

SME Steering Group - Scotland

Meeting 8 – 13.10.15 Scottish Enterprise Offices, Glasgow, Scotland

MINUTES

Attendees

<p>SMEs: Chair: Bob McKee (BK), McKillop Engineering & Projects Wendy Pring (WP) KCP Ltd John Curran (JC) Soilutions Andrew Boddice (AB) Imenco Ltd Phil Durrant (PD) PDA Consultants Peter Murphy (PM) Turnbull & Scott Angela Ramsay (AR) Nuclear Project Associates David Cairney (DC) Fluidic</p>	<p>Tier 2s: Adrian Peckitt (AP) Nuvia</p> <p>Support Organisations/Guests Jane Gallagher(JG) Scottish Enterprise Louisa MacDonell (LM) Scottish Enterprise Dug Harrison (DH) National Skills Academy Nuclear (NSAN)</p>
<p>SLCs: Kenneth Linn (KL) DSRL (by phone)</p>	<p>NDA: Sam Dancy (SD) Pippa Kelly (PK)</p>
<p>Apologies: Keith Muir (KM) Highlands & Island Enterprise Shaun McLaughlin (SM) McLaughlin Construction</p> <p>Ron Gorham (RG) NDA Stephen Sutherland (SS) JGC Engineering</p>	

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Welcome to the two new members from Scottish Enterprise – Jane Gallagher and Louisa MacDonnell and to Dug Harris from NSAN. Introductions were made around the group and Jane explained her new role taking over from Andrew Vincent who is on secondment abroad. Jane is responsible for the Supply Chain 21 project amongst others and gave an update later on the current progress of the project. Louisa MacDonell has a Strategic role looking at Thermal Generation & CCS, Energy & Low Carbon Technologies in Scotland including Nuclear Decommissioning.

2. NDA Update – SD

The NDA Estate is a DECC department and with the impending Comprehensive Spending Review, due in November 2015, are not one of the departments with protected spend. As such the review could mean reductions in spend of between 25-40% These reductions will remain in place for the period of this Parliament. NDA Chief Financial Officer (David Batters) has been working at various scenarios and significant plans have been made for whatever decision is made. SL will continue to be the largest proportion of the spend but no further details are yet available.

The current Government has set the SME Spend target for this parliament to 33%. This is a target for the whole Government and Ron Gorham has been in discussion with DECC, Cabinet Office over the NDA Estate Target. The target for the Government last parliament was 23% and the NDA's target was 20%. Whatever the actual figure, the SME Agenda still remains key to the Government and NDA.

Sellafield (SL) Update

SL contract with NMP is due to terminate on 31st March when SL will become a subsidiary of the NDA. The model of how this will work in practice is still being developed however SL will continue to have its own Supply Chain plans but the NDA may have more involvement in future.

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Robert Astall (SL Commercial Director) continues to be actively involved in promoting SME engagement and an SME Procurement Plan is available on the SL website identifying potential packages of work suitable for SME's.

Work continues to simplify PQQ's and changes continue to be made due following the EU Procurement Regulations 2015 and OJEU that if a contract value is below €200K PQQ's should not be required. If anyone feels a PQQ is excessive for the contract being placed, please contact the Commercial Director at the appropriate SLC.

Magneox Update – PK

Andrew New is the new Magnox Head of Supply Chain and Procurement and has presented at the last Welsh and South Steering Groups – this is a summary of the presentations made. Magnox have been undergoing a very significant reorganisation since the change in PBO (Parent Body Organisation) from Energy Solutions to Cavendish Fluor Partnership. The nature of the contract has changed from a Cost Reimbursement model to Target Cost. This has necessitated re-evaluating the programmes at each site which is intended to be completed by end of the year and a change in the priorities which has meant some projects have been deferred. As part of the reorganisation, the Commercial Department will be reorganised and refocused. Andrew recognised that there has been very little communication from Magnox since the handover and he will be presenting a more full explanation at the NDA Supply Chain Event on 4th November in the afternoon presentations.

3. DSRL - KL

DSRL are acutely aware of the impending CSR and are prepared for significant impact on the planned projects. The focus is currently on removing exotic fuels from Dounreay by the end of 2017. The SME spend at the end of Q2 is continuing to look good with a total estimated spend of £51m with £10m on SME's. This maintains the 20% spend from the previous year. Scottish Enterprise will be holding a meeting on 20th October and DSRL will be involved. DSRL continue to have a mixture of both large and small frameworks and are simplifying the process where possible and actively promoting this model with the other SLC's.

4. National Skills Academy – Nuclear (NSAN) – Dug Harrison

Dug presented details of the work being conducted by NSAN currently. NSAN are a not for profit organisation, funded by its members. The organisation's purpose is to support Members and the Industry in matching skills to requirements.

Current programmes include a suite of Triple Bar training to cover Existing sites, Nuclear New build, manufacturing and security. NDA have made funding available for those working on the NDA Estate sites for the time being however when this funding ceases the training will cost £100 for non-members £50 for members. Magnox already use Triple bar and have found it is very helpful in reducing the time for staff moving from one site to another however SL have yet to implement it. Some concerns were raised by members that it is excessive and over detailed but this is not the experience of all.

Also available is a Master Competency Framework that is available for companies to download and modify to meet their requirements. This can be used as part of an appraisal system and is aimed at having a single tool to be used to measure competence across the industry. The Competency Framework comes as part of the new NS4P system which is available to companies

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who are members of the Skills Academy. This plan is now being used internationally as well as within the UK.

Online hosting of training is also available so that new staff members can complete training off-site before security and inductions are held, allowing better use of staff time. The following SLC's are planning on using the programme : SL, Magnox, NNL, LLWR, Nuclear Waste Programme. NNL and LLWR are already using the facility.

Funding is also due for review within the CSR but Give to Gain should be continuing until March 2016 (England only). All Training meets trading standards regulation and are aligned across the industry.

If you would like more details on the presentation, please contact Dug.harrison@nsan.co.uk

5. **Scottish Enterprise – SC2, Fit 4 Nuclear, Mapping Support for Scottish SME's in Nuclear – JG Supply Chain 2**

The purpose of SC-2 is to encourage SME's to work within the Nuclear Industry and giving both technical and business support, identifying opportunities and organising meet the buyer events. The project is the 2nd phase of an earlier project by Scottish Enterprise and has planned support for 70 companies with a ½ day planning and then a further 40/50 companies will have opportunities to engage with experts if required on a one to one basis. So far these targets have been exceeded. Both the NDA and NIA have been working with Scottish Enterprise on this project and will be supporting with help in producing and collating any information that is already available in the forms of guides, websites etc.

Fit for Nuclear

Fit for Nuclear is a programme offered by NAMRC (Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre). The current programme is funded in England by the English Government and although the opportunities to take part are available to any company in the UK, the funding is not available on the same basis in each region. NAMRC have been conducting a pilot survey with Welsh and Scottish companies and Scottish Enterprise are working with them to find out how to progress this further.

Mapping the Nuclear Landscape for Scottish SME's

Following an earlier meeting, a preliminary map has been produced indicating the routes for Scottish SME's to gain access to support, funding and information.

Action : All to try using google and searching the Scottish Enterprise for the information and let JG or LMc know if they have any issues.

6. **Update on Scottish Enterprise Industry support by Sector – LMc**

The sector team looks at the whole sector rather than supporting individual companies. LMc is responsible for the Thermal Generation & CCS Energy & Low Carbon Technologies. The teams gather information on what is happening across the sector and focus on what could be done to make wholesale changes.

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7. Potential Guest speakers/themes

Stuart McKay from the Knowledge Transfer Partners is a potential future guest. Discussion over whether this is similar to the Knowledge Transfer Network which is a government funded BIS department.

Action : PK to contact both Stuart McKay and Ray Chegwin (KTN) to find out what similarities and whether the group would benefit from either/both presenting

Innovus was also suggested as good support has been given to some of the committee members.

Nick Elbourn of TWI was also proposed.

Action : BMc and PK to contact the above and make proposals

8. Update from Nuvia - AP

As part of SL's delivery of the Socio Economic Framework Agreement, Nuvia have been involved in their Tier 2/SME Summit. The theme is to encourage 20 major Tier 2's to collaborate to promote growth through SME's.

The new group is run by the Tier 2's but include SL and local government involvement. They meet monthly and recently had a presentation on the Centre for Nuclear Excellence that is being encouraged in West Cumbria to include nuclear training facilities.

Another consideration is promoting the STEM and Socio Economics and are jointly considering an SME Academy.

9. AOB

Chairs of the SME Steering groups are invited to contribute to the NDA SME Action Plan at a meeting to be held shortly (postponed from Sept).

Next meeting : PK to send Doodle for January 2016.