

West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership



Meeting Report

From 25th June 2010

At The Washington Central Hotel, Workington

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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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Executive Summary

Overview. The 10th meeting of the West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership took place on 25th June 2010. 23 people attended with 8 members of the public present to observe the meeting. The main objectives of the meeting were to: adopt the plan for Round 2 of Public and Stakeholder Engagement, consider and agree a way forward on understanding and influencing the Site Selection Process, understand what a decision to participate might imply, and review the progress of the Partnership to date and alter the Work Programme accordingly.

Updates. The British Geological Survey has begun its screening study of West Cumbria, and the recruitment of peer reviewers is also underway. The report by the Partnership evaluators has now been published. A budget request has been submitted to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) for the current financial year: the Steering Group is in the process of responding to questions from DECC before the engagement package can be agreed. The Environment Agency (EA) plans to start a consultation on its initial view on the acceptability of new reactor designs on the 28th of June. The EA and other regulators are in discussion with Nuclear Waste Advisory Associates over a list of issues that they have drafted with respect to a geological disposal facility. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has been contracted by the Nuclear Industry Association, to undertake initial feasibility studies to investigate several key issues associated with spent fuel management. Officers from the Partnership met to discuss the process by which a decision about participation would be made: a members' meeting is being arranged to consider the outputs. DECC provided assurance that there is continued commitment from the Government to implementing geological disposal for higher activity radioactive waste through voluntarism and partnership with local communities.

Public and Stakeholder Engagement Round 2 (PSE2). The plan for PSE2 was adopted. A refresher Q&A session is being organised around the start of PSE2 to help all Partnership members field questions from the public as accurately as possible. Engagement events are now being organised, alongside awareness raising activities including regular newsletters, press releases and attendance at the Whitehaven Festival.

Principles for Involvement of Affected Communities. The Partnership discussed the stages involved in the Government's siting process, and how communities could be involved. It was recognised that this is a particularly complex issue with choices to be made if West Cumbria participates further. It was agreed that the Partnership needs to determine what should be in place before the stage of taking a decision about participation, and what should be left for a potential Community Siting Partnership to decide, if relevant. To allow the public to input to these deliberations, PSE2 will involve publishing a set of draft principles setting out how local communities could be involved, and their views invited.

Progress Review. The Partnership carried out the first significant review of its progress against the Work Programme. Whilst a few specific concerns were aired, there was broad agreement that the Work Programme provides an appropriate framework for the Partnership to proceed with, up to the point about a decision about participation. The capacity of Partnership members to deal with the associated workload and engagement activity will be considered by the Steering Group.

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:

- Adopt the plan for Round 2 of Public and Stakeholder Engagement (PSE2) (Task 6a(iv)).
- Consider and agree a way forward on two fundamental issues:
 - Defining what the Partnership means by ‘Credible Support’ in relation to participation and decision making. *This agenda item was subject to confirmation, and will now be discussed at the Partnership meeting on August 5th.*
 - Understanding and influencing the Site Selection Process (Task 5a(i)).
- Understand what a decision to participate (DtP) might imply (Task 5a(iii)).
- Review the progress of the Partnership to date, and alter the Work Programme accordingly.

The full agenda is in Appendix 1.

1.2 – Attendance

23 participants¹ attended at The Washington Central Hotel in Workington on 25th June 2010. A full list of those in attendance is in Appendix 2. The meeting was open for the public to observe and 8 members of the public attended.

2. Updates

2.1 – Independent evaluation report

The report by the Partnership evaluators (Golder Associates) is now available, including a one page executive summary (Document 80 in the Document Library on the Partnership website www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk). The Steering Group has considered the report and is broadly pleased with the findings.

A discussion was held about what has happened as a result of the report. It was confirmed that many actions commenced as the findings were fed in by the evaluators e.g. invitations to new members to join the Partnership, the officers’ meeting about decision making. Whilst it is not felt that there are any outstanding actions, it was agreed that all Steering Group members should satisfy themselves that the issues raised in the evaluation report have been attended to. The Steering Group will produce a summary document for the Partnership, outlining the responses and actions that have arisen as a result of the evaluation report. Partnership members were encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Steering Group minutes.

2.2 – British Geological Survey screening study

The British Geological Survey (BGS) has now begun its screening study of West Cumbria. The recruitment of peer reviewers is also underway. The Steering Group will meet on 18th August from 09.30 –12.00, to review the draft BGS report, alongside any independent peer reviewer comments. This meeting is open to Partnership members to attend.

¹ Plus 4 from the facilitation team and secretariat.

2.3 – Funding from DECC

A budget request has been submitted to DECC for the current financial year. DECC has raised various questions and requests for more detail, and the Steering Group is in the process of responding to these before confirmation can be given by DECC.

2.4 – Documents published

Since the last Partnership meeting the following documents have been published on the Partnership website:

- 80 – Evaluation Phase 1 report.
- 79 – E-bulletin 5.
- 78 – Steering Group minutes from 9th June 2010.
- 77 – Steering Group minutes from 26th May 2010.
- 72 – Partnership meeting report from 13th May 2010.
- 71 – Community Benefit scoping note.

2.5 – Environment Agency, Generic Design Assessment consultation

The Environment Agency (EA) plans to start the consultation on its initial view on the acceptability of the new reactor designs on the 28th of June. They will produce a consultation document that will ask general and technical questions, explain their view and their conclusions on whether to issue a statement of design acceptability for each design. To be included on the EA's Generic Design Assessment stakeholder database, contact the EA (08708 506 506 or gda@environment-agency.gov.uk). The EA's Stakeholder Engagement Plan is published on their website at www.hse.gov.uk/newreactors/publicinvolvement.htm.

2.6 – Environment Agency, Issues Register

Nuclear Waste Advisory Associates (NWAA), a group of individuals with environmental experience, has been in discussion with the EA over a list of issues that they have drafted with respect to a geological disposal facility (GDF). The EA is planning, together with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Department for Transport (DfT), to meet with NWAA shortly to discuss matters further.

The EA feels that it is particularly important to maintain the proper accountabilities throughout the Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS) programme. The EA is in the course of making its existing Regulatory Issues Resolution Process a joint one with the HSE and DfT. In doing so, they aim to take account of stakeholder raised issues, but distinguish these from matters raised in the regulatory process, in order to maintain their independence as regulators.

2.7 – Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, feasibility studies on spent fuel management

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's (NDA's) Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD) has been contracted by the Nuclear Industry Association on behalf of potential new build operators to undertake some initial feasibility studies to investigate several key issues associated with spent fuel management. It is expected that this work will be completed within a short timescale of around 3 months. The feasibility studies will have the following 4 strands:

- Consideration of alternative GDF design options for new build spent fuel.
- Issues associated with centralised spent fuel storage.
- Issues associated with centralised spent fuel packaging.
- Consideration of alternative spent fuel cask designs.

It is intended that the feasibility studies will provide a better understanding of the issues, and provide a basis for future consideration of possible alternatives to the current baseline scenario (storage and encapsulation of spent fuel at each new build site).

2.8 – NDA consultation on the site assessment process for a GDF

The NDA confirmed that the consultation document is being prepared on its proposals for a national framework for site assessment. The document will be ready for consultation in January 2011.

2.9 – Officers' meeting

The officers of Allerdale and Copeland Borough Councils, Cumbria County Council and Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) met on 17th June 2010. The discussion at this meeting focused on the process that each organisation would go through prior to a decision about participation. It was agreed that coordination of processes should be put in place, so that, at key stages in the decision making process, each organisation would be likely to make decisions at the same time. A proposed process is now in draft form and it was agreed that each officer would feed this back to their members.

It was acknowledged that it has been difficult to find a date for the members' meeting to further discuss the concerns raised by CALC (see May 13th meeting report, Document 72, Section 6.1, for details of the prior meeting and related discussions), but it was agreed that this still needs to be organised as soon as possible.

2.10 – Impacts Sub-Group

The group has not met since the last Partnership meeting. The 'Invitation to tender' documentation for proposed research into the impacts of a GDF is now complete and ready to go to tender.

2.11 – Community Benefits Sub-Group

The group have met once since the last meeting and are working through the remit that was endorsed at the last meeting, namely drafting some principles for community benefit and also identifying overseas learning for the Partnership.

2.12 – NDA Steps Towards Implementation

The NDA's work on Steps Towards Implementation is now due for publication on 6th July. It is aimed mainly at environmental and science journalists, although the animation that will be on the website post-launch will also be suitable for members of the public.

2.13 – NDA organisational effectiveness review

The NDA advised that it had recently completed an organisational effectiveness review. The review reflects the changes in needs of the NDA from a start up to a delivery organisation. It was therefore considered necessary to adapt and change to ensure that the NDA is fit for purpose in terms of its size, shape and effectiveness. The proposed changes are currently being consulted upon. RWMD has not been part of this review.

2.14 – Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) assurance on the MRWS process

DECC reminded the Partnership of their statement at the last meeting on 13th May (Document 72, Section 2.10). They reiterated that there is a continued commitment to radioactive waste disposal through voluntarism, and gave assurance that there should be no need for concerns over slippage and timescales with regard to the Government's commitment to the process. It was reiterated that the rate of progress is in the hands of the local communities, and it is particularly important that DECC take the time to engage with the Partnership, and for the Partnership to engage with the people of Allerdale, Copeland and the rest of Cumbria more widely.

2.15 – Agenda item on Credible Support

The agenda item: *'To consider and agree a way forward on defining what the Partnership means by 'Credible Support' in relation to participation and decision making'*, was postponed to the next Partnership meeting on 5th August, in order to allow more time for reflection by the Steering Group on the discussion paper prepared by Fred Barker.

3. Public & Stakeholder Engagement Round 2

3.1 – PSE2 plan

Following discussions at the previous Partnership meeting on May 13th (Document 72, Section 5) and subsequent amendments, the proposed PSE2 plan was adopted by the Partnership (Document 15.1 draft 6).

3.2 – Concerns regarding the perceptions of looking now at Stage 4

CALC noted the concerns in some parishes that, by looking at what might happen in Stage 4 of the MRWS process *should* a DtP be taken, the Partnership may be considered to be trying to sidestep Stages 1 – 3. CALC are keen to ensure that the work involved in PSE2 takes these concerns into consideration. However, the Partnership, including CALC, felt that it was important to know what the siting process in Stage 4 would hold in store for the community *should* a decision be made to participate further.

3.3 – Actions and way forward

Partnership members agreed to the following actions to raise awareness of PSE2 in their organisations:

- Publicise the plans internally to staff/members.
- Publicise externally in newsletters etc.
- Organise briefings of their members or board, as appropriate.

Members were asked to provide as much notice as possible if they require help from the PSE Sub-Group in carrying out any of these actions. The PSE Sub-Group will continue working on the plans for PSE2 and will keep the Partnership and Steering Group updated.

3.4 – PSE2 Updates

3.4.1 – E-bulletin 5 was sent out to the Partnership's database of 492 people in June. Information was requested from all Partnership members regarding the number of employees/members and stakeholders that the bulletin is forwarded to.

3.4.2 – Template publicity article. Paul Gardner has drafted and circulated a 500 word template article. Partnership members are encouraged to use it in their publications, adapting it appropriately as needed.

3.4.3 – Refresher/practice Q&A session. This is being organised around the start of PSE2 to help all Partnership members field questions from the public. Dates are to be confirmed but will most likely include 3 separate 3-hour slots that Partnership members sign up to depending on convenience. Ideally everyone will attend a session in order to address the growing imbalance between Steering Group involvement and other Partnership members.

3.4.4 – Whitehaven Festival. The Partnership has a small tent at the festival on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th June. There will be exhibition boards, leaflets, information, a quiz with a prize and the NDA's DVD on rolling viewing. Partnership members were asked to attend during the weekend to help answer questions and talk to members of the public.

3.4.5 – Stakeholder Organisation Workshop. A provisional date of 3rd November has been booked at the Hunday Manor Hotel. Invitation lists and a draft agenda will be pulled together as plans for PSE2 progress.

3.4.6 – Discussion Pack. Production is underway. A draft film script has been circulated and filming began at today's meeting, with Partnership members being interviewed to provide raw footage. Editorial control is with the Partnership, and the film will be trialled with the Partnership for comment before it is released.

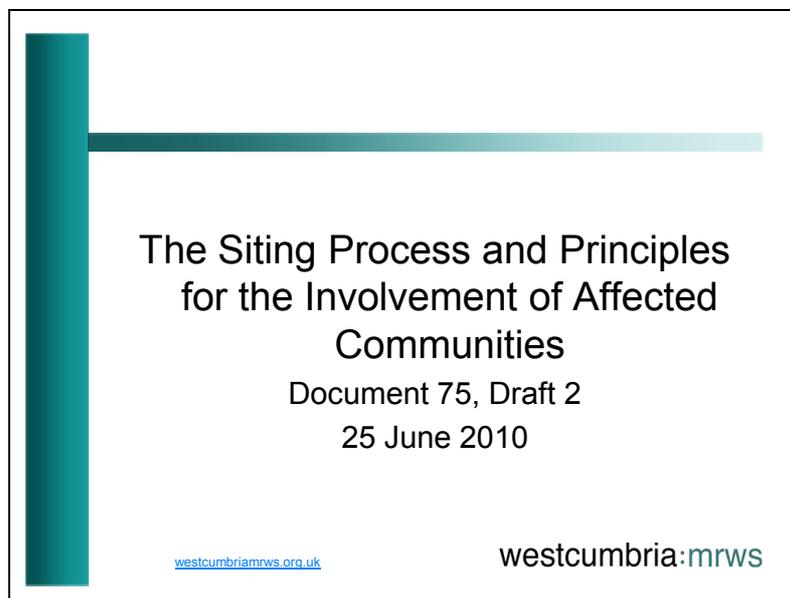
3.4.7 – Bilateral meetings. The following meetings have been organised for the Partnership to provide an update:

- 12th July – Schools Council.
- 7th September – Lake District National Park Partnership (also a potential meeting with the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) members).
- 8th September – Cumbria Tourism members quarterly meeting.

4. Siting Process and Principles of Involvement for Affected Communities

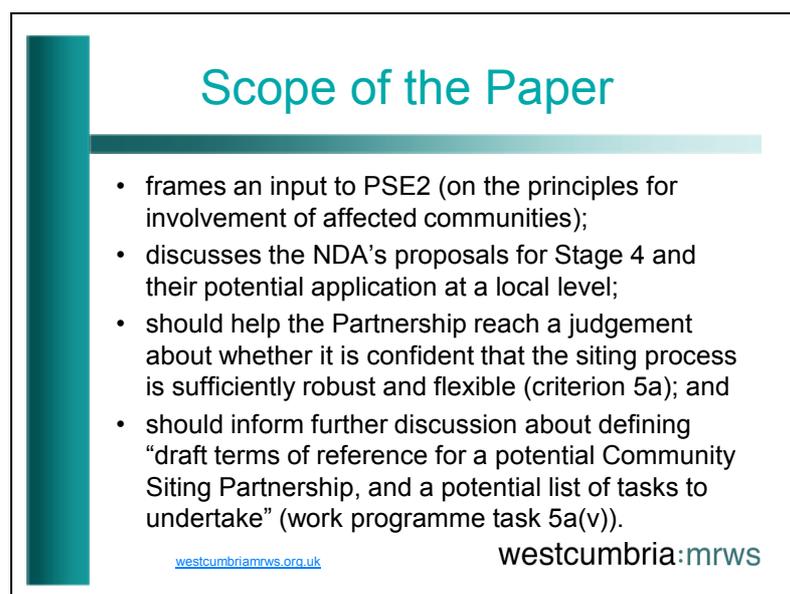
4.1 – Background

In order to further address Task 5a(i) in the Work Programme ‘*Understand the site selection process*’, Fred Barker prepared a discussion paper to help the Partnership to consider the issues involved, and agree a way forward on understanding and influencing the Government’s process. An overview of the discussion paper ‘*The Siting Process and Principles of Involvement for Affected Communities*’ (Document 75, draft 2) was presented – copies of the slides are below.



The Siting Process and Principles
for the Involvement of Affected
Communities
Document 75, Draft 2
25 June 2010

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Scope of the Paper

- frames an input to PSE2 (on the principles for involvement of affected communities);
- discusses the NDA’s proposals for Stage 4 and their potential application at a local level;
- should help the Partnership reach a judgement about whether it is confident that the siting process is sufficiently robust and flexible (criterion 5a); and
- should inform further discussion about defining “draft terms of reference for a potential Community Siting Partnership, and a potential list of tasks to undertake” (work programme task 5a(v)).

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The WP – defining communities

- **Host Community** – the community in which any facility will be built . The 'Host Community' will be a small geographically defined area, and include the population of that area and the owners of the land.
- **Wider Local Interests** – outside the Host Community there are likely to be other communities that have an interest in the development of a facility, and there needs to be a mechanism that allows them to become involved in the process. Such a community might be the next village, a neighbouring district or a community on the local transport route.

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The WP – siting stages

- **Stage 4: Desk-based studies** - to assess candidate sites against site selection criteria, ensuring that local issues are addressed.
- **Stage 5: Surface-based investigations** – to assess remaining candidate sites and identify a preferred site. The investigations will include non-intrusive seismic surveys and the drilling of boreholes.
- **Stage 6: Underground operations** – to confirm a site's suitability and construct a repository.

Paper focuses on Stage 4, consisting of two main steps: identifying potential sites and undertaking desk-based studies of those potential sites.

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Findings from PSE1

- **Points raised** – need clarity on: a fair and transparent process for moving from broad areas to potential sites; and the definition and role of potential host communities in the process.
- **Partnership response** – we will develop our thinking on appropriate decision making processes, covering: the definition and role of potential host communities, and the timing of their involvement; and a set of principles to express how the Principal Authorities, CALC and the parish councils could work together post-DtP.

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Defining affected communities - WSC

- Communities cannot be defined solely by lines on a map. They can be based on shared relationships or things in common - spatial proximity, social interactions, shared experience, resources or economic interests, and shared beliefs
- A 'sense of community' or 'feeling of belonging' can relate to: a specific place; a functional economic area; or different levels of representative democracy.
- An effective siting process should define the scope and scale of the communities affected by the development, taking into account the different types of impact and various aspects of community.

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Defining affected communities - summary

- **'host community'** – as WP, including those with a strong sense of community or feeling of belonging
- **'wider local interests'** – as WP, including those over wider areas who perceive themselves to be impacted or at risk, or who may wish, for example, to maximise the value of the potential development to a wider economic or administrative area
- **'affected communities'** - taken to include 'host communities' and 'wider local interests'

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NDA Proposals for Stage 4

- a) Review and agree detailed process for Stage 4
- b) Generate long list of potential sites and undertake high level review to identify potential sites for desk-based studies
- c) CSP recommends whether to proceed with desk-based studies at potential sites
- d) DMBs decide whether to proceed with desk-based studies at recommended sites
- e) Undertake desk-based studies to identify sites for surface-based investigations
- f) CSP recommends whether to proceed with surface-based investigations at potential sites
- g) DMBs decide whether they wish to proceed with surface-based investigations at recommended sites

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Key decisions about Stage 4

- who will lead and undertake the work
- how an initial list of potential sites will be identified
- which assessment process and local criteria will be used to identify sites for desk-based studies
- how affected communities will be defined and involved
- what criteria will be used by the CSP to reach a judgement about whether to recommend proceeding with desk-based studies and surface-based investigations
- how the CSP might be involved in assessments based on the desk-based studies

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Who should lead the process?

- **NDA suggests** the CSP could: (a) develop and apply their own process; (b) develop their process, supported by the NDA and the NDA could apply the process; or (c) the CSP could ask the NDA to develop and apply the process in consultation with the CSP.
- **Further option** - the CSP should develop the process, supported by the NDA. The CSP should participate in its application (enabling local knowledge and expertise to inform the work, and local issues and concerns to be addressed).

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How should the initial list of sites be identified?

The NDA suggests that this be based *initially* on locations for surface facilities. Options include:

- a CSP working group using screening criteria (eg exclusion of areas of high population density and nationally designated landscape areas) and/or reviewing site allocations in LDFs and the MWDF; and/or
- the CSP or NDA calling for expressions of interest from site owners or potential host communities.

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How should sites for desk-based studies be identified?

The NDA suggests that the initial list of sites be subject to a series of high-level assessments, based on:

- geological setting of the potential surface locations and implications for design and safety case development;
- exclusion of sites for which there is not an ability to develop a design appropriate to the host geology that is likely to meet operational and long-term safety requirements; and
- the implications for costs associated with potential surface and underground locations.

The CSP may also wish to apply a set of further criteria, for example, relating to proximity to the Sellafield site, accessibility, proximity to housing or flood risk.

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How should potentially affected communities be involved?

Need a significant 'pause point' between generating the initial list of potential sites and undertaking the high level review, so that potentially affected communities can be identified and involved. Involvement could come through engagement (PSE) or membership of the CSP.

Engagement should enable potential host communities to:

- develop a good understanding of the overall siting process, how they can influence it, the nature of a GDF, its impacts and how they might be addressed, and the potential for host community benefits;
- discuss the 'working draft' of the detailed Stage 4 process and how the long list of highly provisional potential sites has been generated; and
- participate in, or review, the high level assessment of the long list of potential sites.

Membership of the CSP would enable potential host community representatives to be directly involved in formulating CSP recommendations about the preferred sites for desk-based studies.

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Criteria for deciding whether to recommend proceeding with desk-based studies?

These criteria might include confidence that:

- the assessment process for identifying sites for desk-based studies is robust
- there are no grounds for screening out any of the sites proposed for desk-based studies
- potentially affected communities have been properly engaged in the process
- there will be an adequate process for developing benefit packages alongside the desk-based studies
- future steps in the siting process provide sufficient opportunity for any other outstanding issues to be addressed
- that any recommendation is credible in the light of the views of potential host communities.

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NDA proposals for desk-based studies and multi-criteria assessment

- define evaluation criteria (geological setting, potential impact on people, potential impact on the natural environment, effect on socio-economics, transport and infrastructure; and cost, timing and ease of implementation);
- develop a scoring methodology to represent the performance of each site against the criteria;
- gather information to provide data and conduct technical modelling to inform scoring; and
- develop a process for establishing weightings to reflect the relative importance of the criteria.

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Inputs to assessment

NDA proposes the following inputs:

- information gathering to provide data and conduct technical modelling
- expert workshops to review and agree evaluation criteria and scoring scales, and to score the sites against the criteria ('scoring workshops')
- PSE workshops to ensure that all key evaluation criteria are included, obtain stakeholder views about criteria weighting and to provide feedback
- Update workshops involving key staff in the NDA delivery organisation.

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Involvement in assessment?

- By this step at the latest, representatives of potential host communities should be members of the CSP.
- Various members of the CSP could be involved in information gathering (particularly on environmental, socio-economic, transport and infrastructure criteria), and could provide officers with relevant expertise to participate in the scoring workshops.
- A CSP could organise, or be closely involved with, PSE workshops about criteria weighting.

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Criteria for deciding whether to recommend proceeding with surface-based investigations?

These criteria might include confidence that:

- the MCDA assessment process was robust
- the basis for identifying preferred sites for surface-based investigations is robust
- potentially affected communities have been properly engaged in the process
- adequate progress has been made in identifying benefit packages
- future steps in the siting process provide sufficient opportunity for any other outstanding issues to be addressed
- that any recommendation is credible in the light of the views of potential host communities

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Potential principles for involvement

These could include that all parties will:

- 1) ensure that there is a timely and effective process for identifying and involving potentially affected communities
- 2) ensure that the membership of the CSP is sufficiently flexible to accommodate representatives of affected communities as they are identified
- 3) strive for a constructive, deliberative and consensual process, with an emphasis on effective communication, engagement, joint working, respect for divergent views and reasoned weighing of evidence and arguments
- 4) draw on local knowledge and expertise in timely and effective ways
- 5) secure the most equitable collective outcome for host communities, DMBs and wider local interests, including the distribution of benefits
- 6) avoid the imposition of a GDF on an unwilling host community
- 7) respect the final decisions of DMBs

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Potential uses for the paper

- frame an input to PSE2 (on the principles for involvement of affected communities);
- inform discussion of the NDA's preliminary proposals for Stage 4 and potential application at a local level
- inform the Partnership's judgement about whether it is confident that the siting process is sufficiently robust and flexible (criterion 5a); and
- inform discussion about defining draft terms of reference for a potential CSP and a potential list of tasks to undertake (work programme task 5a(v)).

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4.2 – Areas to consider

There is a difficult balance to strike in terms of how much to look forward over the fence into Stage 4. On the one hand the Partnership must be able to answer questions that people are bound to ask about what happens next, *should* a DtP be taken. On the other hand, it is inappropriate to give these stages too much focus because a decision has not yet been made about future participation. In the light of this, Partnership members were asked to consider:

- i. Their thoughts on the overall approach.
- ii. Views on the:
 - a. Draft principles.
 - b. Questions of process and who will lead on Stage 4 (if needed).
- iii. Thoughts on taking these issues into PSE2.

The areas of discussion are summarised in 4.3 – 4.16 below.

4.3 – Clarification of the output from the BGS screening

It was noted by the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM) that the BGS screening study screens out volumes of rock that are unsuitable for the *sub-surface* facilities for a GDF. The survey will *not* screen out areas that might be suitable for surface facilities, which can be a long way from the underground repository itself (from an engineering perspective, underground tunnels of significant length (say up to 20km) are possible). When the BGS map of the area is made available, it is therefore important to note that it will not necessarily exclude any communities from the overall process, as it will only be about areas that are underground.

It is also important to note that, if a volume of rock is *not* screened out by the BGS, it does not necessarily mean that it *is* suitable.

It was stressed that care must be used in the terminology that is used when communicating the findings from the BGS screening.

4.4 – Identification of potential sites

A discussion was held about how many potential sites would be likely to be identified through the site selection process. The NDA acknowledged that it is very hard to give a definitive answer to this question, as the number of potential areas that could be suitable for further investigations depends on the outcome of the BGS screening.

The NDA's site assessment process has been shaped by input from various organisations including the Partnership, and it is still evolving. Feedback has been given throughout, that the initial part of the process needs to run in parallel, i.e. the geology and all other factors should be taken into account in determining areas to undergo surface-based investigations in Stage 5. As previously discussed by the NDA at the meeting on 23rd February (see Document 58, Section 6), this might be done in some sort of numerical way, or it could be looked at by a group such as a Community Siting Partnership (CSP) to analyse. The NDA made it clear that, although producing a long list of sites as a first step in the process is one option, they recommend an approach which considers the whole area put forward and then progressively narrows this down on the basis of clearly defined criteria.

It was acknowledged by the Partnership that this clearly illustrates that there are a number of options, and that each one has an influence on how potential host communities are identified. It was suggested that the choice should be influenced by how

quickly the people in affected communities can be involved, so that too much work is not done without involving potential host communities appropriately.

4.5 – Interface with statutory planning processes

The need to integrate this process with statutory planning processes was highlighted. There was a reminder that the local authorities will have a statutory role in terms of land use planning, and this will, to a significant extent, be dependent on local planning policy. The process will therefore need to be designed to integrate statutory land use planning policy with the processes adopted by a CSP, the regulators and the operators. It was also noted that the impact of the body replacing the Infrastructure Planning Commission is not yet known.

There was a reminder that there are 2 siting decisions: the host rock and the surface facilities, and the planning process is particularly critical for surface level facilities. It was suggested that it this should be made clear when talking about site selection, as the process is unlikely to be the same for both. The officers from the 3 Councils took an action to look at how all of this fits in with local and national planning processes, including Local Development Frameworks.

4.6 – Potential for a number of CSPs *if* a DtP is taken

A discussion was held about whether more than one CSP could potentially be formed, as this has profound implications on the way forward *if* a DtP is taken. It was agreed that having more than one CSP cannot be discounted, and that different approaches in Allerdale and Copeland might be adopted.

A suggestion was made that there could be a core group forming a CSP, but if more than one site is being looked at, representatives from each of those locations should be on the core group. The question was raised as to whether site identification will run in parallel with identifying host communities, or whether one will come before the other.

It is already known that the level of support in Copeland is different to Allerdale, and this is another reason why it might be appropriate to adopt different processes. It is also not always clear where host communities might be, or *what* a host community might be, and this might also lead into a divergence about policy on a local level.

4.7 – Exercising the Right of Withdrawal

There was a reminder that the 'Right of Withdrawal' (RoW) remains in place until late in the process (just before construction can start), and the need to include this in discussions and papers was highlighted.

CALC stated that, although the White Paper states that the Decision Making Body (DMB) would exercise the RoW, they would like to see the local policy being changed to it being the CSP that would take the decision. Some other members agreed that communities should be able to exercise the RoW for their area.

The issue of the potential for significant geographic distance between the 2 facilities (underground and surface) was also raised. It was stated that, in this case, communities that might be above the underground tunnels between the facilities would also be affected, meaning that the issue of which host community would get to exercise the right of veto over the process is even more complicated.

Cumbria CC acknowledged that this issue is a difficult one, but stated that the RoW clearly rests with the principal authorities, and that the right of veto is unlikely to be handed down to a town or village. The DMBs will have a number of factors to take into account, and the views of a community or village will be weighted heavily, but it would be

wrong to suggest that the formal RoW would rest with a small community such as a village. The issue of what to do if the prevailing opinion is yes but a small community says no, was discussed briefly.

Some of these issues will be the subject of a further conversation and paper at the next Partnership meeting on 5th August.

4.8 – DECC statement

DECC acknowledged that site identification issues are very complex. The Partnership is looking beyond a future decision point to say what might come next, and this is inevitably going to be complicated, uncertain and difficult to determine. It was reiterated that the White Paper is deliberately not too prescriptive on these issues, in order to avoid overly constraining the choices of the local DMB(s) and CSP. The reference to local democracy is key, and this is why DECC feels it is problematic and unnecessary for the Partnership to pre-judge the details of what might be done *if* West Cumbria should decide to participate in the next stage of the process. The Partnership was therefore encouraged to focus on identifying the fundamental things that the process should have, or not have, in order to influence the DMB(s) on whether to participate or not.

4.9 – Proximity to Sellafield

Concerns were raised about the inclusion of the statement on page 9 of Document 75, about potentially adding in a criterion about proximity to the Sellafield site. It was agreed that the issue of minimising transportation should be a criterion that is taken into account, but that care is needed in how this is worded. It was suggested that the wording should be changed to 'impact of transportation'.

4.10 – Additional criteria pre-DtP

A discussion was held about the issue of whether to include additional criteria, above the geological ones, prior to the point of making a decision about participation.

There were mixed views about this issue, with some members feeling that there should be additional criteria for ruling out certain areas/communities in advance of a decision about participation, and others warning of the dangers of adopting additional criteria at this stage. There was a reminder that people are bound to ask questions about this in PSE2.

A question was also raised about how the Partnership should deal with a community that has taken a proper approach to consultation, and has clearly said no to being included in the list of potential sites.

4.11 – Draft principles and concerns about principle 6

A discussion was held about the draft potential principles for involvement (Document 75, page 13, and see slides above). There was a reminder that a decision about participation is some way off, and that these principles will only come into play in a few years time, *if* a DtP is taken. The reason for determining guiding principles at this stage is to provide a degree of comfort for potential host communities *should* a DtP take place.

There was broad acceptance of the principles apart from principle 6, about which there was a range of views. Principle 6 states that: 'All parties will avoid the imposition of a GDF on an unwilling host community'. Agreement was not reached as to whether the words 'without proper justification' should be added to this. Some supported the addition whilst others disagreed and reiterated the view that, if a community does not want a facility, it should not have one imposed on them under any circumstances at all.

It was suggested that it might be useful to have a couple of options for the wording to cover the range of views in the room.

The role of DMBs was discussed again, with some reiterating the view that the decision should be made by the 3 principal authorities, as they are the elected politicians who are meant to listen to and represent people. Others felt that this approach gives the principal authorities the ability to ignore what people are saying.

There was also a reminder that there is real need for the Partnership to assuage concerns raised by people in PSE1 over confusion as to who the DMB is, and scepticism about whether people's views will really be taken into account.

A suggestion was made that the precise wording of the principles does not need to be concentrated on too much, as they are in *draft* form to potentially go into PSE2. There was a reminder that PSE2 is about getting input before PSE3, and that if this is a genuine PSE process, the principles are therefore potentially going to change.

4.12 – Credible support and decision making in relation to principle 6

CALC highlighted section 6.25 in the White Paper that states that, at the stage of taking a decision about participation, there should be a report outlining the outcome of the engagement that has taken place. CALC stated that the Partnership would not want that report to say that the Partnership is recommending going ahead, despite a number of communities being unwilling, as that might not be credible.

Cumbria CC acknowledged that the PSE process will generate many conflicting views, and it has little confidence that a small geographic community would necessarily come forward with a clear view as, in turn, there will probably be a mix of opinions. The Council re-stated its viewpoint that decision making needs to be done through well developed administrative and decision making structures, but that the views of communities will be taken into account.

The NDA stated their view that most communities would probably sign up to principles 1 – 5 and 7 (which they consider to be very clear on a national level), but principle 6 needs to be addressed on a local level.

DECC acknowledged that, whilst these are perfectly reasonable questions at this stage, based on the current plans of the Partnership host communities will *not* be identified at the stage of taking a decision about participation. They reiterated the need to focus at this stage on what needs to go into PSE2.

It was suggested that it might be easier to determine how to feed principle 6 into PSE2, once the Partnership has considered the issue of what constitutes 'credible support' in the light of host communities.

There was a reminder from Allerdale BC that this process is meant to be about voluntarism, and there is a need to find a way for people who are part of the communities to be allowed to volunteer. It was stated that the Partnership has heard a lot about processes, science and technology, but has not heard a lot about people, and the Partnership needs to be able to take into account the effects a facility would have on people in the community.

4.13 – Who would lead the process in Stage 4

A discussion was held about the options for who should lead the process in Stage 4, if relevant. It was felt by some that, whilst the NDA is central to the process, some other body (such as a CSP) should be seen to be leading the process and be commissioning

the work from the NDA. Concerns were expressed that the NDA seems to be positioned to lead Stage 4 at the moment.

Reservations were expressed about how useful it will be to ask questions about this issue in PSE2. The PSE Sub-Group advised that the intention in PSE2 is to use different engagement strands to consider different issues. There are 2 key strands in PSE2 which are considered to be appropriate to discuss this issue: the Stakeholder Organisation Workshop (as the stakeholders have already been involved and have a declared interest in this area); and bilateral meetings where there is a particular interest in this area.

It was agreed that an overview of the process and the draft principles needs to run through all of the strands of engagement, and the issue of the role of the NDA should only go into the more deliberative strands. It was acknowledged that in all aspects of PSE2, the challenge for the Partnership is to be able to provide enough information to people for them to be able to consider and take a view on the issues.

4.14 – NDA consultation on the national framework for site assessment

The NDA's observing members were asked which questions the NDA needs answering before the consultation in January. They confirmed that not all of the answers are needed, as they want to present a genuine consultation. They need to be able to sufficiently outline the issues that they want to address in the consultation, including outlining various options. With the feedback that they have had to date, they are relatively close to the point where they can pull together the consultation document, but would like to continue to have everybody's involvement. They are aiming for it to be ready in early January, but acknowledged that people might not be ready for it then.

The NDA were also asked whether the consultation document will be generic, neutral and UK wide, or whether it will be conditioned by the conversation having already started in West Cumbria. They confirmed that the consultation will be on a national process, with the aim of having a framework that leaves some flexibility for a local community to put their shape and decisions onto that framework. They acknowledged that, at this stage, it is very helpful for them to hear the discussions of a community that is taking this process very seriously, as this will allow them to factor the issues raised into their consultation process.

4.15 – Engaging with Sellafield

There was a reminder that, whilst the MRWS process is taking place in West Cumbria, there are people at Sellafield who are still managing existing and new waste. The need to engage with this group of stakeholders, who are effectively an existing 'host community' of the existing waste, was noted.

4.16 – Actions and way forward

It was agreed that the Partnership is not (at this stage) signing up to the principles, but is happy to sign up to principles 1-5 and 7 going into PSE2. The discussion about the wording of principle 6 will be continued at the next Partnership meeting on August 5th, when the Partnership will also be considering the discussion paper on '*Credible Support and Decision Making about Participation*'.

The officers from the 3 Councils will look at how all of this fits in with local and national planning processes.

5. Progress Review

5.1 – Background

The aim of this agenda item was to review the progress of the Partnership to date, and alter the Work Programme accordingly, to ensure that the direction that the Partnership is heading in is still appropriate.

5.2 – What a ‘decision to participate’ might imply

There was a reminder that the Work Programme takes the Partnership to the point where they have to make recommendations on a decision about participation, and DECC had therefore been asked to provide a paper (see Appendix 3, Document 81) to clarify what this implies in terms of the White Paper. DECC reiterated that the stage of a decision to participate is: *‘the decision point at which a Decision Making Body/ies makes a formal commitment to participate in the geological disposal facility siting process, but without commitment to host the facility’*. The key points from the paper were also reiterated and are detailed below:

- This decision is made by Decision Making Bodies.
- This decision is ONLY a decision to participate in the Siting Process.
- This decision is NOT a decision to host a facility.
- The community would continue to have a Right of Withdrawal.

Further discussion on this topic is summarised below.

5.2.1 – Clarification on DMBs and RoW

A discussion was held about who has the RoW, as the 4th bullet point (above and in the paper) indicates that the community will have the RoW. DECC confirmed that the White Paper sets out that that decision will be made by the DMB(s).

CALC provided a reminder that the issues of decision making, and the make-up of the DMB, are still due to be addressed at the officer/member/CALC meeting. They noted that the problems around this issue will not go away until the decision is made as to who the DMB is. They also noted that, in section C8 on page 78 of the White Paper, it states that where participating areas have a 2-tier local government, the Government will: *‘require clarity about which local authorities will take decisions about Partnership recommendations as the siting process progresses’*.

DECC confirmed that the definition of DMB for West Cumbria, according to the White Paper and as set out in the briefing paper provided to the meeting (Appendix 3), is the borough and county councils. DECC also confirmed that they envisage the same DMB holding the RoW on behalf of the community if a DtP is taken. This is also described in the briefing paper provided by DECC.

5.2.2. – Decision making process in individual local authorities

Allerdale BC gave an update that they are being advised, by their legal team and through Government guidance, that the decision about participation in Allerdale BC will probably be made by their executives, rather than through a full meeting of the council. Further clarity on this is likely to follow from each local authority.

DECC confirmed that the White Paper deliberately uses the terminology of ‘appropriate decision making framework’ for each authority, and gave assurance that the decision making process needs to be “proper” according to each individual authority.

5.2.3 – Language

The Programme Manager reminded the Partnership that in PSE1 there was a perception that a decision had already been made. The phrase 'Decision to Participate' from the White Paper is not particularly helpful, as it does not reflect to the public that the decision could go one way or the other. The Partnership is therefore now referring to a '*decision about participation*' instead, which could in turn lead to either participation or withdrawal.

5.3 – Partnership reflection and discussions

Partnership members were asked to reflect individually on the criteria in the Work Programme and consider: where the Partnership is at, how the Partnership is progressing against the Work Programme, and what degree of comfort they have on each of the criteria. In order to highlight differing views on progress and people's stances on the individual criteria, members were asked to consider:

- For each individual criterion, the extent to which they could support a decision to participate at this point in time. *It was emphasised repeatedly that this question was asked simply to cast into relief the views people have about the remaining tasks in the Work Programme: in any other sense it is not an appropriate question at this stage.*
- Any items that should be added to or extended in the Work Programme.
- Any items that should be removed from or reduced in the Work Programme.

An example of the worksheet that was used for this reflection is included in Appendix 4.

Following this individual reflection, members transferred their comments to flipcharts for a plenary discussion to take place about each criterion in turn. Observing members did not take part in this review, but were asked to contribute to the plenary discussions. They were also given the opportunity to make comments about the Work Programme.

Criterion 2 (Geology) was excluded, as the BGS screening is currently underway. This criterion will be reviewed following the outcomes of this study, which is due to be considered at the 16th September Partnership meeting.

Representations of the flipcharts and the written comments about amendments to the Work Programme are provided below, together with a summary of the discussions that were held about each criterion.

Markers placed in the 3 different colours reflect the following viewpoints:

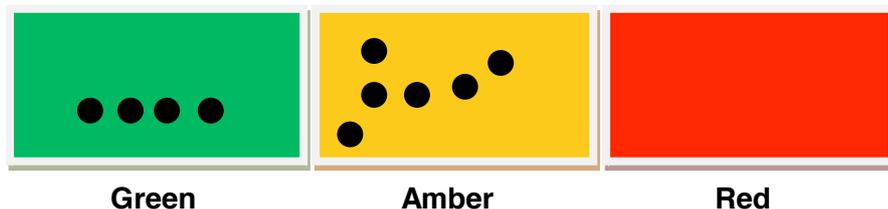
Green – I could support a decision to participate at this stage (with regard to this criterion in isolation).

Amber – I do not yet have enough information about this issue to decide either way.

Red – I could not support a decision to participate at this stage (with regard to this criterion in isolation). Either I disagree with participating further, or I have nowhere near enough information to make a decision either way.

Workstream 1 – Safety, Security, Environment and Planning

Criterion 1a – ‘Satisfied that suitable regulatory and planning processes are in place or being developed to protect residents, workforce and the environment.’



Add/Extend

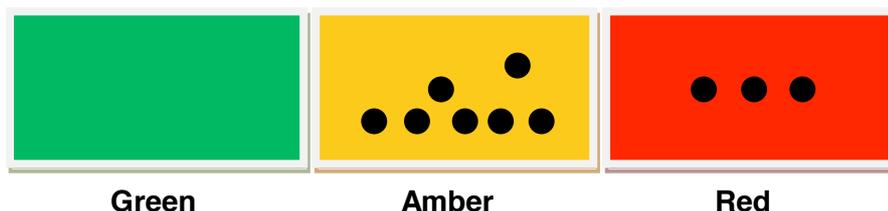
- Provide update as work goes on.
- Confident in regulators.

Remove/Reduce

- None.

It was confirmed that the concerns raised were around planning issues, and that Partnership members are satisfied with the role that the regulators are undertaking. It was acknowledged that uncertainties around planning will still remain when the Work Programme deals with this issue, as it will not be clear at that stage what the impact of changes to the national planning system will be. It was agreed that the Partnership will need to determine what to do about the outstanding uncertainties at that stage.

Criterion 1b – ‘Satisfied that NDA RWMD has suitable capacity and processes in place to protect residents, workforce and the environment.’



Add/Extend

- Presentation on the NDA’s work.
- NDA process for assessing geology.
- I agree with current Work Programme.

Remove/Reduce

- None.

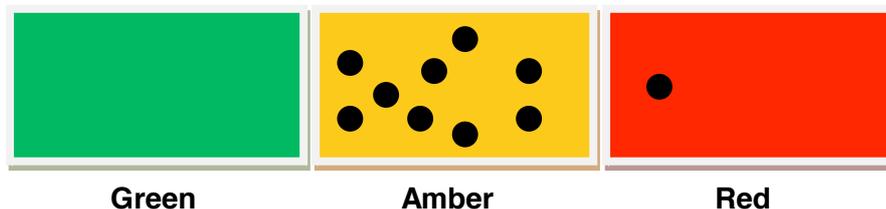
Several members stated that they are not satisfied that the NDA have sufficient resources or capacity in place. The NDA asked whether these concerns are about specific issues (e.g. safety case, research etc.), and it was agreed that it is more about general capacity. DECC asked if there is any more clarity that can be provided about what the Partnership needs to hear, as these issues will roll on for many years if the process moves forward.

The Partnership agreed that they need a lot more assurance from the Government that the necessary resources will be in place for both the NDA and the regulators. There was a reminder that, at any point in the process, if the Partnership (and any subsequent CSP), are not convinced that everything that is required is in place, they can call a pause to the process.

It was also acknowledged that the NDA consultation in January 2011 might also determine the Partnership’s thoughts on this criterion.

Workstream 3 – Community Benefits

Criterion 3a – ‘Whether the Partnership is confident that an appropriate community benefits package can be developed.’



Add/Extend

- Seek more clarity from the Govt.
- Need high level assurance of bridge between successive governments.
- Who would be host community? Village, street, town area?
- Greater understanding of what the CSP will look like, and Govt commitment.
- I agree with current Work Programme.

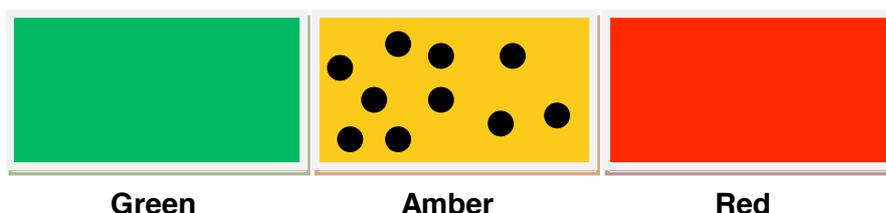
Remove/Reduce

- None.

The concerns raised here included: not having enough knowledge about the potential package of benefits, and a lack of confidence that any community benefits that are promised will actually be delivered. There was a reminder that the Community Benefit Sub-Group are working on a more detailed set of criteria, but it was acknowledged that, prior to a decision about participation, it will only be possible to understand the potential scale and principles about community benefits that might be available, rather than any detail of a benefits package itself. There was a suggestion that ‘developed’ could be changed to ‘negotiated’ in the criterion in the Work Programme. The legal issues of tying a benefits package down successfully were also discussed. It was also acknowledged that questions about the exact nature of benefits will be raised in PSE2, and the Partnership needs to be prepared to deal with these questions.

The Programme Manager confirmed that the issues raised will be picked up in the existing Work Programme.

Criterion 3b – ‘Whether the Partnership is confident that appropriate possibilities exist to assess and manage environmental, social and economic impacts appropriately if they occur.’



Add/Extend

- Impacts Sub-Group – right way to do this?
- NDA have no reason to try and

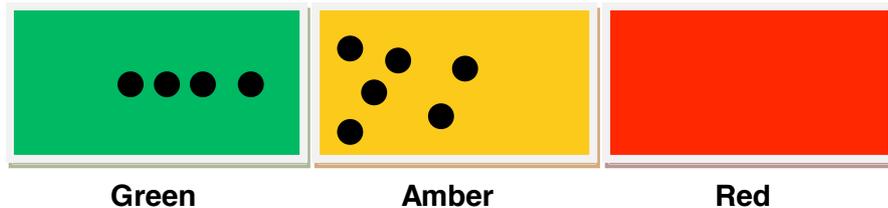
Remove/Reduce

- None

- mitigate wider effects of their outputs.
- I agree with current Work Programme.

The main comment here was that, *if* the NDA are assessing the sites, there is no benefit to them in ruling sites out. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to identify a mechanism to reduce sites down as much as possible, to avoid potential blight on sites that are left in.

Criterion 3c – ‘Whether the Partnership is confident that the possibility of a repository fits appropriately with the overall direction of the relevant communities.’



Add/Extend

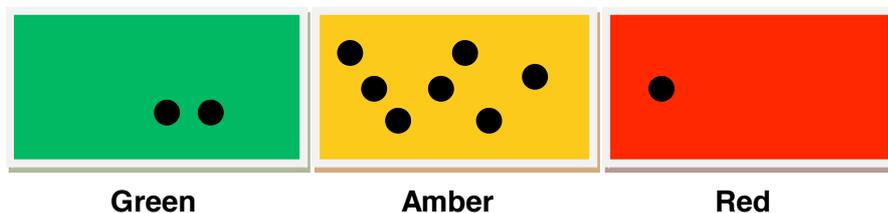
- Local assessment depending on possible sites.
- Need info from others, not just West Coast.
- Good fit between current activities & GDF.

Remove/Reduce

- None.

The key area of concern raised here was around the vision for British Energy Coast (BEC), and how this fits with the overall direction of the relevant communities. There was a suggestion that BEC could be asked to present to the Partnership, but others felt that it also needs a view from somebody other than BEC.

Criterion 3d – ‘Whether the Partnership is confident that accepting a GDF and committing the host area to a nuclear future for many generations to come is economically advantageous and will contribute to economic sustainability.’



Add/Extend

- W. Coast view is not definitive – ask nuclear new build developers, MOX customers etc.

Remove/Reduce

- May be simple task. Only require at this stage ‘contract’ with Govt, not details.
- As worded, criterion seems to go beyond whether or not to participate. (From an observing member.)

The range of views on this issue was acknowledged. The concern related to the marker in the red, was regarding the very low level waste repository at Keekle Head. It was stated that Cumbria CC seem to be saying that it is not economically advantageous to have that facility in West Cumbria, as it will push away other businesses. The question was asked that, if this is being said about a relatively innocuous site, how does that marry up with hosting a GDF?

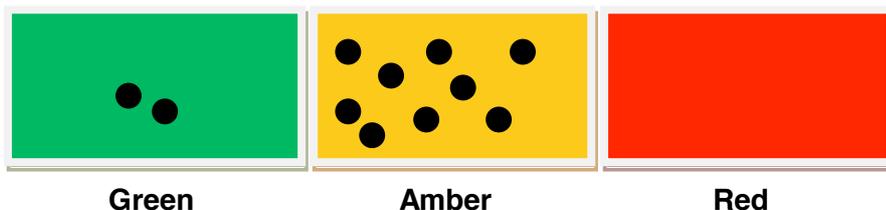
There was a reminder that the suggestion for this task is to start with a presentation from BEC. Some felt that their view is not definitive and there is a need for other perspectives, including a commercial view, new build developers and Cumbria Tourism.

Clarification was sought by DECC as to the difference between 3c and 3d, and they suggested that 3d seems to be about a much wider vision for West Cumbria which is broader than the scope of the Partnership. The Partnership asserted that the issue is about making sure hosting a GDF fits with the overall strategic direction for Cumbria and that it doesn't conflict with the overall vision for the future. The other key factor is that if West Cumbria is making a decision about hosting a facility which will last for tens of thousands of years, in making that decision they want some comfort that there will be other nuclear facilities. If this is not the case, all that West Cumbria will have is a GDF, and that might be seen as a reason not to proceed, whereas if there is a nuclear future with potential synergies, there is potentially more benefit for the area. For this reason some in the Partnership feel that the nuclear new build strategy is related.

It was suggested that criteria 3c and 3d could be combined into one criterion with 2 sub-bullets. Some agreed with this, but others were not so comfortable. It was noted that 3c is about other activities in general, and 3d is about wider nuclear activities. There was also a reminder that taking a DtP is not committing, but others felt that taking a DtP is the point at which impacts start, which might have a detrimental effect on that area.

Workstream 4 – Design and Engineering

Criterion 4a – ‘Satisfied that the design concepts being developed are appropriate.’



Add/Extend

- Explain difference between above & below ground facilities.
- Clarity from Govt on retrievability.
- Monitorable & retrievable.
- Review linkage between design & inventory.
- Insufficient assurance yet on 3 r's.

Remove/Reduce

- As worded, criterion seems to go beyond a decision whether or not to participate. (From observing member.)

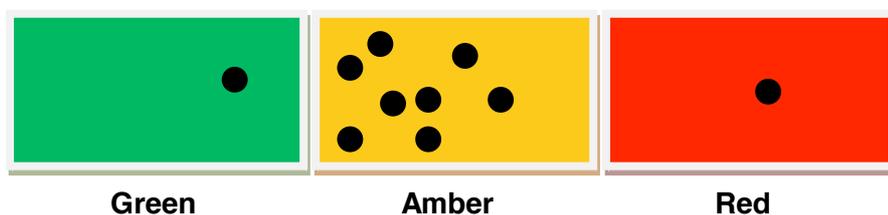
There was a reminder that the issue of retrievability was discussed at the meeting in October 2009 (Document 47.1, section 6) where it was effectively agreed that the Partnership does not need to do any more work on this issue at this stage. It was noted that this level of comfort was also partly underwritten by the White Paper requiring that retrievability be included in the NDA's Generic Design Concept. Members were asked

whether something has now changed, or whether it is about reassurance on what is said in the White Paper. This point served as a reminder that there is a need to keep people briefed/up to date, but also that individuals need to take responsibility to keep themselves up to date.

Others commented on the inventory and stated the desire to know what would go into a repository, as this will affect the design. DECC cautioned that as the detail of the final design will depend on the characteristics of the eventual site, at this point it is not possible to provide information on the exact design, although possible design concepts for different geologies and different materials is available, as is information on the general issues around retrievability.

There was a suggestion that adding the words 'at this stage' to the criterion might help.

Criterion 4b – ‘Satisfied with the proposed inventory to be managed in a facility.’



Add/Extend

- Need community view on inventory.
- I agree with current Work Programme.

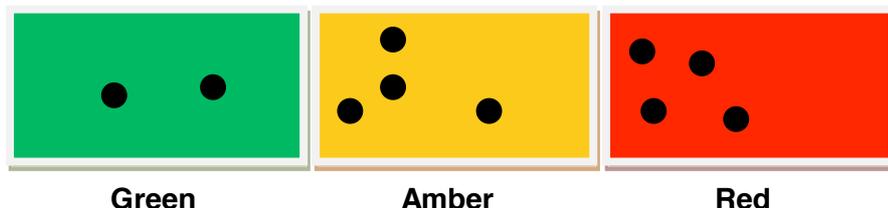
Remove/Reduce

- None.

The concerns that were raised included: a lack of knowledge (as yet) about what kind of waste might be included, whether a facility would be flexible enough to deal with existing and future waste, and whether the Partnership might want to ‘bound’ the inventory. There was a reminder that inventory is due to be discussed at the next Partnership meeting on August 5th, with a joint presentation from DECC and the NDA. It was noted that tasks 4a and 4b cover all of these issues. There is also an intention for the Partnership to get an alternative view on inventory, potentially from an NGO perspective.

Workstream 5 – Process

Criterion 5a – ‘Whether the Partnership is confident that the siting process is sufficiently robust and flexible to meet needs.’



Add/Extend

- Must be voluntary.
- Further clarification of potential process required.
- Confident siting process will be robust.

Remove/Reduce

- How much do we want to constrain CSP. (From observing member.)

It was acknowledged that there were several markers in the red, and members were asked to share their related concerns. CALC stated that they do not accept, at present, that the current proposals meet the requirements of potential host communities. They are concerned that the process will bypass affected host communities and that the decision will be taken by others.

Cumbria CC reminded the Partnership of the assumption that the DMB is a representative body that represents the community. Others had different viewpoints on this.

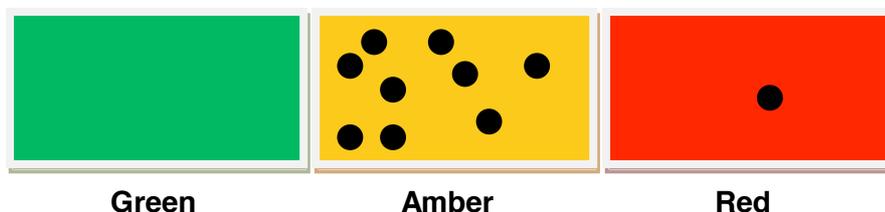
It was acknowledged that whilst many people are looking for clarity about the siting process, the Partnership is only part way through their work on this.

There was a reminder that some of this should be in the hands of the potential CSP, rather than this Partnership, and the question as to how much the CSP should be constrained was raised.

There was a reminder from DECC that, if the Partnership wants to answer these questions in order to inform a decision about participation, then it fundamentally changes the amount of detailed work that is done between now and the end of next year. CoRWM agreed that it is important to establish the extent to which the process should be driven by a CSP, as it will define whether the Partnership does very little at this stage or does a lot.

Workstream 6 – Public and Stakeholder views

Criterion 6a – ‘Whether the Partnership’s recommendations are credible given public and stakeholder views.’ (Note that the word ‘credibility’ here is used to reference the criterion in the White Paper, para. 6.22.)



Add/Extend

- Add – counsels opinion re credible support and quantitative issues.
- Not convinced that 3 rounds PSE is enough, especially as PSE3 is consultative.
- Chicken & egg. CPs potential membership is so wide, difficult to provide adequate in-depth knowledge.

Remove/Reduce

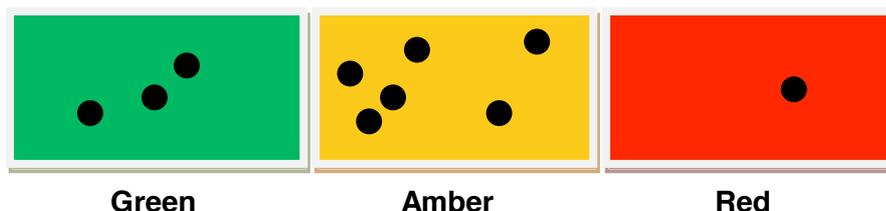
- None.

Issues that were raised included concerns that 3 rounds of PSE will not be enough, and that the Partnership is biting off more than it can chew, given the number of answers that it does not yet have. Others felt that another round of PSE would not provide any more information. It was stated that a lot of the conclusions in the PSE3 consultation will be conditional and this is inevitable. There was a reminder that, as PSE2 is designed to cover the rest of the year, a lot of the things that are not yet known may well have been determined by that point.

The issue of a credible level of support was raised and it was noted that the review/consideration of that needs to be done in the light of the results of PSE2, rather than through the Work Programme. The whole Partnership will need to reflect at that stage on whether they are ready for PSE3.

Workstream 7 – Other

Ethics – ‘Broad understanding of what the ethical issues are, and reassurance that they can be addressed in future (as appropriate).’



Add/Extend

- Need understanding, not just info.
- Need to understand.

Remove/Reduce

- None.

No further comments were made.

5.4 – Capacity

The issue of capacity was raised with regard to resource, manpower, cost, time etc. CoRWM stated that what is being planned is exciting and encouraging, but it is going to be extremely demanding in terms of time and money. Clarification was sought as to whether the money is in the budget to be able to do everything that is planned, and whether the Partnership is going to be able to get sufficient representative members at the planned events.

Many people agreed that they are beginning to struggle with capacity and that there is a danger that things will grind to a halt. It was confirmed that the issue is about member time as well as funding.

It was noted that nothing has fallen away from the Work Programme as a result of the progress review. The question of whether there is a difference between what the Partnership thinks it needs to do, and what it is capable of doing, was raised. It was suggested that the Steering Group should consider these issues, together with considering if there are any tasks that do not really need to be addressed at this stage in the Programme.

5.5 – Actions and way forward

The issues raised in the progress review will be incorporated into the Work Programme where appropriate. The Steering Group will consider the issues of capacity, and timing of items in the Work Programme, at their next meeting on 7th July.

6. Way Forward and Actions

6.1 – Steering Group member meeting with CALC

A date will continue to be sought for members of the Steering Group to meet with CALC to discuss their ongoing concerns.

6.2 – PSE2 plan

The PSE Sub-Group will proceed with implementation of the PSE2 plan. Partnership members will publicise the plans, together with ongoing updates on the work of the Partnership, to their organisations and to external stakeholders.

6.3 – Capacity to carry out the Work Programme

The Steering Group will consider issues of capacity in relation to the growing demands of the Work Programme on the Partnership.

6.4 – Dates

The forward programme of dates is provided below as a reminder. 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 2010:	Partnership meetings 2010:
7 July	
21 July	5 August
18 August (<i>open to Partnership members for BGS screening presentations 09.30–12.00</i>)	
1 September	16 September
29 September	
13 October	28 October
10 November	
24 November	10 December
2011:	2011:
5 January	19 January
2 February	
16 February	3 March
16 March	
30 March	14 April

6.5 – Actions. The following actions were agreed:

Action	Who	When
1 Complete timed plan for delivery against actions in PSE1 Report. (Carried forward from last meeting – Rhuari to contact specific individuals re remaining actions.)	Rhuari	5 August
2 Communicate findings from PSE1 to Partnership member organisations, and seek agreement on the official Partnership members’ statement. (Carried forward from last meeting.)	All members	5 August
3 Provide information to Jane regarding how many people (employees/members/stakeholders etc.) the Partnership newsletter is forwarded to.	All Jane to collate	2 July
4 Continue to seek a date for the meeting between CALC executives and relevant members of the Steering Group to discuss concerns raised by CALC. (Carried forward.)	Richard/Sharon	7 July
5 Individuals in the Steering Group to satisfy themselves that issues raised in the evaluation report have been attended to.	All Steering Group members	7 July
6 Produce a summary note on what has been implemented in response to the findings of the Partnership evaluation report.	Rhuari + Steering Group	5 August
7 Raise awareness of the PSE2 plan and wider Partnership update in member organisations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicising internally to staff/members. • Publicising externally in newsletters etc. • Organising briefings. 	All	5 August
8 Look at how a siting process would need to fit in with local (and potential national) statutory planning processes.	Fergus, Charles, Stewart	Ongoing
9 Consider the issue of resources in light of the Work Programme.	Steering Group	7 July Steering Group meeting
10 Redraft the Work Programme with the Steering Group, changes to be highlighted for members.	Rhuari	2 July
11 Circulate draft meeting report to Partnership attendees.	Jane	2 July
12 Comment on draft meeting report.	All	9 July
13 Circulate final draft of meeting report and publish on website.	Jane/Rhuari	16 July
14 Write and publish articles for organisational newsletters and websites to raise awareness of the Partnership. (Seek assistance on adapting text from Communications Advisor if needed.)	All	Ongoing
15 Let Paul know if any articles or updates about the Partnership are published in your newsletter/website as a result of the action above.	All	Ongoing

7. Public Questions/Comments

7.1 – Question from Jean McSorley

As I understand it, the issue of inventory won't be discussed in PSE2. Can anybody say why?

Programme Manager response

The Partnership felt that, as the Work Programme item hasn't even started on the item, there is nothing ready to say in PSE2. It is important to note that, just because it is not being aired at this stage, it doesn't mean that it won't be aired in PSE3. Everything that the Partnership is going to comment on will be aired in PSE3.

7.2 – Statement from Barry Watkinson, Britain's Energy Coast

There is a similar issue on the new grid lines that are needed. There is a bit of a dilemma on that in terms of what is engagement and what we're going to consult on. Communities might have objections, and it's only at the end that we're going to consult on that.

Partnership response

Confirmation was given that PSE2 is primarily about engaging, and PSE3 is about consulting on the findings of the Partnership.

7.3 – Question from Cath Evans

It says that Government policy is for 'communities to volunteer'. What constitutes community?

Partnership response

There was a reminder that the paper on decision making bodies, and what a 'community' is, was due to be discussed after lunch. At the moment the Partnership is working on the definitions that are in the White Paper, i.e. a 'host community' is very local to the site, and wider interests include e.g. people on transport routes. *If* a DtP is taken, a lot more work needs to be done on what that means.

Questioner response

Is it going to be people on the ground or government bodies? I'd just like to point out the need to advertise meetings in church halls and so on. It's cart before the horse, setting all of this up and spending thousands of pounds, when you haven't got the agreement of communities.

Partnership response

It was reiterated that the issue of defining communities and their role in the process, is a "continuing conundrum" for the Partnership.

8. 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 25th June 2010 meeting

Objectives of the meeting are to:

- Adopt plan for Round 2 of Public and Stakeholder Engagement (Task 6a(iv)).
- Consider and agree a way forward on two fundamental issues:
 - Defining what the Partnership means by 'Credible Support' in relation to participation and decision making. (*Subject to confirmation.*)
 - Understanding and influencing the Site Selection Process (Task 5a(i)).
- Understand what a decision to participate might imply (Task 5a(iii)).
- Review the progress of the Partnership to date, and alter the Work Programme accordingly.

Agenda

Time	Item	Notes
09.00	Arrivals and Registration.	
09.30	Welcome. Updates, including from Sub-Groups, and Actions.	An updates sheet will be tabled on the day.
	Public and Stakeholder Engagement, Round 2 Plan.	Consider and then adopt, subject to discussion, the plan for delivery of PSE Round 2 (Document 15.1).
	'Credible Support' and Decision Making - subject to confirmation.	Presentation from Fred Barker. Discuss and agree the way forward. (Document 74 - <i>to be circulated if agenda item is confirmed.</i>)
12.45	Lunch	(approx. timing)
	Siting Process and Principles for Involvement of Affected Communities.	Presentation from Fred Barker. Discuss and agree the way forward. Please read Document 75.
	Progress Review.	Input from DECC on what a decision to participate would mean (see attached document from DECC). A first opportunity for the Partnership to review progress against the agreed criteria for decision making in the Work Programme (Document 13.1).
	Way Forward.	Actions and other communications.
	Public Questions.	Opportunity for members of the public to ask questions.
16.00	Close	

Bold type indicates papers sent out in advance of the meeting. We will assume you have read them: please contact us ASAP if you do not have copies.

Appendix 2 – Attendees on 25th June 2010

Mike Davidson	Allerdale Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Tim Heslop	Allerdale Borough Council	
Charles Holmes	Allerdale Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Sam Standage	Allerdale Borough Council	
Chris Shaw	Allerdale/Copeland CALC	(Steering Group member)
Revd Dr Lindsay Gray (morning only)	Churches Together in Cumbria	
Fergus McMorrow	Copeland Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Allan Holliday	Copeland Borough Council	
Paul Feehily	Cumbria County Council	
Gerald Humes	Cumbria County Council	
Stewart Kemp	Cumbria County Council	(Steering Group member)
Peter Kane	GMB Union	(Steering Group member)
Robert Morris-Eyton	National Farmers Union	
Fred Barker	NuLeAF	

Apologies

Carni McCarron-Holmes	Allerdale Borough Council	
Guy Richardson	CALC	
Geoff Smith	Allerdale CALC	
Keith Hitchen	Copeland CALC	(Steering Group member)
Yvonne Clarkson	Copeland Borough Council	
Ian Curwen	Copeland Borough Council	
John Kane	Copeland Borough Council	
Elaine Woodburn	Copeland Borough Council	(Steering Group member)
Tim Knowles	Cumbria County Council	(Steering Group member)
Tony Markley	Cumbria County Council	
David Southward	Cumbria County Council	
Ian Stephens	Cumbria Tourism	
Mike Tonkin	Eden District Council	
Paul McKenna	Isle of Man Government	
Robert Allison	Lake District National Park Authority	
Simon Rowley	South Lakeland District Council	
David Moore	West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group	(Steering Group member)

Observing Members

Andrew Craze	DECC
Lewis Mortimer	DECC
Jay Redgrove	NDA RWMD
Cherry Tweed	NDA RWMD
Brian Clark	CoRWM
Mark Dutton	CoRWM
Gavin Thomson	Environment Agency
Mick Bacon	NII HSE

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)

Other

Paul Gardner	Osprey Communications (Communications Adviser)
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Members of the Public who attended for all or part of the meeting

Richard Griffin
Andy Parkes
Rebecca Lunn
Cath Evans
Jill Perry
Jean McSorley
Ruth Balogh
Barry Watkinson

Other Members, Not in Attendance

Peter Clements	Prospect Union
Ken Williams	Barrow Borough Council
Rob Johnston	Cumbria Chamber of Commerce

Appendix 3 – Paper from DECC on what a ‘Decision to Participate’ means (Doc 81)

Briefing paper prepared by DECC for 25th June Partnership Meeting on what a ‘Decision to Participate’ means

What is a Decision to Participate?

Decision to Participate is defined in managing radioactive waste safely: a framework for implementing geological disposal, as *‘the decision point at which a Decision Making Body/ies makes a formal commitment to participate in the geological disposal facility siting process, but without commitment to host the facility’*.

Who makes a decision to participate?

Decision Making Bodies make a formal Decision to Participate (probably through a full meeting of the council/s).

What does this mean?

- This decision is made by Decision Making Bodies.
- This decision is ONLY a decision to participate in the Siting Process.
- This decision is NOT a decision to host a facility.
- The community would continue to have a Right of Withdrawal.

Who are decision making bodies?

Decision Making Bodies are the Local Government decision making authorities for the host community. In Copeland and Allerdale this definition identifies Borough and County Councils as decision making bodies.

What is the right of withdrawal?

Up until a late stage, when underground operations and construction are due to begin, if a community wished to withdraw then its involvement in the process would stop.

The final opportunity for a community to withdraw would be when Decision Making Bodies decide to proceed underground operation stage of the siting process. The Government would make an informed decision on the preferred site.

As with other key local decisions in the siting process, the Decision Making Bodies would be responsible for exercising the Right of Withdrawal, based on advice and recommendations from the local Community Siting Partnership.

What happens next?

The formation of a Community Siting Partnership

Following a Decision to Participate, the site selection process and in particular the development of the facility, would require considerable engagement with communities. Government favours a **partnership approach** to this, as followed in other countries.

Government expects a Community Siting Partnership to be a partnership of local community interests. The NDA’s delivery organisation would be a member but would not be directly involved in decisions on community-related issues. Government could participate in the work of the Community Siting Partnership as and when required.

Desk-based studies in participating areas

This would involve the NDA’s delivery organisation undertaking more detailed assessments focusing on the suitability of a specific site or sites within each potential Host Community. These assessments would be mainly through desk-based studies, and

would involve gathering information about the candidate communities and sites and evaluating them against the site selection criteria.

Where a Decision to Participate relates to a large area the desk based site assessment of a specific site or sites would need to be preceded by a site identification process to identify the site or sites to be assessed.

Appendix 4 – Sample Worksheet from the Partnership Progress Review

Worksheet for Progress Review on 25th Jun

	Criteria	What we are looking for	What we have done so far	
1	Safety, Security, Environment and Planning			
1a	Criterion: "Satisfied that suitable regulatory and planning processes are in place or being developed to protect residents, workforce and the environment"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confidence that necessary regulatory bodies and processes exist or are being developed ▪ Adequate communication links between regulators and community are present and working ▪ Acceptability of the planning aspects of the early stages in the siting process 	Task 1a(i)– Understand what regulatory bodies are involved, what their roles are and what regulatory processes they have in place or are developing. <i>Presentation and paper (document 36) from regulators followed up by written clarifications. (13th Jan Partnership meeting)</i>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> STOP I could not support a DtP at this stage. </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; color: orange; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> WAIT I am not yet satisfied at this stage. </div> <div style="background-color: lightgreen; color: green; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> GO I could support a DtP at this stage. </div>

Comments:

1 - Why is your tick where it is?

2 – What would you ADD to the Work Programme?

3 – What would you REMOVE from the Work Programme?

Appendix 5 – 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 office@calc.org.uk</p>	Regular written and verbal report to CALC's Executive Committee meetings.
Chamber of Commerce (Cumbria)	<p>Robert Johnston rob@cumbriachamber.co.uk</p>	
Churches Together in Cumbria	<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) Fergus McMorro fergus.mcmorrow@copeland.gov.uk Ian Curwen ian.curwen@copeland.gov.uk</p>	<p>Leader's update to full Council. Update to Nuclear Working Group. Update to Executive at key milestones. Update to MRWS Task Group when needed.</p>

Cumbria County Council	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	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	Ian Stephens istephens@cumbriatourism.org	
Eden District Council	Mike Tonkin (councillor) mike.tonkin@eden.gov.uk	Report to members on 'Outside Bodies' website. Presentation to members as Env. Portfolio Holder.
GMB Union	Peter Kane peter.kane@sellafieldsites.com	Updates given to Shop Stewards Committee. Forward on newsletters to members.
Lake District National Park Authority	Robert Allison robert.allison@lake-district.gov.uk	
National Farmers Union	Robert Morris-Eyton rmorriseyt@aol.com	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	Written report to each NuLeAF Steering Group. Referenced in e-bulletin. Website has a GDF section which signposts Partnership meeting reports.
Prospect Union	Peter Clements pc34@sellafieldsites.com	
South Lakes District Council	Simon Rowley s.rowley@southlakeland.gov.uk	Forward minutes and newsletters to Senior Management Team and Portfolio Holder.
WCSSG	David Moore dmoore@copelandbc.gov.uk	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	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	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 planned for Council of Ministers in mid-June 09.
NDA	Alun Ellis alun.ellis@nda.gov.uk Jay Redgrove jay.redgrove@nda.gov.uk	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	Contact reports distributed after each contact (meeting or otherwise). Regular report to related project groups. Briefings taken before each meeting depending on agenda.