



Nuclear Waste Services
Pelham House,
Pelham Drive,
Calderbridge,
Cumbria CA20 1DB

www.nuclearwasteservices.uk

31 October 2024

Cllr Ged McGrath
Flat 1
9 St Georges Road
Millom
LA18 4JA

Dear Ged

South Copeland Community Partnership - Website

Thank you for sending over the document relating to the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership website that was discussed at your Community Partnership meeting on 14th August 2024.

As you know, a Community Partnership (CP) operating within the UK Government's GDF Siting Process is a partnership involving NWS as the GDF developer, the relevant principal local authorities (rPLAs) and a number of other community members.

Each CP is part of a national UK Government programme to deliver a GDF (the GDF programme), the scope of which has been defined in advance, and is funded by the UK taxpayers. A CP is not a legal entity with statutory responsibilities, although some of its members are and have statutory responsibilities which they must meet (e.g. NWS and the rPLAs).

NWS cannot and will not fund an additional website to be operated by the CP for the following reasons:

- Each CP already has its own website. The costs and duties involved in operating and maintaining these websites are met and completed by NWS on behalf of the UK Government.
- As stated in the UK policy framework for managing radioactive substances and nuclear decommissioning ((Appendix 1 paragraph 63), *"It is vital that communities have confidence in the information provided to them about the siting process, including on all relevant scientific and technical issues. NWS will be the first port of call for information on geological disposal and the siting process. The Community Partnership will also be able to call on the advisory body, CoRWM and regulators."* This ensures that all information available via the website is accurate.

NWS has and will continue to work with the CP (in particular the Comms & Engagement Sub-group) to develop a website which meets the needs of the community. As part of this, NWS would be happy to provide links to information from e.g. CoRWM, Regulators and other factual sources.

As well as discussing your request with all the relevant departments within NWS, I have also discussed it with Cumberland Council and our sponsoring Government department DESNZ. They are both in agreement with the response we have given.

In the meantime, if you have any queries or wish to discuss matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hughes', written in a cursive style.

Simon Hughes
Siting & Communities Director
Simon.hughes@nuclearwasteservices.uk