



## Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum Spring 2015 Meeting **Nuclear risks and energy opportunities – which direction should Ireland go?**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015, Board Room, Newry & Mourne Council Offices, Monaghan Road, Newry, BT35 8DJ.

The Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) All Ireland Forum's Spring 2015 seminar and business meeting will allow councillors, council officers and interested groups to discuss in detail some of the key energy issues affecting Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, and the positive role the NFLA are playing in this debate.

The seminar will consider three energy issues of interest to councillors, council officers and community groups, including:

- Irish coastal authorities have been consistently concerned about the **Sellafield nuclear power plant**. In January the UK Government decided to strip the consortium running the Sellafield site of its contract? What are the risks of the Sellafield site and should Irish Councils remain concerned about them?
- There has been talk from the Republic of Ireland Government of considering in its future energy mix the possibility of developing **small-scale nuclear reactors**, and therefore abandoning its 'nuclear free' policies. Are such reactors viable and should they be considered as part of the energy mix on the island of Ireland?
- The **development of community energy** in Ireland is an additional way to promote decentralised local low carbon energy bringing local authorities and local communities into the equation. What scope is there for the development of community energy across the island of Ireland, and what role could local government play with it?

This FREE seminar will consider in detail these matters. It is open to councillors, council officers, environmental and public health officers, local energy companies & local interested groups. If you would like to attend please complete the attached registration form.

### **FINAL PROGRAMME**

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| 10.30am | Registration and light refreshments.  |
| 11.00am | Opening welcome by Councillor Michael Carr, Newry and Mourne District Council and Co-Chair of the NFLA All Ireland Forum.   |
| 11.05am | Small nuclear reactors – an energy answer for Ireland's future energy mix, or an expensive distraction? Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary (confirmed)   |
| 11.35pm | Sellafield – an intolerable risk to Ireland? Pete Roche, NFLA Policy Advisor and author of the report 'Towards a Safer Cumbria'. (confirmed)  |
| 12.05pm | The development of community co-operatives in Ireland – part of Ireland's future energy mix? Karen Arbuckle, Drumlin Wind Energy Co-operative & Northern Ireland Community Energy Ltd (confirmed) |
| 12.30pm | Panel discussion chaired by the Co-Chair of the NFLA All Ireland Forum, Councillor Mark Dearey, Louth County Council and NFLA All Ireland Forum Chair (for 1.00pm conclusion).                    |



## NFLA All Ireland Forum Spring 2015 Meeting

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014, Council Offices, Newry, BT35 8DJ.

### Registration Details

The seminar is a free event open to all NFLA members and officers and interested environmental groups. If you are planning to attend, could you please fill in the appropriate details and post, email or fax to the address at the bottom of this form:

| Name | Authority / Group | Correspondence address<br>(email or postal) |
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#### Venue and accommodation details:

Newry and Mourne District Council Offices (O'Hagan House) are off Monaghan Row in the city centre. To download a map you are encouraged to go to the Google maps website and type in the postcode BT35 8DJ. The train station is a 10 minute walk or short bus / taxi ride to the Council Offices and Newry is on the main Dublin – Belfast train line. Car parking is limited around the Council Offices, but there are car parks in the town around 5 minutes walk from the meeting location.

#### Hotels in and around Newry:

Canal Court Hotel, Merchants Quay, BT35 8HF 02830 251234

Belmont Hall B&B, 18 Downshire Road 02830 262163

Francis Court Hotel, 13 – 19 Francis Street, BT35 8BQ 02830 66326

Mourne Country Hotel, 52 Belfast Road, BT34 1TR 02830 267922

**Please return this form to: Sinead Trainor, Secretary, NFLA All Ireland Forum - [sinead.trainor@newryandmourne.gov.uk](mailto:sinead.trainor@newryandmourne.gov.uk) Tel: 00 44 (0)2830 313096.**

For more general queries of the seminar or the NFLA please contact the NFLA UK and Ireland Secretary, Sean Morris – [s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk) Tel: 00 44 (0)161 234 3244. <http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

**The NFLA thanks Newry & Mourne District Council for agreeing to host this seminar and providing the Secretariat of the NFLA All Ireland Forum.**