



*Nuclear Free Local Authorities Steering Committee*

# information

For Immediate Release

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## **NFLAs are back in business – leading the local authority debate on nuclear issues**

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLAs) held their 2008 Annual General Meeting on Friday December 12<sup>th</sup> and have elected a new chairperson and heard from new Secretariat staff keen to take the organisation forward in the next important 12 months.

**Councillor Bill Risby** of Manchester City Council was elected as the Chair of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities. Councillor Risby has over two decades of experience with the NFLAs and will help to focus the organisation in its key role within the nuclear policy debate.

NFLAs also have a new Secretary in **Sean Morris**, who joins the organisation as National Secretary after 9 years as the NFLA English Forum Secretary.

Nuclear Free Local Authorities are a unique organisation made up of member local authorities from England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. NFLAs play a vital role in the debate over nuclear weapons proliferation, nuclear power, radioactive waste management and nuclear safety. It takes a leading part in Government consultations on nuclear policy, provides consultancy advice for member authorities and seeks to provide an effective voice for local authorities on all nuclear issues.

NFLAs are taking a full role in the debate over the potential development of a new generation of new nuclear power stations and are working closely with local authorities over the possible sites of a nuclear waste repository.

Councillor Risby said:

"I am honoured to be elected as Chair of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities. For 28 years this organisation has provided valuable leadership and effective, high quality research and advice on nuclear issues. I will seek to lead the organisation further in highlighting the continued and ever present threat of Nuclear War, and the alternatives to nuclear new build. The NFLAs will also argue that the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy can effectively deal with the effects of climate change and the concerns over energy security.

Furthermore, the NFLAs will also continue to work closely with the Hiroshima led Mayors for Peace movement to highlight world-wide concerns over nuclear proliferation and for their 2020 Vision of a nuclear weapons free world".

ENDS

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**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOICE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES**