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### **Websites / partner links:**

#### **NFLA:**

<http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>  
(Also links to Facebook and Twitter)

CNFE: <http://www.cnfe.eu>

MFP: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>

KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>

ICAN: <http://www.icanw.org>

ICAN UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>

## Welsh meeting charts a renewable future

The NFLA Welsh Forum held a spring meeting in cooperation with PAWB, CADNO and CND Cymru to consider how Wales moves on from a post-Wylfa B energy policy.

Robat Idris from PAWB looked at the 'Mon-Gwynedd Manifesto' that looks at ways to transform the local economy to renewables

instead of new nuclear.

Professor Steve Thomas outlined a critique of small nuclear reactors and raised financial, practical & safety concerns about them. A major report on this will be published soon.

Beca Roberts gave an overview of community energy projects in North



Professor Steve Thomas talking at the NFLA Welsh Forum joint meeting in Menai Bridge

Wales and their role for the future.

The NFLA Secretary gave an overview of the radioactive waste debate. Over 70 Welsh Councils and most Northern Irish Councils have opposed any interest in a deep underground repository.

See the NFLA website for further details.

## NFLA Scotland Vice-Convener speaks at divestment summit

The NFLA Scotland Vice Convener Cllr Audrey Doig represented the organisation at a major conference considering the issue of divestment from fossil fuel and nuclear weapon companies.

Hosted by the City of Basel, Cllr Doig outlined the challenge in encouraging Council pension

funds to divest from companies having either a negative effect on the climate or supporting nuclear weapon programmes.

The NFLA's presentation was supported by information provided from the 'Don't Bank on the Bomb Scotland' group. A model resolution has been developed & early

discussions with the relevant councillors are being held.

The Conference had speakers from around Europe considering ways other sectors – like churches & universities – were being encouraged to divest.

The matter is being picked up at the next NFLA Scotland meeting.

**NFLA media releases – April 2019:**  
***(On NFLA website.)***

- NFLA note over 70 Welsh Councils oppose waste repository
- NFLA note further delays in EDF's EPR projects in Finland & France
- NFLA welcome joint letter with CNFE & Alliance of Regions over Mochovce reactor
- NFLA welcomes NAO report showing 'dismal' failing of MOD waste legacy
- NFLA frustrated with delays to submarine dismantling
- NFLA submits views on site evaluation for a deep repository

**NFLA welcomes closer connections with European networks**

The NFLA joined in with an initiative from two like-minded European networks that are concerned with the prospect of new nuclear build on the continent.

The joint letter between NFLA, the Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe (CNFE) and the Alliance of Regions for a Phase-

out of Nuclear Power in Europe calls on the Slovakian Government to halt development of a 'new' nuclear reactor at Mochovce.

There is concern this reactor, based on old technology, is fundamentally unsafe and has not been subject to international con-

trols. The letter has also been sent to the European Commission and nuclear regulators.

NFLA welcome this joint initiative and further work with CNFE and the Alliance. With our partnerships with KIMO, Mayors for Peace and ICAN there is real benefit in such work.

**NFLA Scotland seminar to look at climate & divestment**

The NFLA Scotland spring meeting will take place in Dundee City Chambers on the 10<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be a morning business meeting and an afternoon seminar.

The seminar is focusing on climate change, the 'Just Transition' scheme

and divestment issues in Scotland.

The Scottish Government has set up a 'Just Transition' Commission to assist in the process of moving workers from high carbon to low carbon sectors and retaining their skills.

There is also a real

interest in looking at ways for Council pension funds to fund climate change mitigation and disinvest from fossil fuel and nuclear weapon companies.

Speakers will come from FOE Scotland, the NFLA & Dundee City Council. See the NFLA website for the programme.

**Irish EPA meeting on radiation safety issues**

In 2017, the Irish Environmental Protection Agency set up a Radiation Issues Committee. It met in April to discuss local concerns around radon with wider issues around the impact

on Ireland of the UK's nuclear programme.

The NFLA's representative to this Committee is Dr Paul Dorfman. NFLA are pleased that the Irish Environmental

Network has nominated Professor Steve Thomas and the Friends of the Irish Environment's rep is Cllr David Healy. They are providing real and robust challenge to the EPA on such matters.



The NFLA Welsh Forum Chair Cllr Galsworthy opens the joint meeting in Menai Bridge

### **NFLA letters to the media – April 2019:**

- It is time for the investor sector to 'raise the bar' for climate change investment

### **Further delays at EPR construction sites puts question marks on Hinkley C**

NFLA notes further delays have been reported in building EPR reactors in France and Finland. Both sites are now getting to be over 8 years late and are billions over budget. There also remains serious safety issues to resolve. See the NFLA's website for its views on this matter.

### **Mayors for Peace prepares for NPT**

A Mayors for Peace delegation will be at the UN in New York in May for the latest Preparatory Conference of the NPT. They will speak to the full Conference urging real action.

In Europe, further discussions are also taking place over the creation of a M4P European Chapter to drive its work forward. As a Vice President and Lead City, Manchester is heavily involved in this discussion.

## Major concerns raised over defence nuclear safety

The NFLA, local Councils and other groups have raised real concerns over the safety of the defence nuclear programme.

This follows a National Audit Office report which finds 'dismal' failings in how the Ministry of Defence is

dealing with its laid-up redundant submarines at Devonport & Rosyth.

This programme has already cost over £0.5 billion and it will eventually be a £7.5bn liability. After 20 years no submarine has yet been fully dismantled and its radioactive

waste dealt with.

NFLA is concerned over reports that the MOD may be reconsidering its plans in this area. NFLA also note that the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) remains concerned with the aging facilities at the Aldermaston, Burghfield and Devonport sites, all under close attention.

## NFLA post-election reports – climate, SMRs, transport

The NFLA is in the process of developing or supporting three key reports that will be released after the English and Irish local elections.

Each year now, the NFLA develops an annual report considering the state of local low carbon energy in the fight to mitigate

climate change. With many Councils creating 'climate emergency' resolutions, this timely report will look at ways to build resilient programmes for the future.

NFLA is also supporting a report by the NCG which is looking at the issue of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in their totality. As they

have been raised as real alternatives to 'large' nuclear plants this report will help look at their viability.

And a detailed look at civil & defence nuclear transport issues and concerns is being finalised to also link in with changes to emergency planning legislation. All will come out shortly.

## Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

**NFLA Scotland Forum, Dundee City Chambers, May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**NFLA Steering Committee, Central Library, Manchester, May 31st**

**NFLA English Forum, Leeds Town Hall, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

**NFLA Welsh and Irish Forum meetings being arranged for June and September**

**NFLA Steering Committee and Mayors for Peace Chapter meeting, Central Library, Manchester, 20<sup>th</sup> September**