

**CAITHNESS & NORTH SUTHERLAND REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP  
(CNSRP) – EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2012 AT EDEN COURT,  
INVERNESS**

**Present:** Sir Anthony Cleaver (Chair)  
Anthony Standing, SDS (AS)  
Nigel Lowe, NDA (NL)  
Alistair Dodds (AD)  
Karen Jackson (KJ)  
Roy Kirk, (RK)  
Roger Hardy (RH)

**In Attendance:** Eann Sinclair, CNSRP (ES)  
Eilidh Gunn, CNSRP (minutes)

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies - Alex Paterson, HIE.

**2. Previous Minutes**

Agreed.

**3. Matters Arising**

Updates on previous actions:

- Final report “The Socio economics of Dounreay decommissioning” will be circulated shortly, with recommendations from Delivery Group, who have provided oversight of the study. **ACTION (1) ES.**
- Berriedale Braes: discussions with Transport Scotland and NDA are ongoing, but moving in a positive direction.
- Noted that the five year designation of Enterprise Area status at Scrabster has commenced for the as-yet undeveloped Scrabster Farm site. It was agreed that partners should support Scrabster Harbour Trust as they develop proposals for the site.
- Shared apprentice model: North Highland College has now secured a two-year funding package from the European Social Fund and the NDA for its apprenticeship scheme, with the College providing crucial “employed status” for apprentices.
- NHI/NHT presentation: NHI is undergoing internal changes and should be in a position to update at a meeting later in the year.

**4. Presentation on socio-economic implications of new contract at Dounreay**

Roger Hardy, Managing Director of Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd, gave a presentation outlining Babcock Dounreay Partnership (BDP) proposals and plans developed through their winning bid to become the new Parent Body Organisation at Dounreay.

Key discussion points:

- Workforce staffing profile
- Spin-off and transition opportunities
- Working with CNSRP

Members emphasised the value brought to the area by sharing information between partners, and securing maximum alignment of activities to ensure best use of resources, and to avoid any areas of duplication.

## **5. Issues from Advisory Board (20/02/12)**

- ES agreed to seek Advisory Board member views on the value of a May meeting, given the need to brief incoming Councillors nominated to sit on the Board, and the new Convener who will chair the Board. **ACTION (2) ES** to seek member views and communicate preferred option.
- Scottish Power Renewables/ Advisory Board working group met last week for the first time. SPR agreed to share timelines for Islay array, and to share likely procurement strategies so that supply chain opportunities are fully understood. SPR have set up an office in Thurso in association with EnergyHunt.
- HIAL are changing the Saturday status to 'on-call' for Wick Airport. HIAL currently discussing options for a forward business plan for Wick. RH said that another division of the Babcock Group had airports experience and could offer assistance to HIAL if this was felt to be useful.  
**ACTION (3) ES** to continue discussing business development planning at Wick with HIAL and partners, and Sir A Cleaver to write to HIAL Chair on the issue, perhaps inviting him to attend future meeting **ACTION (4) AC**.

## **6. Programme Manager Update**

ES presented an update on project-level priorities as agreed at Executive Board meeting in November 2011. It was agreed that with the Dounreay competition now complete the focus should be on supporting the delivery of outcomes from these identified projects. **ACTION (5) Delivery Group** to circulate update on progress with project-level priorities to Exec board monthly.

## **7. Any other business**

- The management of the North Highland Regeneration Fund has been re-tendered. The NDA has announced the provision of an additional £350,000 to this loan fund.
- HC industrial land audit is complete. **ACTION (6) ES** consider a doc that highlights improvements in infrastructure.
- Dates of the remaining meetings in 2012 are 14<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> December. **ACTION (7) ES** Re-confirm availability of members on these dates. The Chairman asked that every effort be made to hold Board meetings in Caithness.

## Summary of Actions

| <b>Ref:</b> | <b>Action:</b>   | <b>Due Date:</b> | <b>Responsible Person:</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1           | Circulate and publish “The Socio economics of Dounreay decommissioning”          | ASAP             | ES                         |
| 2           | Co-ordinate briefing for members and re-arrange meeting.                         | Mid-May          | ES                         |
| 3           | Continue discussing business development planning at Wick with HIAL and partners | Next Meeting     | ES                         |
| 4           | Write to chair of HIAL or invite to meeting re developing business at Wick       | ASAP             | Chair                      |
| 5           | Circulate updated project level priorities to Exec board monthly.                | Next DG meeting. | ES                         |
| 6           | Consider a doc that highlights improvements in infrastructure.                   | ASAP             | ES                         |
| 7           | Re-confirm dates of next meetings 14 <sup>th</sup> Sep and 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec. | ASAP             | ES                         |