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Useful website Links:

NFLA: <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
Mayors for Peace: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>
2020 Vision: <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org>
KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>
ICAN-UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Tore Naerland of Bike for Peace, NFLA Chair Mark Hackett and Mayor Thore Vestby discuss 'Bike for Peace' at Manchester Town Hall

NFLA UK & Ireland SC Chair
Councillor Mark Hackett

NFLA SC Vice Chair (Scotland)
Councillor Norman McDonald

NFLA UK & Ireland Secretary
Sean Morris

NFLA All-Ireland Forum Chairs
Councillor Michael Carr (North)
Councillor Mark Dearey (RoI)

NFLA All-Ireland Secretary
Sinead Trainor

NFLA English Forum Chair
Councillor David Blackburn

NFLA Scotland Convener
Councillor Bill Butler

NFLA Scotland Secretary
Cathy Birrell

NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor
Pete Roche

NFLA Wales Forum Co-Chairs
Councillor Ray Davies
Councillor Ed Bridges

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NFLA prepares EU Hinkley response

The NFLA is working with European partner city group 'CNFE' and other leading NGOs to develop a detailed response to the European Commission's inquiry into the UK Government / EDF deal on Hinkley Point new nuclear build.

The Commission started looking at the UK deal,

to determine whether it is a legitimate form of state aid, early this year.

NFLA, the Vienna led Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe, the Nuclear Consulting Group, Stop Hinkley and Energy Fair are submitting responses and looking to share knowledge.

In December 2013 NFLA

was one of a long list of signatories – with MPs, MEPs, leading academic and many NGOs – who co-signed an Energy Fair letter of concern to the Commission.

The Commission inquiry is critical to EDF's investment decision for new nuclear at Hinkley. The NFLA response will go on its website shortly.

NFLA joins Project Board on Scottish radwaste policy

The NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor has been invited to join the Scottish Government's Project Board that is developing its policy for managing higher activity radioactive waste in Scotland.

Scottish policy differs significantly from that being pursued by the UK Government. The Scottish Government is

pursuing the development of 'near site, near surface' facilities for its waste.

The Project Board has now been set up to discuss the detail in implementing it across Scottish nuclear sites. NFLA broadly supports the Scottish policy and is keen to ensure it is implemented sensibly and effectively.

Meanwhile, the NFLA response to the UK Government policy for a deep waste repository can be found on the NFLA website. NFLA members also discussed policy in England and Wales at the January NuLEAF meeting held in Manchester Town Hall.

The next stage of the UK process takes place after the May elections.

NFLA media releases
January 2014:
(On NFLA website.)

- Nuclear materials transportation – NFLA calls for urgent review after second serious rail incident involving a train usually carrying nuclear materials

NFLA / KIMO agrees to attend OSPAR RSC meeting in London

As part of its partnership agreement with KIMO International, the NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor will be representing both groups at the 2014 OSPAR Radiation Substances Committee in London in February.

OSPAR is an inter-governmental body that seeks to improve the marine quality of the North East Atlantic. The RSC looks to reduce radioactive discharges into the OSPAR region by 'close to zero' by 2020.

NFLA / KIMO have put a report to the committee raising concerns over Sellafield discharges and UK new nuclear build proposed discharges. A full report of the meeting will be provided in Feb / March.

NFLA Secretary speaking at Euro emergency planning event

The NFLA Secretary has been invited to give a presentation on post Fukushima nuclear emergency planning & public awareness.

The invitation comes from the European Commission's Economic & Social Committee (EESC) & the European Nuclear Energy Forum

(ENEF) in Brussels.

The NFLA Secretary has already participated in the EESC / ENEF inquiry into how public authorities and the nuclear industry should inform the public in the event of an emergency affecting a civil nuclear reactor, and requiring local evacuation.

The NFLA Secretary will be on a panel including an EDF representative and a speaker from the Swedish nuclear safety agency.

The NFLA Secretary will also be attending the next meeting of the DECC NGO Nuclear EP sub group meeting in March.

NFLA attending NET Parliament event on nuclear weapons

The NFLA Chair will represent the NFLA and speak at the formal presentation & discussion of the Nuclear Education Trust's inquiry into UK nuclear weapons policy.

The meeting will be held in Portcullis House, Westminster. The NFLA Secretary has also been invited to attend.

The NFLA is one of a number of nuclear policy groups who were asked to respond to the utility of Trident and the future direction of UK policy within a changing defence regime.

The NET meeting will be chaired by former UK Foreign Office Minister, Margaret Beckett, and

the keynote speakers include UK Defence Committee Chair James Arbuthnot, former UK Defence Minister Sir Nick Harvey and CND-UK Chair Kate Hudson.

The NFLA's response to the NET inquiry on UK nuclear weapons policy can be found on the NFLA website.

NFLA Steering Committee discusses its strategy for 2014

The NFLA Steering Committee (SC) holds its first meeting of 2014 in Manchester at the end of January.

It is considering all ongoing policy strands

and its response to relevant consultations.

A special afternoon meeting will consider its strategy for 2014 and a number of financial and administrative issues.

The next SC meeting is planned to be held in Leeds to allow members to see a part of the NFLA archive. A seminar is also being organised for SC & English Forum members.

'Bike for Peace' world tour to start in UK

NFLA letters to media, December 2013: (emailed to members)

- Effort needed on all sides to keep Scotland's renewable revolution on track
- UK defence policy on Trident – time to see sense
- Developments of Irish renewables must bring public opinion along with it
- Councils should think very carefully before supporting shale or new nuclear

Developments of local authority energy policies – has its time come?

The NFLA Secretariat is currently developing a new Policy Briefing that follows on from a suite of reports that show the positive role Councils play in promoting a wide renewable energy mix and energy demand management.

With the energy debate likely to be one of the main issues in 2014 and 2015 the NFLA report considers the dynamic policies of a number of Councils to promote a more comprehensive energy policy similar to leading cities in Europe. Further details on this report will follow soon.

The NFLA and the Mayors for Peace are jointly supporting the Norwegian NGO 'Bike for Peace' as they commence an 'Around the World in 90 Days' tour in the UK in mid March.

'Bike for Peace' originated in 1978 as a way to highlight nuclear

disarmament & environmental issues affecting the world.

The founder of Bike for Peace, Tore Naerland, and the Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Thore Vestby, met with the NFLA Chair and NFLA Secretary in mid January to discuss the UK part of the tour.

Manchester's role as host of the NFLA and Vice President of the Mayors for Peace has encouraged Bike for Peace to start its 2014 tour in Manchester. It will also go to Coventry and London before crossing into Europe, Asia and North America. Go to Bike for Peace's website for details.

NFLA Forums meet in Glasgow, Leeds, Caernarfon & Dublin

The NFLA National Forums are all planning their next meetings for February and March.

NFLA Scotland will hold a business meeting and AGM in Glasgow in early February and determine its strategy for the rest of 2014.

The NFLA All Ireland Forum is in discussion

with councillors in Dublin to hold a seminar on key energy matters in Ireland.

The NFLA Welsh Forum is developing a joint public meeting with other like-minded groups in Caernarfon in mid March.

The NFLA English Forum will be hosting its next

meeting in conjunction with the Steering Committee in Leeds to view the NFLA archive and hold a seminar on radioactive waste management and the promotion of local authority energy trusts.

Further details & flyers for these meetings are on the NFLA website.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA Scotland AGM & business meeting, City Chambers, Glasgow, 7th February

Bike for Peace World Tour – Manchester, Coventry and London, 15 – 18th March

NFLA Welsh Forum joint public meeting, The Galeri, Caernarfon, 22nd March (location tbc)

NFLA Steering Committee, Civic Hall / Leeds Met, 28th March

NFLA All Ireland Forum, City Hall, Dublin, early April (date/location tbc)

NFLA SC meeting & joint English Forum seminar, Civic Hall, Leeds, 28th March