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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>

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The Mayor of Oslo (centre) with Rebecca Johnson of ICAN and the NFLA Secretary

## New government – new nuclear?

The Conservative Party has won a decisive overall majority in the December UK general election of 83 seats.

This will allow them to formally pull the UK out of the European Union – Brexit – early in 2020.

Climate change was a significant, but it does not look like, decisive

issue in the campaign, with all of the parties committing to differing to a zero carbon UK at some points between 2030 and 2050.

Media reports suggest that a new Department of Energy and Climate Change may be restored to tackle these issues, after it was amalgamated into the Business

Department in 2017.

The new government supports new nuclear power stations, both of the large types like Sizewell & Bradwell, but also small modular reactors as well. It also supports offshore wind, but more detail on wider climate change policy is expected in the new year.

## Mayors for Peace European Chapter moves further forward

In November, the Mayors for Peace European Lead Cities agreed to establish a new European Chapter.

The aim of the Chapter will be to develop and deepen its membership across the continent.

Following the meeting, officers have been working on a terms of

reference and an operational plan to move forward in 2020 and onwards.

Substantial funding to get the Chapter moving forward has been provided by the lead city Granollers and the Provincial Council of Barcelona. Additional funding from other sources is also likely.

Meetings with the Mayors of Oslo, Geneva and (shortly) Basel has informed them of these positive developments. A follow-up officer's meeting is taking place in early January.

A full report on these developments and some recent Mayors for Peace local events is now on the NFLA website.

**NFLA media releases, December 2019:**  
*(On NFLA website)*

- NFLA outline the top 10 actions Councils need to take to tackle the climate emergency
- NFLA submits its view on Sellafield discharges

**BASEL PEACE FORUM 2020 – CITIES OF PEACE**

The NFLA Secretary, in his role as UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary, will attend the Basel Peace Forum, via external funding support.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Basel Peace Forum on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 will this year consider the issue of 'Cities of Peace'. A plethora of speakers from the sectors of politics, business, digital, culture and NGOs are involved.

A joint Basel Canton – Mayors for Peace meeting on youth and climate change is being held. It will be profiled in the January newsletter.

## Should nuclear have a role in the European Green New Deal?

On the day before the UK election, the new EU Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced the European 'Green New Deal'.

This ambitious £84bn package of measures seeks to transform the EU to ensure the continent is climate neutral by 2050.

The aim of the Green New Deal will be to set a path for transition that is fair and to encourage new green growth. With the UK likely to leave the EU in 2020 it may not benefit from it, but Ireland will.

A political row has taken place on the role

of new nuclear within it, as some Eastern European countries insist on it, while others like Austria do not. NFLA is cooperating with its European partners CNFE and the Alliance of Regions in Europe on this issue. They all welcome the support being given to develop renewables.

## NFLA meetings being organised for the New Year

The NFLA Secretariat is talking with all four Forums on meetings in the first quarter of 2020.

The NFLA Scotland Forum will host a business meeting, AGM and seminar on January 24<sup>th</sup> in Glasgow. The seminar will consider Hunterston issues, Scottish energy issues and

nuclear weapons divestment policies.

The NFLA Steering Committee AGM and a business meeting will be held on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

A Mayors for Peace UK & Ireland Chapter seminar will be held in Oxford in late February or early March.

A joint seminar of the NFLA English Forum and NGOs is planned in Suffolk for March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Discussions are also taking place to hold the NFLA All Ireland Sustainable Energy Forum in Newry and the NFLA Welsh Forum in Cardiff in March / April. Full details will follow.

## NFLA calls on 'fair' feed-in tariffs for Irish renewables scheme

The NFLA All Ireland Sustainable Energy Forum has welcomed a decision of the Irish Government to widen plans to expand a feed-in tariff scheme to deploy more renewable

energy schemes.

Similar to schemes that have previously been developed in Germany and the UK, the aim is to provide state support for the likes of solar and

onshore wind local schemes. The Forum Co-Chair called for a 'fair' development of the scheme as part of up-scaling low carbon targets. See our website for more detail.

**NFLA letters to the media**  
**December 2019:**  
***(Sent to NFLA members)***

- Joint letter to the FT – New nuclear reduces our chances to combat climate change
- Irish renewable electricity support scheme is welcome but needs fairness
- Zero carbon – it is right to be concerned, but wrong to think new nuclear is an answer to it

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR**

The NFLA office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Also issued with this newsletter is the NFLA Annual Newsletter, which highlights the dedicated work undertaken by NFLA across 2019.

On behalf of the NFLA Chair, the NFLA's Secretariat would like to wish all its member Councils a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

## NFLA developing nuclear emergency planning briefing

In May, the UK nuclear emergency planning regime was updated to take into account the learning from the Fukushima disaster.

The new legislation gives Councils around civil and defence nuclear sites 12 months to develop offsite

emergency plans to take account of these changes.

A number of draft plans are now receiving public consultation over an inner detailed emergency planning zone and a much larger outline emergency zone for wider evacuation.

The NFLA Secretariat is currently looking at some of these proposed revised plans amid some concern of different approaches. The report will also revisit wider concerns over issues like the distribution of potassium iodide tablets. It is aimed to have the report published early in the new year.

## NFLA outlines top 10 actions for the climate emergency

The NFLA has published a new briefing that assists all Councils with the top 10 actions they should take to tackle the 'climate emergency'.

The report comes from a direct request from member authorities of a simple guide to low carbon climate action. It follows over 250

Councils across the UK and Ireland passing resolutions this year with ambitious plans to become 'zero carbon' emitters by as early as 2030.

The 10 actions call for Councils to support and develop dynamic renewable electricity, heating and transport solutions to embed and

deepen commitments made in resolutions made this year.

The report signposts to examples of best practice and gives a short summary of core parts of Council policy and what is required for internal and external action. The report can be found on the NFLA website.

## Forthcoming meetings of interest to NFLA members

**NFLA Scotland Forum  
 AGM and seminar,  
 Glasgow City  
 Chambers, 24<sup>th</sup>  
 January 2020**

**NFLA SC and AGM,  
 Conference Room,  
 Royal Exchange  
 Building, Manches-  
 ter, 31<sup>st</sup> January  
 2020**

**Other Forum  
 meetings and Mayors  
 for Peace Chapter are  
 being scheduled in  
 February and March  
 2020**