



# Dounreay Socio Economic Review



Supporting the creation of  
sustainable alternative employment



## Introduction

The Dounreay Socio Economic Alliance (DSEA) includes:

- **Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)**
- **Cavendish Dounreay Partnership (CDP)**
- **Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd (DSRL)**

The three organisations work in partnership to support socio economic activity in the area led by Caithness and North Sutherland Regeneration Partnership (CNSRP).

The DSEA's contribution during 2020 / 21 to CNSRP activities is detailed in the following pages.

## Thriving communities

Social impact activities that sustain and enhance community assets and address community needs.

### Covid-19 support

Dounreay's outlook during 2020 changed rapidly from long-term regeneration to short-term resilience when coronavirus engulfed the world.

The spread of SARS-CoV-2 placed enormous pressure on health and social care infrastructure as the country scrambled to protect the most vulnerable from COVID-19.

Within the space of a week, Dounreay moved from full-scale decommissioning into a prolonged period of lockdown during which we reorientated our resources.

People and supplies were diverted to bolster NHS Highland and Highland Council in Caithness and Sutherland and strengthen their long supply lines during a national emergency.

For 70 years, we relied on the community coming to our aid in the event of a site emergency. In 2020, it was our turn to come to their aid in a time of national emergency.

Over

**£260K**

funding provided not including staff time and PPE

We:

- gave more than 30,000 items of PPE to the NHS
- carried out infection-control adaptations of primary care centres including provision and installation of portacabins to act as 'red' rooms at GP practices throughout the county
- did face-mask fit-testing for hospital clinicians
- funded a "blood bike" to speed up coronavirus lab tests
- rostered staff to cover gaps in essential council services
- set up an on-line skills training academy for workers who had lost their jobs
- enabled hundreds of staff to carry out voluntary community work
- carried out free safety adaptations of essential retail premises during lockdown
- gave £30,000 to help North Highland Initiative support 54 community groups function on-line during lockdown
- gave £100,000 with match funding from the NDA to help 125 businesses emerge from lockdown with covid-secure premises



As we entered 2021, coronavirus continued to shape every aspect of our work, from supporting the vaccination programme locally to helping local suppliers survive and adapt to the ongoing economic seizure.

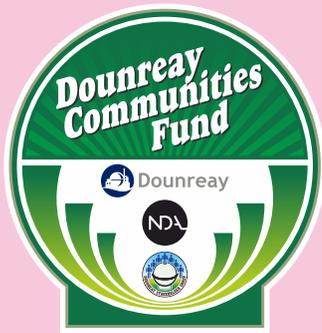
### Caithness and North Sutherland Fund



## CAITHNESS & NORTH SUTHERLAND FUND



### Dounreay Communities Fund



### Heritage



## Dounreay Employee Charity Fund



3 organisations supported

£6.7k total donations



## North Coast Visitor Attraction

Work undertaken to re-open facility  
Expected to re-open to visitors and  
community in October 2021

£40k

3 FTE employed



## Strathnaver Museum

£80k committed

- Secured £838,191 of capital funding
- Produced architect drawings, interpretation designs and costings to RIBA Stage 3
- Been awarded planning and listed building consent
- CAT approved for land for annex from Highland Council

## Sustainable incomes

Inspiring skills, education and personal development activities to improve access to sustainable incomes.

DSRL apprenticeships / graduates employed this year

8

Engineering apprentices

4

health physics trainees

3

Business apprentices

9

Graduates



## Developing the Young Workforce

DSRL senior representation on Board

10

Dounreay business and STEM ambassadors provided mock interviews

3

High schools involved

200

pupils attended



5

### Key STEM Ambassador programme

14

key STEM ambassadors

23

Schools offered support during pandemic

### STEM activities

99

STEM ambassadors

3

activities held

13

ambassadors involved

254

pupils involved

### Engineering Industry Day

10

STEM ambassadors

4

engineering companies and NHC delivered a virtual engineering industry day

54

senior phase pupils

3

high schools participated

## STEM resources

Provision of STEM resources to practitioners to allow activity to continue within schools

## North Highland Regeneration Fund - NDA funded

Since fund started: **£2.3m** in loans provided

**24%** Business services sector (14 companies)

**14%** Energy sector (8 companies)

**58** Total loans provided

**126** new jobs created

**88** jobs secured

## Social value chains

Increasing impact scale and duration of supply chain activity in support of citizens, communities and our local economies.

### Contracts:

To support opportunities for SMEs

£75.6M

total supply chain spend

677

number of companies

397

number of SMEs

Of the top 20 suppliers

11

with local base

# Resilient Economies / Collective Impact

## Support for CNSRP

CNSRP programme manager (part funding)

£36K

0.5

FTE employed

Process for assessing projects with job impacts  
CNSRP funding meeting established

Working relationship established

Regular dialogue with Scottish Government  
and other agencies

Better visibility of CNSRP activities

CNSRP independent chair (part funding)

£3.9K

## CNSRP Resource support and sustainability

£90K

CNSRP programme further developed and robust

Early development work on BEST tool for sustainability

2

FTE employed

4

new projects under development

## Space Hub Sutherland (Stakeholder relations)

£40K

0.5

FTE seconded

4

quarterly newsletters produced

1288

Twitter followers

Community Liaison Group established

Working with community to identify local projects to support space hub project

## Supported projects

£15K

Chamber of Commerce  
business mentoring



£14.6K Total spend

23 No. of businesses provided with support

3 No. of new companies trading

139% Return of investment

147 No. of businesses provided with Covid support

£10K Caithness Transport Forum

6 Forums held

12 External meetings attended

6 Consultations responded

**Key activities:**

- Berriedale Braes re-alignment completed in August 2020
- Commitment from Scottish Government secured to provide four years funding for airport Public Service Obligation (PSO)
- Secured commitment by DRS (NTS) to deliver commercial rail freight trial at Georgemas
- Progressed discussion on innovative passenger freight rail solutions with HITRANS and CNSRP

### Wick JOG Airport

£1K

Additional work on Public Service Obligation (PSO) business case to incorporate impacts of Covid

Scottish Government and The Highland Council funding secured for PSO



### ETEC Manager, North Highland College

£26K

Supported 1 FTE in employment  
Review completed of ETEC capabilities  
Development plan completed



### Space Cluster Strategy Development

£35K

Space Cluster strategy under development  
Number of industry stakeholders involved  
Raising profile of Space Hub Sutherland  
Work ongoing – will conclude with a clear action plan to take forward

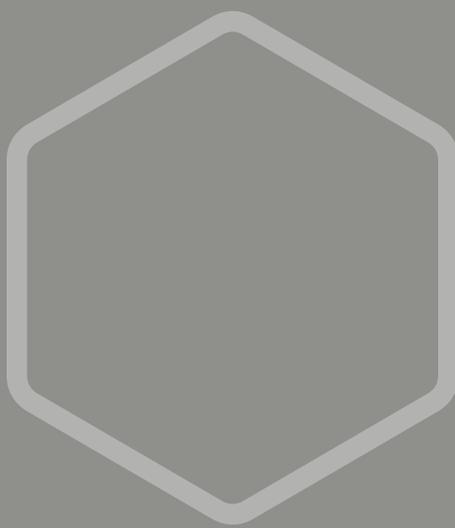


# Wick Harbour High Water Gate

£30K

NDA funding

Provision of consultancy support to develop Wick Harbour business case







2020  
2021



Dounreay