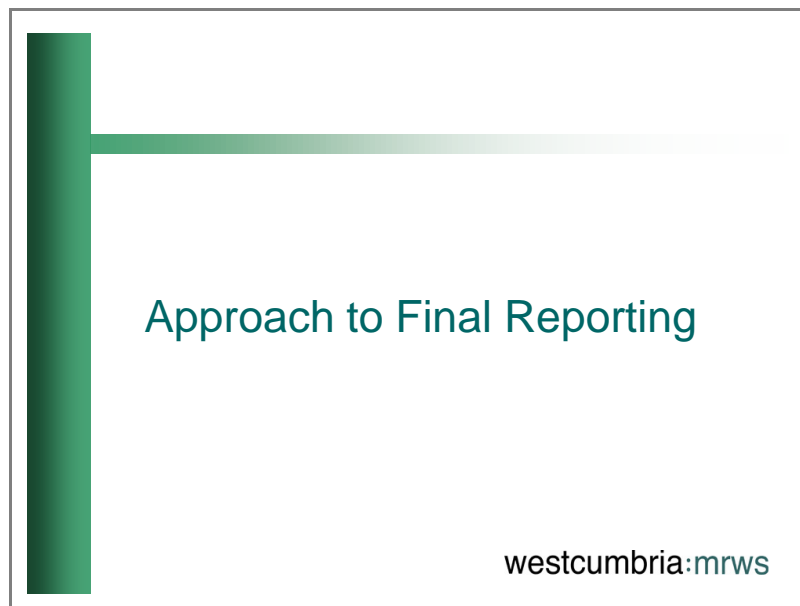
After lunch, it was noted that 10 members had left the meeting. Whilst it was recognised that this is sometimes unavoidable, it was also agreed that meeting attendance is important and appeared to be an issue today.

4. Final Reporting Process

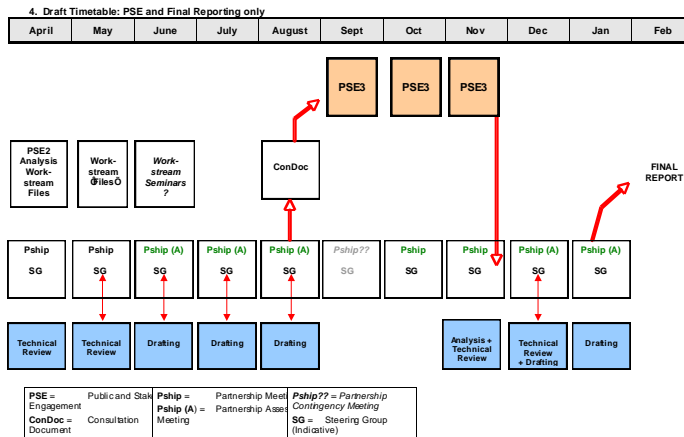
4.1 – Final reporting process

During the previous few weeks, 3KQ had interviewed individual Partnership members about the process for developing the Partnership's final report to the 3 Principal Authorities. The report will inform the Principal Authorities in their decision about whether or not to participate, without commitment, in the Government's siting process for a GDF in West Cumbria. 3KQ talked through the discussion paper that had been prepared as a result of these conversations (Document 118, draft 1 – An Approach to Final Reporting), and presented an overview of the draft process and timetable.

The presentation slides are provided below.



Draft Process Map and Timetable



westcumbria:mrws

4.2 – Agreement and way forward

CALC confirmed that the paper addresses the concerns that they had raised previously regarding the need for a robust process, and that they are very happy with the principles that are in the draft plan.

It was agreed that the draft plan would be adopted, but it was also acknowledged that some aspects would be bound to change as the process moves forward. There was a request that if additional dates are likely to be needed for e.g. Partnership meetings or work-stream seminars, that these be put into people’s diaries as soon as possible.

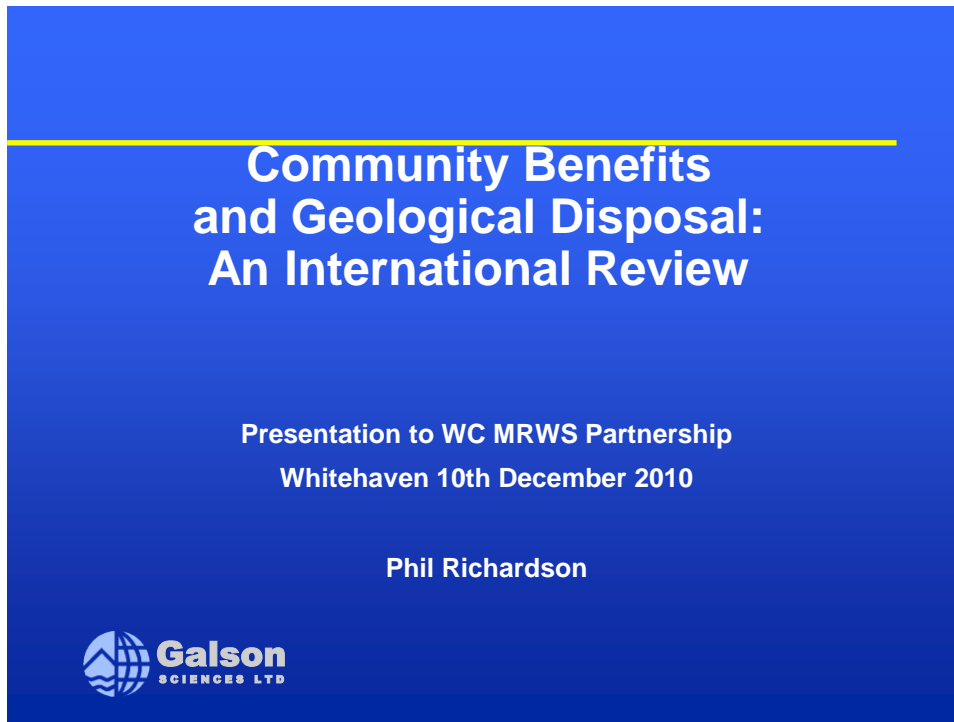
5. Community Benefits

5.1 – Background

Criterion 3a in the Work Programme is: 'Whether the Partnership is confident that an appropriate community benefit package can be developed'. The Partnership is looking for there to be an 'acceptable process in place to secure additional benefits – beyond those which derive directly from the construction and operation of the facility'.

The Community Benefits Sub-Group had commissioned research into international experiences of community benefits packages for similar facilities overseas. Phil Richardson of Galson Sciences Ltd presented an overview of this research and this was followed by questions and discussion. The Partnership was then asked to discuss the kind of principles that they think should be applied in West Cumbria.

The presentation slides are provided below.



Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Items to covered

- Review methodology
- Types of benefits
- Factors to review
- Results of review
- Discussion of benefit-related issues



2

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Review methodology

- Use of existing GSL information
- Relevant literature
- National contacts
 - Implementing bodies
 - Local authorities
 - Others



3

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Classification of Community Benefits

- Cash incentives
- Social benefits
- Empowerment measures
- Involvement support packages



4

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Cash Incentives

- lump sums payments
- annual payments
- expert support packages
- tax revenue
- trust fund for future generations
- profit sharing



5

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Social Benefit Measures

- employment
- infrastructure improvements
- property value protection
- integrated development projects and miscellaneous facilities
- relocation of developer
- discounts



6

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Community Empowerment Measures

- local involvement in decision-making
- capacity building
- local partnership to oversee the project

Involvement support packages



7

Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

Factors

- Waste type concerned
- Monetary value of financial benefit components and the formulae used
- Identification of any non-financial benefits
- Timing of the provision of benefits in relation to the siting process
- Whether benefits are designed to compensate for real or potential impacts or whether they are intended as incentives to become involved
- The distribution of benefits between different communities
- Method of benefit transfer and type of fund management employed or proposed
- Parties to any formal agreements
- Form of legal agreements on community benefits
- Type of community receiving the benefit, including details of immediate and local population
- Whether the communities have taken measures to ensure that the provision of community benefits will lead to a consequent reduction in other forms of public funding

8



Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

• Discussion

- Staging
 - **Australia**; initial payment, another when approved, balance every 6 months
 - **Belgium**; Local Fund to be established within 3 months of licence
 - **Canada**; PHI -Lump sum at start, interest only available until licence
Kincardine- Lump sum then linked to project milestones
 - **France**; Annual sums negotiated at project milestones
 - **Japan**; Outreach funds during desk studies and investigations only
 - **Slovenia**; Annual payments depend on acceptance of Spatial Plan
 - **Spain**; Funds only available after licence is issued
 - **Sweden**; only 20% of Fund available prior to licence
 - **Switzerland**; 3 stages , each with economic impact studies, subject to licence
- Laid out in legislation
 - **France**; 2006 Act specifies amount for each GIP
 - **Italy**; Specific amount to be developed by Sogin
 - **Slovenia**; exact amount specified for 'limited land use'
 - **South Korea**; Exact amount specified
 - **Spain**; Provides detailed benefit algorithm
 - **Taiwan**; Sets limit on 'feedback subsidies' of £88 million

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Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

- Discussion (cont'd)

- Linked to disposal volumes or inventory etc

- **Canada**; Can be renegotiated if any new build wastes are included
- **Italy**; Law says that Sogin must take this into account when designing benefits
- **South Korea**; An annual 'carrying in fee' to be levied (approx £5.5 million)
- **Spain**; Complex algorithm (around £2000 per cubic metre)

- Linked to local population levels and distance

- **Canada**; Lump sum to municipalities was scaled with distance from facility
- **France**; GIP funds allocated on a per capita basis
- **Italy**; Fund allocated on basis of distance and as tax reduction for individuals
- **Spain**; Complex algorithm
- **Switzerland**; Over half of benefit to host community

- Part of negotiated integrated projects

- **Belgium**; Master Plan includes details of a range of projects
- **France**; GIP funds and additional support from utilities
- **Italy**; Law specifies that benefits must include a Technology Park
- **South Korea**; Law specifies that a research park must be established
- **Spain**; ATC storage facility to be accompanied by Technological Centre
- **Switzerland**; Sectoral Plan calls for sustainable economic development with repository

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Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

- Discussion (cont'd)

- Assessed in terms of 'added value'

- **Belgium**; Local Fund designed to add value through increased employment
- **France**; GIP funds are allocated depending on 'leverage' that projects can demonstrate
- **Slovenia**; Increased quality of life seen as added value from project
- **Spain**; Enresa Foundation established to increase local benefit from repository
- **Sweden**; Funds must demonstrate added value above the cost of the project

- Relation to normal developmental income

- **Australia**; Ngapa Group see benefits as only way to get assistance
- **Canada**; Some PHA funds can be used for anything; others must offset local taxes
- **Finland**; Associated tax benefit seen as essential to replace dwindling NPP revenues
- **France**; GIP funds shown to increase external investment in the area
- **Japan**; Government has extended other regional development support
- **Sweden**; Agreement recognised as totally separate

- To offset impacts or encourage participation

- Mitigation: **Canada**; Any relevant infrastructure needs **US**; Transport-related needs
- Compensation: **Canada**; Property Value Protection Schemes
- Incentive: **Australia**; **Finland**; **Spain**; Project as way of gaining funds otherwise unavailable

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Community Benefits and Geological Disposal; An International Review

● Discussion (cont'd)

➤ Miscellaneous benefits

- **Finland; (Japan); (South Korea); (Sweden):**
Implementing body HQ functions (to be) relocated to repository community
- **US**
Staff encouraged to relocate, but not HQ function

➤ Fund management examples

- **Belgium:** Joint Foundation involving both adjacent communities
- **Canada:** No controls at all in Kincardine Agreement
- **France:** Wide ranging Management Board representing all local communities
- **Sweden:** Both communities represented with SKB directors also

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The questions and points of discussion that followed the presentation are summarised in 5.2 – 5.10 below. The potential principles that were developed are listed under 5.11.

5.2 – Skills training and employment

Concerns were raised about the lack of emphasis on skills training, and that, if this is not considered at an early stage, then employment opportunities may not be available to people in West Cumbria. The presenter agreed that this is an important consideration. He confirmed that there are examples of skills training within the integrated approaches, and that agreements in principle also exist.

5.3 – Timescales

A discussion was held about the timescales for informing the community of the benefits that might be available, and the “fine balance” between making decisions about participation in the Government process, and determining what is available with regard to community benefits. There was a reminder about what the task is at this stage, but several members felt that it is important to address, at an early stage, the issue of when community benefits will kick in. It was acknowledged that this work might need to be done in parallel.

The presenter confirmed that there are examples of all types of agreement, and that they are very varied e.g. there are some where, as soon as a community agrees to take part, benefits are made available, and others where it is a staged process. He highlighted one example in Canada where the community was allowed to use the interest on a capital amount of money, and if the site did not get beyond the licensing stage they had to give the capital back but could keep the interest. In some other situations legislation determines that benefits cannot be received until the licences are in place.

5.4 – Comparison of other facilities to West Cumbria

It was acknowledged that none of the overseas facilities that were researched are directly comparable to the facility and types of waste that are being talked about in West

Cumbria. It was also noted that community benefits are not the driver for a repository, but are just one of the things that the Partnership is going to look at.

The presenter agreed that although his research included low level waste (LLW) and very low level waste (VLLW), there are examples of facilities that are being planned to accept both high level waste (HLW) and spent waste. He agreed that not many include the full range of legacy waste that the UK has, but felt that the benefit principle is still relevant, and that there are good examples of principles that can be applied. It was also noted that in some countries there is a similar level of benefit for a LLW facility as there is for a HLW facility, and that inventory is therefore not the only factor.

5.5 – DECC response

DECC were asked for their views on what had been presented, in terms of what they thought worked well and their reaction to the scale/figures involved.

DECC confirmed that, in terms of what the Government already knows from talking to people and site visits, community benefits are about more than providing funding, and that an agreement along the lines of those presented will need to be part of the benefits package. It was acknowledged that any package of benefits must contribute to the wellbeing of people and the future of the next generations. The vast scope of the options was acknowledged, and it was stated that the conversation about community benefits is bound to be a lengthy one. It was also noted that the legality of the different options will be a factor.

5.6 – Link with impacts research

Some members felt that the outcomes of the research into the impacts of a facility need to be understood before it is worth having more detailed discussions about community benefits. Care is also needed to ensure that community benefits do not prejudice people's opinions.

A member of the Community Benefits Sub-Group acknowledged that there is a very close link between impacts and the timing of discussions/decisions. It was noted that the Sub-Group are very much considering timing, and the issue that there will be impacts from the point of taking a decision about participation is being considered.

The presenter confirmed that some examples in the research recognised that there is an impact right from the beginning that needs to be mitigated in some way. It was noted that property values are an important example, and that there were some very good ideas and examples of 'Property Value Protection Plans'.

It was noted that the timescales for different impacts and benefits might vary, e.g. property value protection might be needed right at the beginning, but not in the middle if housing is needed for workers, and infrastructure improvements might need to be implemented beforehand.

DECC stated that, with regard to a full agreement, they could not imagine that a community would want to sign up to specifics and restrict itself too early before everything is known about impacts. They acknowledged that impacts do need to be mitigated but there are also other things that people might want or need. The consideration for both short-term and long-term impacts was also noted.

5.7 – The difference between benefit and mitigation

Concerns were expressed that the differences between benefit and mitigation should not be "blurred", and that the necessary works/infrastructure developments for the

construction of a facility should not be considered as a benefit. The presenter agreed that benefits should be over and above what is needed for this kind of construction.

5.8 – Psychological impacts

A discussion was held about psychological and sociological impacts. The presenter was involved in developing criteria in Canada that included whether the community had the ability to interact with a developer in terms of all aspects of the development, including physical impacts as well as perceived impacts (such as blight etc.), and the associated psychological impacts. He also noted that criteria can be designed for both real and perceived impacts.

5.9 – Impacts on the perception of Cumbria

It was noted that the results of research into the qualitative impact on the perception of Cumbria as a whole will be fed into the Partnership meeting on 14th April 2011.

5.10 – Guarantees that benefits will last for the duration of the facility

A discussion was held about concerns and questions raised by members of the public about what guarantee can be given that a community benefits package will last for the duration of a facility and beyond.

The presenter stated that for the LLW facility in France (the oldest example) the benefits given to communities were just lump sums of money for local projects. It was acknowledged that, whilst there is no precedent of a facility for HLW and spent fuel being built and benefits being associated with it, integrated projects and the staging of benefits are becoming the norm as the trans-generational nature of impacts are recognised.

In addition, examples are now coming in of legal agreements between implementers and the local communities, to protect against e.g. future changes of Government.

CoRWM noted that this was one of the issues that they considered when making their recommendations to the Government. More sophisticated packages are looking at how you can create a vibrant community over the timescales of multiple generations e.g. Belgium and Sweden are trying to bring in small/medium enterprises to benefit the community into the long-term.

It was suggested that the Partnership could look at an agreement with the Government that continually assesses and reviews the impacts over time.

5.11 – Developing potential principles

There was a reminder of tasks 3a(ii+iii):

- *Task 3a(ii)* – Develop with the Government a formal set of cross-party principles by which community benefit would be discussed, agreed and potentially administered, including how benefits might be allocated to different communities.
- *Task 3a(iii)* – Understand UK and international experience of community benefit and learning that the Partnership could apply.

Partnership members then worked in small groups to develop a set of points for the Community Benefits Sub-Group to address in developing potential principles. The following suggestions were generated:

- a) Securing short and long-term economic prosperity.
- b) Geographical distribution.
- c) Scale of benefit (taking into account best practice from other countries)*.
- d) Relationship to inventory.
- e) Flexibility over time and communities/geography, and how applied.

- f) Additionality not substitution – can't displace other funds/opportunities, *and* should be no cost to the community.
- g) Legal agreement – long-term binding agreement with current and future Governments.
- h) (Staged) timing and timescales including pre-decision impacts, and relation to confidence in the community.
- i) Clarity between mitigation and benefit.
- j) Relationship between benefits and impacts.
- k) Must put community in better position than if it didn't have a repository.
- l) Got to feel fair/equitable to all different localities and stakeholders, including nationally.
- m) Need in future for new or amended legislation (multi-generational).
- n) Consideration of the visitor community.
- o) Need for trans-generational, sustainable fund/benefits.

* There were some concerns about including 'scale of benefits' in the list of principles, with some members feeling that it should be excluded at this stage in the process, and others strongly favouring it being included to avoid potential mismatches in expectation between the Government, the Partnership, members of the public and potential host communities.

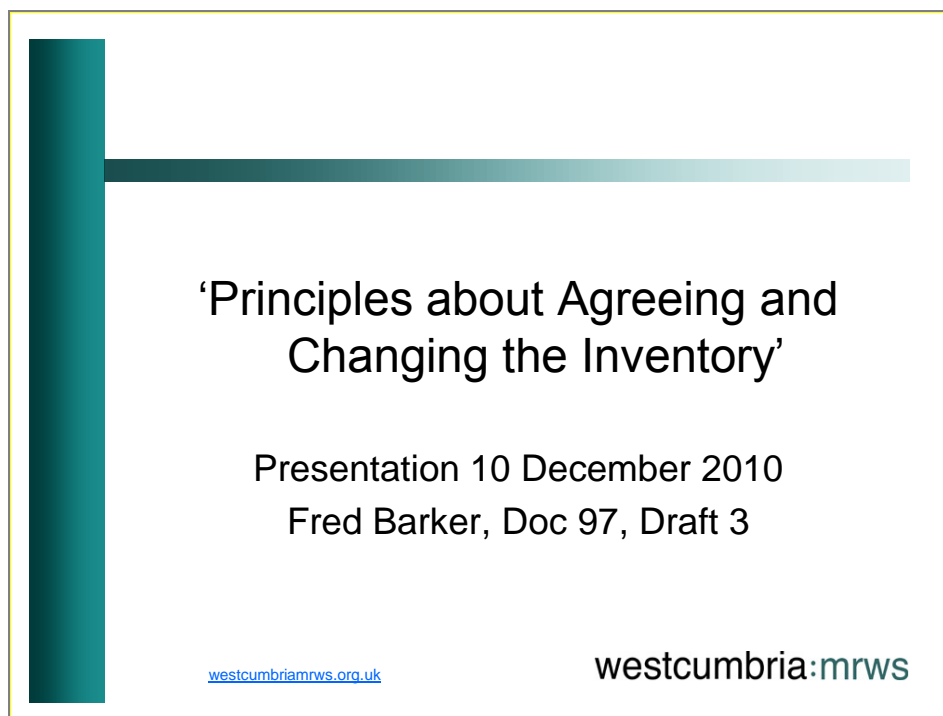
6. Inventory

6.1 – Background

Criterion 4b in the Work Programme is for the Partnership to be: ‘satisfied with the proposed inventory to be managed in a facility’. At its meeting on the 5th of August 2010, the Partnership heard presentations regarding the inventory from the NDA and Pete Roche. Since that meeting, further exchanges have taken place between the NDA, Pete Roche, DECC and the Partnership, and the related documents have now been revised and published on the website (Documents 88 and 94).

The Steering Group had considered a discussion paper prepared by Fred Barker, entitled: ‘Principles about Agreeing and Changing the Inventory of Radioactive Wastes for a Geological Disposal Facility’ (Document 97, draft 3). The preliminary suggestions in the paper for a range of inventory related principles that the Partnership might seek the Government to commit to *prior* to any decision about participation were presented to the Partnership for discussion.

The presentation slides are provided below.



Decision Criterion

- the Partnership wishes to be “satisfied with the proposed inventory to be managed in a facility”(criterion 4b)
- The Partnership is looking for “knowledge of what the inventory could be, and the principles that define an acceptable process for how the inventory would be changed, including how the community can influence this”

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Knowledge of what the inventory could be

- Presentations to August Partnership meeting: NDA (doc 88) and Pete Roche (doc 94)
- Shows value of dialogue between NDA and critical perspectives – subsequent exchanges and updates have narrowed down areas of contention to issues outside questions of inventory
- Highlighted potential nature and scale of inventory and issues to address in formulating principles

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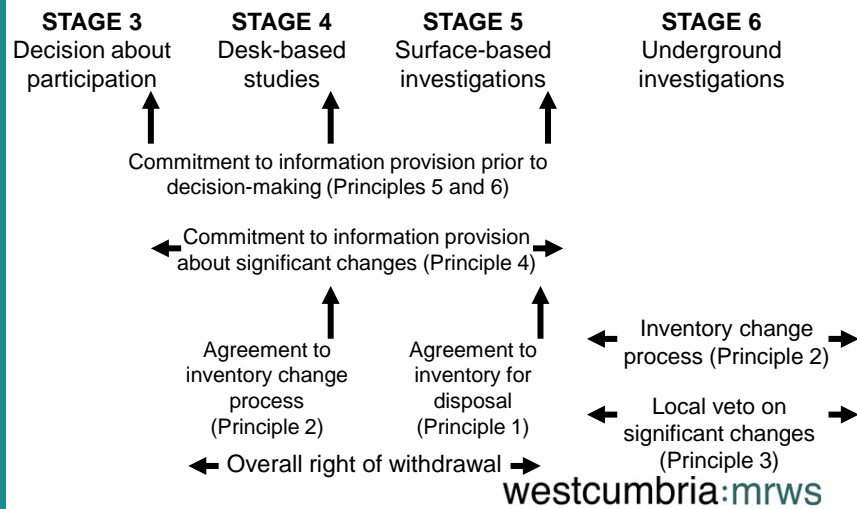
Scope of potential principles

- Commitment to agree what the inventory for disposal in a GDF will be
- Commitment to negotiation of an inventory change process
- Acceptance of a local veto on significant changes to the inventory
- Commitments to information provision
- Acknowledgement of linkage to community benefits
- Commitment not to make demands on the inventory based on views of energy policy

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Inventory Principles & MRWS Stages



Next Steps

- at today's meeting, Partnership agreement on which of the draft principles provide a suitable basis for seeking 'minded to' agreement from Government and NDA;
- in time for inclusion in the consultation document for PSE3, 'minded to' agreement from Government and NDA to a set of draft inventory principles; and
- in time for inclusion in the Partnership's final report to the Decision-Making Bodies, formal sign-up by Government and NDA to a set of inventory principles.

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The questions and discussion that followed the presentation are summarised in 6.2 – 6.11 below.

6.2 – Definitions of what is meant by decision making bodies

A question was asked about why a local decision making body (DMB) is referred to in principle 3, whereas Community Siting Partnership (CSP) is referred to in the other potential principles. It was stated that this reflects the difference between the roles of a CSP and local DMBs as defined in the White Paper e.g. a CSP would have responsibility for dealing with the matter of principle 2, whereas the responsibility for the decision in Principle 3 would rest with the DMBs at that time.

CALC and the LDNPA raised concerns about the lack of clarity around this issue and requested that the different decision making and other bodies should be more clearly defined. It was also felt by CALC that it should be made clear to host communities that they will not be part of a DMB in exercising any right of veto.

It was noted that, *if* the process reaches the stage where withdrawal from the process is being considered due to inventory related issues, that communities and representatives from potential host communities would have been involved in the discussions and in formulating the Partnership's recommendations to the DMBs. CALC reiterated that this does not help, as there are examples of DMBs over-riding the views of local communities. It was noted that there is nothing that gives the power of veto to the local communities, and this causes some concern.

It was agreed that definitions in the way of references and footnotes would be added to the discussion paper.

6.3 – Clarity about the inventory

Allerdale BC stated that they would want more clarity about what is included in the inventory before they could make a decision about participation. A member from Allerdale BC stated his personal belief that inventory could be a show-stopper for Allerdale, e.g. if the inventory included plutonium, uranium and spent fuel as wastes. It

was noted that this was based on his understanding at this time, and was therefore only a prediction, however it was confirmed that so long as the inventory statement (as detailed in principle 5) was sufficiently detailed Allerdale BC would be happy to sign up to it.

6.4 – DECC view on inventory

DECC stated that there will be debates elsewhere about e.g. what will be decided to be done with uranium and plutonium stocks, and that these debates can potentially be influenced through those separate processes. At the end of all of the processes, the inventory will include whatever is left, therefore the inventory will be a matter of fact rather than something that can be influenced, and the MRWS process and the GDF will have to deal with whatever that is.

It was noted that, according to the draft principles, the Partnership will receive up to date statements on current baseline and upper inventories. It should therefore be able to develop its recommendations to the DMBs with knowledge and clarity about what the potential inventory *might* be, but without information about what it *will* be. It was also noted that the inventory to be disposed of in any West Cumbrian GDF would be a matter for discussion and agreement.

The conflict between managing the inventory over time, and the ability to make decisions with clear information was acknowledged.

6.5 – Links with new build waste

CALC raised concerns that Government policy is looking at new build waste as well as legacy waste. They stated their view that it is a very important part of the voluntarism process that any community would have control over the inventory, and the inclusion of new build waste in Government policy might “impose” on a host community’s control over the inventory.

It was acknowledged that the Government’s working assumption is that, at the point of taking a decision about participation, any GDF will take new build waste. By the time the process is getting to the stage of agreeing formal sign up (the end of Stage 5) there would either be a formal agreement that it contains new build waste, or it only takes certain types of waste. It was also noted that an agreement such as this could also happen earlier in the process. The principle being suggested in the discussion paper is that this decision is left open for now.

6.6 – Regulatory involvement in the inventory

The EA noted that, due to the safety case process, the regulators also have discussions on the inventory, and that this is possibly worth noting in the discussion paper. In terms of timescales, the EA will not issue a disposal permit until into Stage 6. There will therefore be no regulatory agreement on inventory until that stage, as the safety case process means that it won’t have been agreed until the site, geology, design etc. have been determined.

Some felt that the process should not be made more complicated than it needs to be. It was noted that the spirit of the inventory change process is a guard against the inventory going up, whereas the safety case/regulatory input means that the inventory might go down as a GDF may not be able to deal with all of the wastes that are included in the inventory.

6.7 – Waste substitution policy

A question was asked about how the waste substitution policy will impact on the inventory. In response, it was stated that this should not need to be responded to in the inventory principles as, under the policy of substitution, high level wastes are returned

and the components of ILW which are kept in the UK are added into the inventory. It was noted by one member that this would in fact mean that a repository could be filled a lot faster, as there is more volume in ILW.

A discussion was also held about whether any of the overseas facilities are dealing with other countries' waste. Confirmation was given that there are other countries who carry out reprocessing, and that they are essentially storing this waste but not disposing of it. DECC noted that the Government is not suggesting that the UK disposes of other countries' waste, as the substitution policy means that the UK will be returning an equivalent amount.

6.8 – CoRWM1 views on new build/legacy waste, and ethics

There was a reminder of the work of CoRWM1, and the view that assessments of options for the long term management of new build and legacy wastes should be treated separately. There was a question regarding the extent to which these differences and views had been picked up in the suggested inventory principles in the paper.

CoRWM responded that, with legacy waste it *has* to be managed/dealt with, and in that context it is good enough to compare options and decide which is best. When it comes to new build waste, the waste is being produced, and it is therefore no longer good enough to say that one option is better than another for managing it – in this case you have to justify that the benefits of producing the waste justify dealing with it.

CoRWM therefore stressed that this is a completely different ethical situation. There was a reminder that the issues relating to ethics are due to be discussed at the Partnership meeting in January 2011.

It was noted that, *if* the Partnership is properly informed about the baseline and upper inventories, it will have the information that will enable it to be comfortable about recommending what an agreed inventory would ultimately be. A key issue is that the upper inventory includes new build spent fuel, and the link to the need for a principle about information provision with the backstop of the right of withdrawal provides the control that the Partnership, and potential host communities, is potentially looking for.

DECC noted that the place to raise the differences between new build and legacy waste was in the consultation on new build and the generation of new build waste. They noted that there is no point in having a debate about what to do with new build waste in 5 – 10 years time, as at that stage the waste will already exist.

6.9 – Uranium and plutonium

DECC confirmed that there will be a consultation on plutonium soon, but that it will be a consultation on the principles of what to do with it i.e. whether it will be stored, directly disposed of or made into reactor fuel. This will be a long process and it will not be resolved in the next year to 18 months.

With regard to uranium, the NDA is already managing large uranium stocks, so they are able to provide further information about how they are managing this.

There was a reminder that these issues would be picked up in principle 4.

6.10 – Principle 8

The Steering Group confirmed that they were not comfortable with principle 8, and did not adopt it. It was agreed that it would be dropped.

6.11 – Agreements and way forward

It was agreed that the Partnership would sign up to taking principles 1 – 7 forward for discussion with the Government. The discussion paper (Document 97) will be updated and published as a working draft on the Partnership website in January 2011.

7. Learning from International Experience

7.1 – Background

As part of Criterion 3a and Task 3a(iii) (see 5.1 and 5.11 above) the Partnership is seeking to understand UK and international experience of community benefits and the learning that the Partnership could apply. As part of this, the Partnership is considering whether it is necessary to arrange a schedule of international site visits.

The Steering Group had asked the NDA to come up with options and recommendations for a schedule of visits, including costs, itineraries and recommendations for which sites would meet the objectives for what the Partnership would want to get out of a programme of visits.

John Mathieson, Head of International Relations for the NDA, presented potential itineraries for the following 4 options, together with the potential benefits of visiting each location:

- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Carlsbad, New Mexico.
- Forsmark, Sweden.
- Olkiluoto, Finland.
- Bure, France.

For further information on the options that were presented please see Document 124, International Learning and Site Visits.

The questions and discussion that followed the presentation are summarised in 7.2 – 7.11 below.

7.2 – Agenda for the visits

A discussion was held about the objectives for any visits, and the need for it to be about learning as well as seeing the facilities in person. It was confirmed that the primary objectives for the Partnership for these visits, are to meet with and learn from a wide range of stakeholders. This would include sitting down with other partners, wider organisations and members of the community to have off the record/face to face conversations to learn from their experiences. It was noted that, whilst the NDA will help organise these visits, the Partnership must set the agenda. Further work needs to be done on the detail of what this would include and who they would want to talk to.

7.3 – Timing of the visits

It was noted that local elections are due to take place at around the same time as the proposed visits, and some people may not remain in their positions. It was therefore acknowledged that continuity should be considered carefully when planning who, if anybody, should take part in overseas visits.

7.4 – Concerns re public perception

It was acknowledged that, whilst such visits might be useful, they are also very expensive and could potentially be viewed as being too “extravagant”. A key concern was the potential negative perception within communities, of the Partnership being seen to be going on overseas “jollies”. Although some disagreed, it was felt by many that it is unnecessary to carry out these visits at this time, particularly when there are experienced and knowledgeable people who can provide the necessary information without the need for visits.

7.5 – Option for a Community Siting Partnership to visit at a later date

It was felt by many that it would be more appropriate to wait until after a decision about participation, to allow a future CSP to be given the opportunity instead. There was a reminder that this would not be the *only* opportunity to carry out international visits, and that a CSP would not be prevented from arranging its own visits at a later stage if the Partnership decided to go ahead with a programme of visits at this stage.

7.6 – Virtual site visits

There was a suggestion that a 'virtual' site visit via video conferencing could be used to trial what can be gained from a visit, with a view to either suggesting actual visits at a later stage in this process, *or* for a future CSP. The need to talk to local people/communities was highlighted, and it was noted that video conferencing would probably not be the best method for this, especially in France where an interpreter is needed.

7.7 – Reasons for going

A few people had previously visited some of the overseas facilities, and they all agreed that it had been a very useful and beneficial experience. With regard to the French facility, it was apparent to them that there were issues between the public and the contractor, and it was felt that the opportunity to dig more deeply into these issues face to face would be very beneficial.

It was noted that the benefits that can be gained from actual visits are very hard to achieve 'virtually' in a formal structure on the other side of a camera, and that it is very difficult to beat going to the communities and speaking to the people who are actually involved. There was a reminder of the visit from the Swedish delegation to West Cumbria and how successful this had been.

It was felt by some that the Partnership needs to stop being on the defensive about its work, be proud of what it is doing and adopt a different mentality that gets away from thinking that it needs to be done cheaply. It was noted that the Government has accepted that this kind of research needs to happen, and that if Partnership members stick together and understand the reasons why they are doing it, then it is both justifiable and appropriate.

7.8 – Implications of not carrying out overseas visits

A discussion was held about what would be missed if the visits did not take place, and whether visits are necessary before making any 'minded to' decisions about participating further in the MRWS process. With regards to the Work Programme, it was noted that there is a small window of opportunity to carry out visits for the purpose of gathering information before the final reporting process begins.

It was noted that at a number of the community drop-in events, members of the public had raised the issue of whether the Partnership is taking international experience into account, and if so, how. It was also acknowledged that any publicly funded visits overseas will always be subject to some criticism, but that *if* there is a decision to participate further in the process, many people will expect that members of the Partnership would have visited at least some overseas facilities.

7.9 – Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico

There was broad agreement that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico should not be visited due to the cost of a visit, the different wastes and geology involved, and the very different nature of the surrounding community. It was agreed that WIPP should, however, be considered for a trial 'virtual' visit in February/March 2011, in order to

better understand the reasons/benefits of making actual visits to other places at a later date.

CoRWM noted that a film of the surface facilities of WIPP should be included in this trial, as it is the closest example to what surface facilities in the UK would look like.

7.10 – Government support

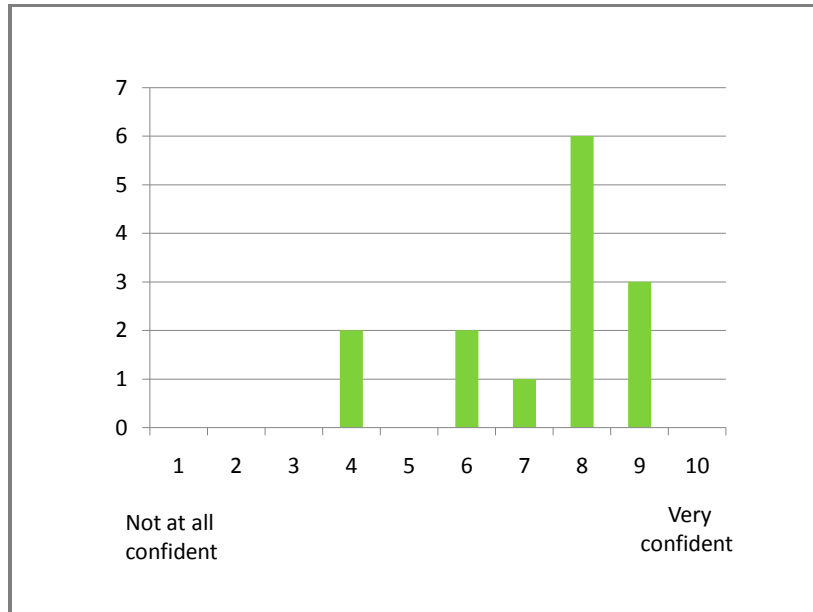
DECC acknowledged that they understand the concerns about how international visits might be perceived, but also supported the view that it is very beneficial to meet people in the communities and see the facilities in person to get a better idea of the scale. They agreed that a visit to WIPP could be considered inappropriate, but that a decision to visit France or Sweden would be considered as defensible. They also confirmed that arranging visits at this stage in the process would not rule out the option for a future CSP to arrange its own programme of visits.

7.11 – Agreements and way forward

It was agreed that the Steering Group should discuss the concerns and potential benefits, and agree a way forward. A trial virtual visit of WIPP will be considered, and in the meantime, the Programme Manager will write to all Partnership members to determine their individual interest in taking part in a programme of visits.

8. Evaluation

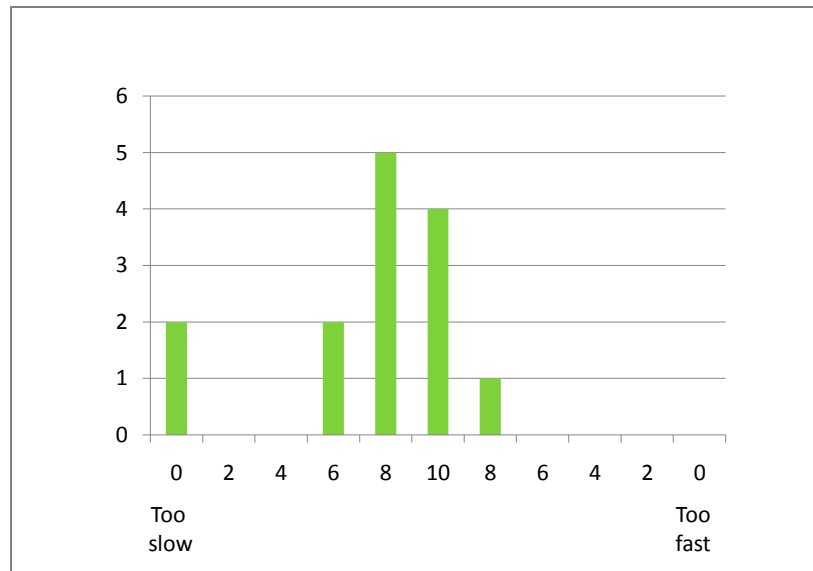
1. How confident are you in this Partnership to give well-informed and robust advice at the end of its work programme?



Comments:

- No sense of difficult topics (agreement) being tackled.

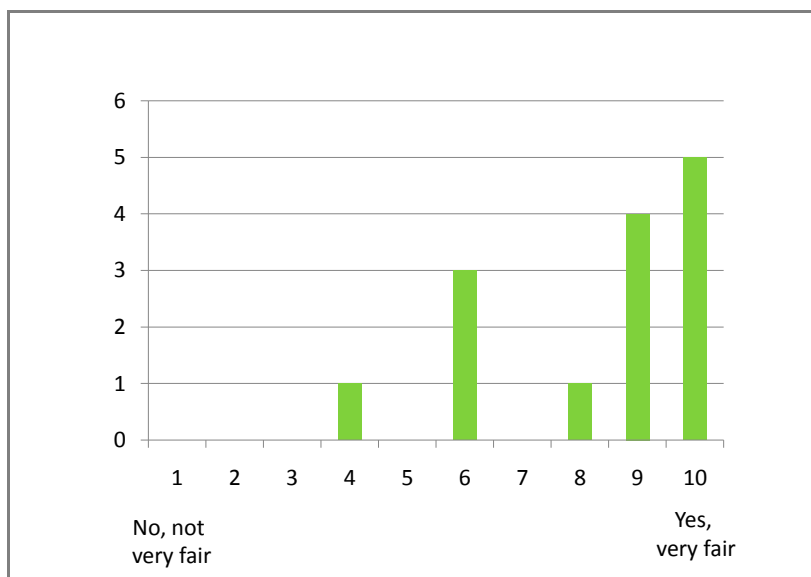
2. How do you feel about the pace the Partnership is moving at?



Comments:

- Glacial.
- I think that members should think about an earlier DtP, with some of the current work programme left until after DtP.

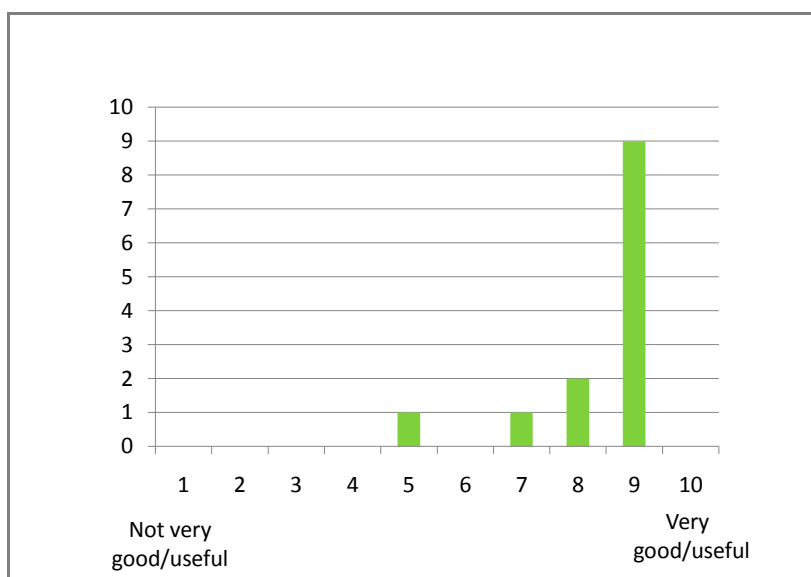
3. Do you feel the Partnership meetings are run in a fair and unbiased way?



Comments:

- Dominated by Principal Authorities.

4. How would you rate the meeting reporting, including the one page executive summary?



5. Is there anything else you would like to say about this meeting or the Partnership more widely?

- Too soon to say (new member).
- The partial attendance by some members had impacts on meeting. Rotating locations around Copeland/Allerdale would tie in with some PSE2 comments.
- Regret my comment re not staying throughout.

- There is a tendency to move on from difficult (often process) decisions which invariably come back again – may be easier (more prudent) to deal with these sooner.
- The discussions on the chair and overseas visits were not very good – a lack of clear focus on what the objectives are.

9. Way Forward and Actions

9.1 – Register of Interests

A Register of Interests will be published on the Partnership website by the end of January 2011.

9.2 – Final reporting process

The draft plan for the final reporting process of the Partnership will be adopted and published on the website (Document 118).

9.3 – Community benefits

The list of potential principles to be applied in West Cumbria will be developed further by the Community Benefits Sub-Group.

9.4 – Inventory

Principles 1 – 7 will be taken forward for discussion with the Government. The discussion paper (Document 97) will be updated and published on the Partnership website.

9.5 – Programme of international site visits

The Steering Group will consider the issues that were raised regarding organising a series of visits to overseas facilities. In the meantime, the Programme Manager will determine the interest of individual Partnership members in taking part in visits, and explore the possibility of trialling a ‘virtual’ visit of WIPP in early 2011.

9.6 – Dates

The forward programme of meeting dates is provided below. Partnership members are requested to note all new dates in their diaries. Members of the public are welcome to observe the Partnership meetings (right hand column). Please contact the Secretariat for details and registration on 0800 048 8912.

Steering Group meetings 2011:	Partnership meetings 2011:
5 January	19 January <i>(Hundith Hill Hotel, near Cockermouth)</i>
2 February	
16 February	3 March <i>(The Copeland Centre, Whitehaven)</i>
16 March	
31 March	14 April <i>(The Wave, Maryport)</i>
<i>Further dates to be advised</i>	24 May <i>(venue tbc, Copeland)</i>
	23 June <i>(venue tbc, Allerdale)</i>
	7 July <i>(venue tbc, Copeland)</i>
	18 August <i>(venue tbc, Allerdale)</i>
	29 September <i>(venue tbc, Copeland)</i>
	10 November <i>(venue tbc, Allerdale)</i>
	15 December <i>(venue tbc, Copeland)</i>
Steering Group meetings 2012:	Partnership meetings 2012:
	26 January <i>(venue tbc, Allerdale)</i>

9.7 – Actions. The following actions were agreed:

	Action	Who	By when
1	Work with relevant members to create a Register of Interests and publish on the website.	Rhuari	End Jan 2011
2	Check the practicalities of carrying out the final Ipsos MORI survey to the level of robustness that would be required to address the concerns raised by CALC. <i>(Carried forward from last meeting – item is being progressed and an update will be given at the next meeting.)</i>	Rhuari	19 Jan
3	Prepare a brief paper and presentation to the Partnership on how a siting process would need to fit in with local (and potential national) statutory planning processes. <i>(Carried forward from last meeting – this is now scheduled as an agenda item for the next meeting.)</i>	Steve S, Stewart, Charles, Rhuari	19 Jan
4	Revise Document 97 to publish as working draft on the Partnership website.	Fred	14 Jan
5	Circulate email to Partnership members to determine interest from individuals in taking part in visits to specific international sites.	Rhuari	19 Dec (done)
6	Circulate draft meeting report to Partnership attendees.	Jane	20 Dec
7	Comment on draft meeting report.	All attendees	5 Jan
8	Circulate final draft of meeting report and publish on website.	Jane	7 Jan

10. Public Questions/Comments

10.1 – Input from Fergus McMorrow

1. With regard to appropriate principles regarding community benefits, there is a difference between what's agreed in the Partnership and what's agreed with DECC, i.e. some of the work is for the Partnership, and some is for what will be agreed with the Government.
2. With regard to the questions about linking with new build, there is another example in Slovenia, where the community benefits package links together a new reactor and a repository.
3. With regard to the relationship between impacts and benefits, on the agenda for the Community Benefits Sub-Group, the plan was to produce a paper about which would be mitigated i.e. what is good social responsibility and what is enhancement. There is a danger of designing community benefits around impacts. There are no existing examples, and perceptions change dramatically over time. The knowledge needs to be there but be careful about how the two issues come together.
4. With regard to managing scale, I think you can create some kind of indicative measure – not the figures but some kind of common understanding of the expectation of scales. I suggest that you take Phil Richardson's work and try and look at some of the numbers. The Impacts Sub-Group involved Cumbria CC specialists in economy and it is possible to have some kind of algorithm e.g. averages, pro ratas, rounding, links to radioactive content etc. You could have some idea of scale and then say, given the nature of this kind of repository, this is the minimum kind of scale.

Partnership response to point 2 above

It was suggested that a further principle could be added about whether the issues are kept separate or linked together, and it was agreed that this needs to be considered.

10.2 – Input from Sean Moules

One of the points made earlier was about what the community actually is in relation to distribution of funding. As the community gets more localised it's about how you give them some control and input over how any funding is spent, and this is not just about the geographic spread of a community.

11. Acronyms/Abbreviations

ABC/Allerdale BC	Allerdale Borough Council
BGS	British Geological Survey
CALC	Cumbria Association of Local Councils
CBC/Copeland BC	Copeland Borough Council
CCC/Cumbria CC	Cumbria County Council
CoRWM	Committee on Radioactive Waste Management
CSP	Community Siting Partnership
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
DfT	Department for Transport
DMB	Decision Making Body
DtP	Decision to Participate
EA	Environment Agency
EoI	Expression of Interest
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FoE	Friends of the Earth
GDF	Geological Disposal Facility
HSE	Health & Safety Executive
ILW	Intermediate Level Waste
IPC	Infrastructure Planning Commission
LDNPA	Lake District National Park Authority
LGA	Local Government Association
LLW	Low Level Waste
LLWR	Low Level Waste Repository
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRWS	Managing Radioactive Waste Safely
NALC	National Association of Local Councils
ND	Nuclear Directorate (a department of the HSE)
NDA	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
NEA	Nuclear Energy Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NII	Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (of the HSE)
NNPS	Nuclear National Policy Statement
NWAA	Nuclear Waste Advisory Associates
NWDA	North West Development Agency
NuLeAF	Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum
NWAT	Nuclear Waste Assessment Team (of the EA)
OCNS	Office for Civil Nuclear Security
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PSE	Public and Stakeholder Engagement
RoW	Right of Withdrawal
RWMD	Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (of the NDA)
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SLC	Site Licence Company
ToRs	Terms of Reference
UKSO	UK Safeguards Office
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
WCSF	West Cumbrian Strategic Forum
WCSP	West Cumbria Strategic Partnership
WCSSG	West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group

Appendix 1 – Agenda for the 10th December 2010 meeting

Objectives of the meeting were to:

- Consider international experience of community benefits and discuss potential principles that could be applied in West Cumbria (Tasks 3a(ii+iii)).
- Agree the way forward concerning possible international site visits.
- Agree principles concerning inventory and how the community might influence it (Task 4b(i)).
- Agree the way forward on various operational issues.

Agenda

Time	Item	Agenda Notes
09.00	Arrivals/Registration	
09.30	Welcome Agenda setting Updates and actions	Tim Knowles, Chair of Partnership. Richard Harris, 3KQ. See updates sheet as tabled.
	Register of Interests	Proposal to adopt a Register of Interests for Partnership members (Doc 119).
	Final Reporting Process	Presentation/discussion on how conclusions will ultimately be reached (Doc 118).
	Community Benefits	Presentation on international experience of community benefits (Doc 116). Discussion on the potential principles that the Partnership could apply, at this stage.
	Public Questions	
13.00	Lunch	(approx. timing)
	Learning from International Experience	Presentation/discussion on possible overseas learning and site visits (Doc 124).
	Inventory	Update on activity since last meeting. Discussion of draft principles for inventory and change control (Doc 97).
	Way Forward	Confirm actions and next steps.
16.00	Close	

Bold type indicates papers sent out in advance of the meeting.

Appendix 2 – Attendees on 10th December 2010

Mike Davidson	Allerdale Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Tim Heslop (am only)	Allerdale Borough Council	
Charles Holmes (am only)	Allerdale Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Sam Standage (am only)	Allerdale Borough Council	
Ken Williams	Barrow Borough Council	
Guy Richardson	CALC	
Geoff Smith	Allerdale CALC	
Chris Shaw	Allerdale/Copeland CALC	(Steering Group member)
Keith Hitchen	Copeland CALC	(Steering Group member)
Jason Gooding	Carlisle City Council	
Yvonne Clarkson	Copeland Borough Council	
John Kane	Copeland Borough Council	
Allan Holliday (am only)	Copeland Borough Council	
Steve Smith	Copeland Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Elaine Woodburn	Copeland Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Paul Feehily (am only)	Cumbria County Council	
Tim Knowles (am only)	Cumbria County Council	(Steering Group member)
Gerald Humes (am only)	Cumbria County Council	
Richard Greenwood	Cumbria Tourism	
Mike Tonkin (am only)	Eden District Council	
Robert Allison	Lake District National Park Authority	
Judith Cooke	Lake District National Park Authority	
Robert Morris-Eyton (am only)	National Farmers Union	
Fred Barker	NuLeAF	
Simon Rowley (am only)	South Lakeland District Council	
Observing Members		
Bruce Cairns	DECC	
Andrew Craze	DECC	
Mark Dutton	CoRWM	
Gavin Thomson	Environment Agency	
Alun Ellis	NDA RWMD	
Jay Redgrove	NDA RWMD	
Apologies		
Brian Clark	CoRWM	
Ian Curwen	Copeland Borough Council	
Paul Walker	Copeland Borough Council	
Stewart Kemp	Cumbria County Council	(Steering Group member)
Tony Markley	Cumbria County Council	
Peter Kane	GMB Union	(Steering Group member)
Paul McKenna	Isle of Man Government	
Mick Bacon	Nuclear Installations Inspectorate	
Marcus Swift	Prospect Union	
David Moore	West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group	(Steering Group member)

Facilitators, Secretariat and Presenters

Richard Harris	3KQ (Facilitator)
Rhuari Bennett	3KQ (Facilitator and Programme Manager)
Jane Dalton	3KQ (Report Writer)
Sharon Walker	Copeland Borough Council (Secretariat)
John Mathieson	NDA
Phil Richardson	Galson Sciences Ltd

Other

Paul Gardner	Osprey Communications (Communications Adviser)
Gareth Powells	Wood Holmes (Partnership Evaluators)

Members of the Public and Stakeholders who attended for all or part of the meeting

Fergus McMorrow
Jean McSorley
Sean Moules

Other Members, Not in Attendance

Carni McCarron-Holmes	Allerdale Borough Council
Revd Dr Lindsay Gray	Churches Together in Cumbria
Rob Johnston	Cumbria Chamber of Commerce
David Southward	Cumbria County Council
Clare Feeney-Johnson	South Lakeland District Council

Appendix 3 – How Members Represent their Organisations on the Partnership

All Partnership members recognise the need to update the organisations that they represent and proactively feed their views in. This is essential to prevent Partnership members becoming 'detached' from their organisation in terms of understanding, as well as maintaining the credibility of the representative role that members commit to fulfilling. The table below sets out how each organisation undertakes to do this.

Note the gaps will be filled as reporting mechanisms are clarified.

Organisation	Nominated Representatives and preferred contact details	Mechanisms Used
Allerdale BC	<p>Mike Davidson (councillor) mike.davidson@allderdale.gov.uk Sam Standage (councillor) sam.standage@allderdale.gov.uk Tim Heslop (councillor) tim.heslop@allderdale.gov.uk Carni McCarron-Holmes (councillor) carni.mccarron-holmes@allderdale.gov.uk Charles Holmes charles.holmes@allderdale.gov.uk</p>	<p>Verbal progress report provided to the following meetings: - Corporate Management Team/ Heads of Service. - Regeneration Portfolio Holders. - Regeneration Managers Group (for further cascade). - Partnerships and Communities Directorate.</p> <p>Formal report for endorsement, or decision, would be via: - Nuclear Issues Task Group. - Executive Committee Council.</p>
Barrow BC	<p>Ken Williams (councillor) kenwilliams@barrowbc.gov.uk Phil Huck philhuck@barrowbc.gov.uk</p>	Verbal update given to Leader after each Partnership meeting.
CALC (Allerdale)	<p>Chris Shaw chris.shaw@calc.org.uk Geoff Smith (councillor) geoffandhelen@tesco.net</p>	Regular written and verbal report to CALC's Allerdale Association meetings.
CALC (Copeland)	<p>Chris Shaw chris.shaw@calc.org.uk Keith Hitchen (councillor) keith.hitchen@btinternet.com</p>	Regular written and verbal report to CALC's Copeland Association meetings.
CALC (Cumbria)	<p>Guy Richardson guy.richardson@calc.org.uk</p>	Regular written and verbal report to CALC's Executive Committee meetings.
Carlisle City Council	<p>Jason Gooding jasong@carlisle.gov.uk</p>	
Chamber of Commerce (Cumbria)	<p>Robert Johnston rob@cumbriachamber.co.uk</p>	
Churches Together in Cumbria (CTiC)	<p>Revd Dr Lindsay Gray lgray782@btinternet.com</p>	

Copeland BC	<p>Elaine Woodburn (councillor) ewoodburn@copelandbc.gov.uk Allan Holliday (councillor) allan.holliday@copeland.gov.uk John Kane (councillor) john.kane@copeland.gov.uk Yvonne Clarkson (councillor) yvonne.clarkson@copeland.gov.uk Paul Walker paul.walker@copeland.gov.uk Steve Smith steve.smith@copeland.gov.uk Ian Curwen ian.curwen@copeland.gov.uk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leader's update to full Council. - Update to Nuclear Working Group. - Update to Executive at key milestones. - Update to MRWS Task Group when needed.
Cumbria County Council	<p>Tim Knowles (councillor) timothy.knowles@cumbriacc.gov.uk Tony Markley (councillor) anthony.markley@cumbriacc.gov.uk David Southward (councillor) david.southward@virgin.net Gerald Humes (councillor) gerald.humes@cumbriacc.gov.uk Paul Feehily paul.feehily@cumbriacc.gov.uk Stewart Kemp stewart.kemp@cumbriacc.gov.uk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6-weekly written report to Nuclear Issues Working Group (NIWG). - Quarterly report to Cabinet. - Monthly report to Nuclear Issues Programme Board. - Possible insert in weekly briefing to all staff. - Link to Partnership website. - Attending Allerdale and Copeland Local Area Committees on request.
Cumbria Tourism	<p>Richard Greenwood rgreenwood@cumbriatourism.org</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep the rest of the organisation and the wider membership of CT informed. - Updates to Senior Management Team (as and when relevant). - Reports to the Executive Board and, where necessary, formal endorsement of CT's position on any decisions which need to be taken. - Email and Viewpoint (quarterly magazine to all members). - Presentation from the Partnership at a Commercial Members Meeting.
Eden District Council	<p>Mike Tonkin (councillor) mike.tonkin@eden.gov.uk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report to members on 'Outside Bodies' website. - Presentation to members as Environment Portfolio Holder.
GMB Union	<p>Peter Kane peter.kane@sellafieldsites.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates given to Shop Stewards Committee. - Forward newsletters to members.
Lake District National Park Authority	<p>Robert Allison robert.allison@lakedistrict.gov.uk Judith Cooke judith.cooke@lakedistrict.gov.uk</p>	
National Farmers Union	<p>Robert Morris-Eyton rmorriseyt@aol.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link to Partnership website and Robert's contact details placed on NFU website. - 2 principal officers that cover West Cumbria updated that the process is happening and to forward any queries to Robert.

NuLeAF	Fred Barker fbarker@gn.apc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written report to each NuLeAF Steering Group. - Referenced in e-bulletin. - Website has a GDF section which signposts Partnership meeting reports.
Prospect Union	Marcus Swift mjs17@sellafieldsites.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make the Partnership an agenda item at Sellafield Site Representatives Meetings, and either the General Purposes Committee or Branch Executive Council. - Send all appropriate papers to Prospect members in the Sellafield Limited Branch. - Collate questions, comments, points and general feedback. - Provide reports to Prospect's national SET Committee.
South Lakeland District Council	Simon Rowley s.rowley@southlakeland.gov.uk Clare Feeney-Johnson c.feeneyjohnson@southlakeland.gov.uk	Forward minutes and newsletters to Senior Management Team and Portfolio Holder.
WCSSG	David Moore dmoore@copelandbc.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarterly verbal updates to SSG. - Paragraph in quarterly newsletter. - Link on website to Partnership site.
Observing Members:		
CoRWM	Brian Clark briandclark@btinternet.com Mark Dutton lizmark@lizmark1.co.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal update to all plenary meetings. - Circulate key papers to Committee. - Insert in e-bulletin as appropriate.
DECC	Bruce Cairns bruce.cairns@decc.gsi.gov.uk Andrew Craze andrew.craze@decc.gsi.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report to various meetings and colleagues with an interest in the process. - Advise Ministers who take Government decisions in this area.
Environment Agency	Gavin Thomson gavin.thomson@environment-agency.gov.uk	Report key points arising to various colleagues in nuclear regulation and NW region.
Isle of Man Government	Paul McKenna paul.mckenna@gov.im	Presentation on geological disposal for Council of Ministers in June 2009.
NDA	Alun Ellis alun.ellis@nda.gov.uk Jay Redgrove jay.redgrove@nda.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly reporting to RWMD and central communications staff. - Dissemination of Partnership minutes and Meeting Reports to staff.
Nuclear Installations Inspectorate	Mick Bacon mick.bacon@hse.gsi.gov.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact reports distributed after each contact (meeting or otherwise). - Regular report to related project groups. - Briefings taken before each meeting depending on agenda.