

Nuclear Free Local Authorities

Councils working for a renewable, safe and peaceful future



UK & Ireland NFLA Secretariat

Nuclear Policy Section,
Policy and Partnerships, City Policy
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Councillor Ged McGrath, Chair, and
Members of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership Sunday 9 October 2022

Dear Councillor McGrath and
members of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership,

I commend the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership for making your forthcoming meeting on 12 October open to the public and making time available on the agenda for questions to be asked by the public. I hope this will soon be replicated by the other three Community Partnerships.

I am writing to you as Chair of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities to urge you to go still further to make your proceedings and deliberations more transparent and accessible to the public, in accordance with the best practice established for many years in local government.

Namely:

- By asking all members of the Community Partnership to declare and record Declarations of Interest at the start of every meeting (particularly where members, their partners or family members work for, or provide goods or services in any capacity to, the nuclear sector or receive payment in any capacity from Nuclear Waste Services or the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority).
- By ensuring meeting venues are fully accessible to attendees with disabilities and equipped with a hearing loop.
- By publishing the agenda and papers for each meeting in advance on the Community Partnership website, in addition to posting the minutes and agreed actions thereafter.
- By making access to these documents easier. At present the website is hard to navigate. Rather than requiring inquirers to access the minutes via the Resources section, it would be better if you had a specific front section marked Meetings.
- By livestreaming meetings, and by making footage of meetings available afterwards, via a link on the website under the Meetings section.
- By inviting representatives of local media outlets (press, radio) to attend.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter, which we hope you shall have the opportunity to discuss at your meeting on 12 October. Please direct any response to this letter by email to the NFLA Secretary, Richard Outram, at richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Councillor David Blackburn,
Chair of the NFLA Steering Committee