



**COMMITTEE ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (CORWM)  
OPEN MEETING  
9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019, LONDON**

**Venue:** 39 Essex Chambers, WC2A 1DD

**Timing:** 12.00 – 15.30

**Chair:** Sir Nigel Thrift (Chair)

**Members:** Andrew Walters, Julia West, Richard Shaw, Stephen Newson, Stephen Tromans, Campbell Gemmell (dialled in)

**Attending:** CoRWM Secretariat, Roy Payne (GDFWatch), David Lowry (Nuclear Waste Advisory Associates), Dr Claire Corkhill (University of Sheffield), Cherry Tweed (RWM), John Corderoy (RWM), Bruce Cairns (RWM)

**Apologies:** Gregg Butler

## **Summary**

During the Plenary held on 9th May, the Chair gave a brief overview of CoRWM's recent work, including observation of RWM's site evaluation meetings. Members provided updates on subgroup activities. Attendees were informed that the CoRWM Annual Report 2018-19 had been finalised and would be published in due course. The CoRWM work programme had also been finalised. Attendees viewed a presentation from RWM titled *RWM – Programme and Project Management Capability Update*.



## **Agenda Item 1: Chair's Updates**

### **Closed Plenary Update**

1. The closed plenary had the primary aim of finalising the Annual Report. This was achieved and the report will be published in due course.

### **Work Programme 2019-20**

2. The CoRWM work programme is now finalised.

### **Site Evaluation Meetings**

3. CoRWM members attended each of the venues of the site evaluation meetings to observe the process, CoRWM congratulate RWM on what they believe were well organised and run events.

### **Recruitment Update**

4. Recruitment efforts continue, an induction for new members is planned for the next plenary on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of September.

### **Future Meetings**

5. In light of the recruitment process there will be no June plenary. The September plenary will not have an open section due to the new member induction. The next open plenary will be in November.

## **Agenda Item 2: Declaration of interests**

6. Stephen Tromans was working on several projects relating to nuclear new build. None of the projects were related to radioactive waste and posed no conflict of interests to CoRWM.

## **Agenda Item 3: Subgroup Activities and Plans**

### **Subgroup 1: Working with Communities and Communications**

7. Subgroup 1 had its latest meeting with BEIS and RWM on May 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss communications and progress on the implementation by RWM of the Working With Communities (WWC) policy.
8. A list of missing CoRWM documents has been compiled, and work is ongoing to locate these and archive them appropriately.
9. The Subgroup has been compiling a history of the nuclear industry in the UK, with the aim of helping stakeholders to understand how nuclear waste came to be, so they can understand the present situation. SG1 will assess the



information it has compiled and decide on how best to present and utilise it going forward.

### **Subgroup 2: Safety Case and Geology**

10. CoRWM members attended each of the venues of RWM's site evaluation meetings. The meetings were seen to be well organised and run.
11. SG2 have not met since the last plenary, but at their last meeting they agreed CoRWM's response to the site evaluation consultation. Since the last plenary this had been submitted to both the Welsh and English governments (in late March). The response would be published in the CoRWM Annual Report and on the CoRWM website.

### **Subgroup 3: Planning and Regulation**

12. Subgroup 3 have been focussed on the National Policy Statement for Geological Disposal Infrastructure (NPS), this is now at an advanced stage.
13. SG3 had provided advice and worked with BEIS in the drafting of this document. They will maintain a watching brief as it passes through parliamentary process.

### **Subgroup 4: Organisational Development**

14. No update.

### **Subgroup 5: Scottish Government Activities**

15. No update.

### **Subgroup 6: Welsh Government Activities**

16. No update.

### **Subgroup 7: Storage of Radioactive Waste, Spent Nuclear Fuel and Nuclear Materials**

17. No update.

### **Subgroup 8: Euratom Exit Implications for Radioactive Waste Management**

18. No update.

### **Subgroup 9: CoRWM Outreach**

19. No update.



## **Agenda Item 5: Invited Speaker, John Corderoy of RWM**

20. RWM's Programme Director, John Corderoy, provided a comprehensive Programme and Project Management (PPM) update to the committee. The briefing covered four key areas of development both within RWM and within the Geological Disposal Facility Programme. Firstly, the briefing covered the rationale for, and progress with, forming a new Programme Directorate within RWM. The Directorate has now largely finished its recruitment of c.20 new staff and is driving four programme management themes of: leadership, alignment, drive and centre of excellence (in PPM). The second area was in the development of refreshed planning data covering short, medium and long term GDF activities. The third update related to the status of major Business Case activity; particularly the early strategic case work that will underpin the full scope of activity covering future site characterisation, safety case and detailed design work. The fourth update covered work undertaken during 2018 to look at the long term development of RWM through all the major phases of activity associated with the GDF. This work will lead to a detailed development plan looking 5, 10, 15 years ahead, to ensure that RWM has the right structure and capabilities to deliver the GDF Programme in the coming decades.

## **Agenda Item 6: Questions from the Public**

21. Nothing raised.

## **Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business**

22. Nothing raised.

## **Agenda Item 8: Next Meeting**

23. The next closed plenary will be in September and will serve as an induction for new members, thus it will not involve an open plenary. The next open meeting will be 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
24. Please contact [corwm@beis.gov.uk](mailto:corwm@beis.gov.uk) for details on how to attend CoRWM plenaries or visit our [webpage](#) or [meetings calendar](#).



## **Appendix A – Abbreviations**

BEIS: Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

CoRWM: Committee on Radioactive Waste Management

Das: Devolved Administrations

DCF: Dalton Cumbrian Facility

EA: Environment Agency

FGMSP: First-Generation Magnox Storage Ponds

GDF: Geological Disposal Facility

GDPB: Geological Disposal Programme Board

HALES: Highly Active Liquor Evaporation and Storage

HLW: High Level Waste

IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency

IPA: Infrastructure Projects Authority

ILW: Intermediate Level Waste

LLW: Low Level Waste

LoC: Letters of Compliance

NDA: Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

NPS: National Policy Statement

NRW: Natural Resource Wales

ONR: Office for Nuclear Regulation

RWM: Radioactive Waste Management

SED: Safety and Environmental Detriment

SEPA: Scottish Environmental Protection Agency

WAGR: Windscale Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor

WWC: Working with Communities

## **Appendix B – Actions**

No Actions were raised at this plenary.