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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>

NFLA elects new Chair at 2018 AGM

At the NFLA AGM, Leeds City Green Councillor David Blackburn was elected as its Chair for the next 12 months. Cllr Blackburn said he was truly honoured to represent NFLA in 2019.

The AGM was one of 3 meetings in Newry Council Offices. At the final NFLA Steering Committee of 2018,

members agreed a number of reports and consultation responses. The Steering Committee heard that Brexit had delayed decisions on UK / Welsh radioactive waste policy. There was also detailed updates across all aspects of NFLA policy.

The NFLA AGM also confirmed some minor

The Mayor of Oslo, with Baroness Jones, Douglas Chapman MP, Fabian Hamilton MP. ICAN and NFLA staff meeting in London



changes to the NFLA Constitution and agreed its affiliation fees for 2019/20. The NFLA Service Plan for 2019 was also agreed.

Detail on the NFLA Annual Policy Seminar is provided on page 2.

A NFLA media release on the new Chair is on its website.

Renfrewshire becomes first Scottish Council to back TPNW

Following on from Manchester's resolution in November, Renfrewshire Council became the first Scottish Council to formally support the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons or TPNW.

Renfrewshire Council's resolution mirrored that of Manchester's, in also calling for Trident repla-

cement to be cancelled.

NFLA have also formally supported ICAN's Cities Appeal which is a simpler resolution that asks for Councils to support the TPNW.

The Catalan Mayors for Peace Vice President City Granollers passed a similar resolution. Other Mayors for Peace cities

are in the process of passing resolutions, hopefully including Oslo after a London meeting.

Other NFLA members have similar initiatives that will be passed over the next few months.

A NFLA media release welcoming Renfrewshire's action is on its website.

NFLA media releases - December 2018: (On NFLA website.)

- NFLA plans Hunterston Scottish Parliament event
- NFLA welcomes Renfrewshire as first Scottish Council to support TPNW
- NFLA elects new Chair as problems of Wylfa B financing reopen
- NFLA prepares for its AGM
- NFLA submits its views to the Planning Inspectorate on Wylfa B



The Lord Mayor of Manchester and Consort with Manchester's TPNW resolution passed on the 28th November



The Chair of Newry, Mourne & Down Council with the new SC Chair Cllr Blackburn and the NFLA All Ireland Co Chair Cllr Dearey at NFLA Policy Seminar

NFLA seminar discuss Brexit, climate & nuclear impacts

Along with the NFLA AGM, the NFLA's Annual Policy Briefing had detailed discussion on core issues of concern.

With over 30 councillors and officers in attendance, the seminar was opened by the Chair of Newry, Mourne & Down Council. He welcomed councillors and noted

the ongoing commitment to support the NFLA.

Paul Price of An Taisce Climate Change Committee gave a sobering assessment of the huge challenge in Ireland and the UK in delivering low carbon policies to mitigate the effects of climate cha-

nge.

Attracta Ui Bhroin of the NGO Green Sword gave an expert overview of the UK nuclear debate and why Irish Councils need to engage in it. The NFLA Secretary also outlined concerns over Brexit. The presentations are on the NFLA website.

Moorside down, is Wylfa B next new nuclear project to fall?

Following the decision last month of Toshiba to abandon its interest in the Sellafield Moorside site, Japanese media speculation suggests Hitachi is thinking of doing the same for Wylfa B.

Persistent reports, and public comments made by the Hitachi CEO, say

that the company is struggling to find the funds for the site, and remains worried over the risk to the company of cost overruns. This is despite the UK Government offering a substantial amount of public finance for the project.

Presently, there is a

planning inquiry taking place for the site, and a transboundary impacts consultation on Wylfa instituted by the Irish Government, for which NFLA is developing a model response.

NFLA have made a public comment in its media release on the Annual Policy Seminar.

NFLA Secretary to speak at Mayors for Peace / PNND event

The NFLA Secretary, in his role as Manchester's Mayors for Peace officer – and as the UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary – has been asked to speak at a joint MFP / PNND event

in Basel on January 15th.

The event follows on from the Basel Peace Forum and looks at cooperation between Mayors for Peace and

its Parliamentary equivalent. The talk will consider how MFP is seeking to develop in and across Europe. A report will be provided in the January NFLA newsletter.

Letters to the media, December 2018: (emailed to members)

- Councils need new funds and powers to deal with climate change crisis

NFLA submits views on Sellafield discharges

The NFLA has submitted its views on proposed variations to Sellafield environmental permits.

NFLA raises its real disappointment and concern over the amount of flexibility being allowed which may even allow the level of discharges increase. The response is on the NFLA website.

UK seeks GDF volunteers

The UK Government has started the process to seek volunteers for a 'GDF'. NFLA will consider this issue in its January newsletter.

NFLA CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

The NFLA offices will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays from December 22nd and reopen January 2nd.

NFLA wishes all of its members a happy Christmas & peaceful New Year.

Hunterston B – NFLA cooperate in Scottish Parliament event

The NFLA has cooperated with Ross Greer MSP to hold a special briefing session in the Scottish Parliament to raise its concerns about keyway route cracks on the graphite bricks around the Hunterston B reactors.

The event directly

follows on from the November Scottish Forum presentation by Dr Ian Fairlie on the level of cracks found by EDF in its assessment of the reactor.

Hunterston B reactors are currently closed for safety checks and will not be reopened unless

the ONR approves them.

The Parliament briefing will see Dr Fairlie provide an updated view and also sees NFLA Scotland's Pete Roche talk about the local jobs issue.

A flyer for the meeting is on the NFLA website and registration is now open.

House of Lords nuclear weapons consultation opens

NFLA are putting together a response to a House of Lords consultation on UK nuclear weapons policy.

The House of Lords International Relations Select Committee has raised real concerns that the nuclear disarmament regime may be breaking down amidst increasing ten-

sions between the US, Russia and China.

At the same time non-nuclear weapon states are forging ahead with the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty.

The House of Lords consultation asks specific questions on such matters and also on issues such as the

creation of a Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.

ICAN UK and ICAN globally will respond to this consultation, as will CND and other interested groups.

Consultation responses need to be in by January 15th. Public hearings are planned.

Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

Scottish Parliament / NFLA Scotland Briefing on Hunterston B, Committee Room 4, Scottish Parliament, January 9th 2019

Mayors for Peace / PND European seminar, Basel, January 15th 2019

NFLA Steering Committee, Manchester, February 8th 2019

Other NFLA National Forum meetings will be agreed in January and dates provided in the NFLA January newsletter