



Caithness & North Sutherland Regeneration Partnership Press Release
Tuesday 22nd May 2012

Partnership looks to future: Right Time, Right Place, Right People

Efforts to secure future opportunities for the north economy continue to be the focus of the bodies working under the banner of the Caithness & North Sutherland Regeneration Partnership.

And as representatives from the north gathered in Aberdeen this week for the annual international All-Energy Exhibition and Conference optimism for the continued growth of the energy sector remains strong.

CNSRP Chairman Sir Anthony Cleaver said:

“We know that the wider economic position at home and in Europe is difficult at present. But when times are tough it is important that we are able to promote a very clear message that Caithness & North Sutherland is an excellent place from which to do business, and an excellent place to do business with.”

Caithness Chamber of Commerce is part of a group of businesses from the area attending All Energy promoting ‘Invest Caithness’, and Chief Executive Trudy Morris highlighted the Chamber’s key role in supporting growth:

“The Chamber’s Invest Caithness initiative is supported by HIE and the NDA, and shows how public and private sectors are working together to promote the area’s assets and capabilities. We help businesses from the area attend All-Energy because it is a key international “shop window” for Caithness, and over the past two years we have seen real benefit from the contacts made there.

Last year we launched an *Invest Caithness Oil & Gas Directory*, and this year we will launch an *Invest Caithness Renewables Directory* at All-Energy. Both publications have been supported by HIE and highlight the range and depth of services currently available here, helping position businesses to win work in key growth sectors.”

Partnership Programme Manager Eann Sinclair pointed to the joined-up nature of the work being done through the CNSRP:

“Our overriding aim is to ensure that the area’s economic future is a sustainable one, where a broad range of businesses are able to grow.

We feel that in the energy sector Caithness & North Sutherland is very much the right place at the right time – and with the right mix of skilled people – to capitalise on

opportunities in oil & gas, offshore wind and wave & tidal as they develop over the next ten years.

That's the very positive message Invest Caithness will be promoting in Aberdeen this week, backed up by the investments supported by CNSRP's partners over the last four years."

Notes for Editors:

Invest Caithness:

Invest Caithness aims to offer comprehensive information and effective support for local businesses and individuals who are looking to invest in the area where they live and work as well as attracting inward investors and visitors to the area. Invest Caithness is part of and delivered by Caithness Chamber of Commerce. It has been supported by funding partners Highlands & Islands Enterprise and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority.

www.investcaithness.com

Caithness & North Sutherland Regeneration Partnership

CNSRP is an informal partnership of the main public sector agencies / authorities with a remit to address the socio- economic effects of decommissioning at the Dounreay site. Formed in 2007 with an independent Chairman (Sir Anthony Cleaver), the Partnership's core members are Highland Council, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, Skills Development Scotland and the Scottish Government. Since 2008 partners have supported the creation or retention of over 650 jobs in the area's economy, as well as investing more than £30 million in key enabling infrastructure projects such as Scrabster Harbour; Wick Harbour Marina; "Make The Right Connections" skills programme; the Engineering Technology & Energy Centre; the Centre for Energy & the Environment and the redevelopment of John O'Groats.

www.cnsrp.org.uk

All-Energy:

The All-Energy Exhibition & Conference is the UK's largest renewables event devoted to all forms of clean and renewable energy. First run in 2001, the show has grown steadily since, with the 2011 event attracting over 580 exhibitors from 20 countries and some 8,000 visitors from more than 50 countries.

www.all-energy.co.uk

Further Information:

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