



**NFLA Secretariat,
City Policy, Level 3,
Town Hall Extension,
Library Walk,
Manchester, M60 2LA.**
sean.morris@manchester.gov.uk
Tel: 00 44 (0)161 234 3244

NFLA SC Chair and the NFLA
English Forum Chair
Councillor David Blackburn

NFLA/MFP Chapter Secretary
Sean Morris

NFLA All-Ireland Forum Chairs
Councillor Karen McKeivitt (NI)
Councillor David Healy (RoI)

NFLA All-Ireland Secretary
Eamonn Keaveney

NFLA SC Vice-Chair (England)
Councillor Sean Chaytor

NFLA Scotland Convener
Councillor Feargal Dalton

NFLA Scotland Vice-Convener
Councillor Audrey Doig

NFLA SC Vice-Chair (Scotland)
Councillor Bill Butler

NFLA Scotland Secretary
Cathy Birrell

NFLA Welsh Forum Chair
Councillor Ernie Galsworthy

NFLA Welsh Forum Vice-Chair
Councillor Sue Lent

NFLA Policy Advisor
Pete Roche

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Websites / partner links:

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

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

Mayors for Peace: <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 Mayors for Peace European Chapter
online meeting

Mayors for Peace European Chapter holds 1st board meeting

After a lot of preparation, the first meeting of the European Mayors for Peace Chapter took place online in June.

The Chapter was first considered in 2017 and meetings were held in Geneva and online in 2018 to develop the concept. It was formally agreed at the Mayors

for Peace Executive Conference in Hanover in November 2019.

European Lead City officers, including the NFLA Secretary, have been working to develop it, and helped to bring a major webinar with ICAN and NFLA on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons/TPNW in December 2020.

The June board meeting formally agreed the Chapter's legal statutes, its operational plan, its website and social media plan and a statements protocol.

Preparations for another joint webinar with ICAN and NFLA on the TPNW States Parties Conference is being planned on the 18th October.

Taishan leak – will it impact on EDF's new build programme?

International concern has been raised over an apparent nuclear safety incident at the Taishan nuclear power plant in China, after a suspected leak.

The Taishan reactor is the same technology as being planned for both Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C. A CNN report outlined that

French officials had informed the United States government of concern about a safety incident, where it looks like 'around five' fuel rods had cracked, leading to a release of inert gases.

There was considerable confusion on what has actually happened and when, with the CNN

report suggesting tensions between the Chinese nuclear regulator and Framatome, a subsidiary of EDF.

NFLA has written to the ONR asking for it to investigate the incident and understand learning points for the UK context. A NFLA media release on the issue can be found on its website.

NFLA media releases,

June 2021:

(On NFLA website)

- Welsh groups write to Gwynedd councillors
- NFLA publishes nuclear transports report
- What happened at Taishan?
- NFLA publishes plutonium report
- NFLA welcomes ICAN report and Mayors for Peace European Chapter

Public inquiries take place about Sizewell C and Hinkley Point C

The planning inquiry on the Sizewell C new nuclear reactor continues online with the large number of presentations opposing it.

The inquiry is likely to continue through the summer and into the autumn. NFLA are working with local and national groups to bring a high-profile webinar looking at the impact of new nuclear plants on many wildlife sites.

Meanwhile a public inquiry took place in June over whether acoustic fish deterrents will be built at Hinkley Point C. There are concerns many millions of fish could be killed without these deterrents. NFLA is closely monitoring these issues.

NFLA publish comprehensive report on nuclear transports

The NFLA has published a detailed report which consolidates its long-standing work and wider concerns around the transport of nuclear materials.

The report focuses on the transport of nuclear materials for both the UK nuclear weapons programme and the

many types of civil and medical nuclear transports that take place.

A large section on nuclear weapon road convoys highlights the work of NIS, ICAN UK and Nukewatch and the real concerns they all have in the event of a major accident involving such transports.

The report also looks at the issues around civil nuclear road, rail, sea and air transports. It outlines a number of significant incidents in all of these areas and notes a growth in all such transports.

The report is on the NFLA website and should be disseminated.

NFLA publish report on UK plutonium policy and the Irish Sea

The NFLA has published a detailed analysis on its website of UK plutonium policy, as well as its wider concerns that plutonium and other nuclear particles on the Irish Sea are remobilising in the Irish Sea.

The report by the NFLA Policy Advisor looks at the ongoing serious

delay in a decision from the UK Government and the NDA over what to do with the largest stockpile of weapons-usable plutonium in the world.

There remains a push from much of the nuclear industry that these materials should be reprocessed, but

there is no international market for such material or reprocessing in general. NFLA wish to see the material immobilised and stored for the long-term. The report also notes that storms, seismic activity and suchlike could remobilise Sellafield discharges on the Irish Sea, of concern for the future.

NFLA Scotland seeks to meet Scottish Government on fusion

The NFLA Scotland Forum met on the 25th June for a useful business meeting on all aspects of its work.

Members agreed that it was important to seek a

meeting with the Scottish Government to raise its concerns on the possible development of a nuclear fusion site in the country.

17 sites, including 5 in

Scotland, have been shortlisted to host an experiment fusion reactor. The Scottish Government is seeking more information on fusion. NFLA seek to engage with them on it.

NFLA / joint letters to the media, June 2021 (emailed to NFLA members)

- Torness AGR confidence on its future is misplaced
- 'Boys and their toys' Hinkley Point C documentary should have had wider discussion

Council divestment resolution debates keep on moving

The interest from many councillors in the debate over what their Pension Funds invest in is continuing to grow across local government.

In June, NFLA member Fife Council unanimously agreed to ask its Pension Fund administrators to prepare a report on how it could divest from fossil fuels.

A passionate debate also took place in Wrexham Council over an opposition motion that was narrowly defeated by 19 votes to 15. It had called on divestment of fossil fuels from the Clywd Pension Fund.

NFLA is working on a detailed report considering the issues in divestment from fossil fuels and on nuclear weapons. It will be out in July.

NFLA join with Welsh groups on letter to Gwynedd Council

The NFLA Welsh Forum has cooperated with three other groups to submit a joint letter to all Gwynedd County Councillors urging them to reconsider its joint local development plan (JLDP) with Anglesey.

The letter was co-signed by the NFLA, People Against Wylfa B

(PAWB), CADNO and the Welsh Language Society. It noted that, with Wylfa B now not an option, the JLDP should be rewritten to reduce the number of new houses required in Gwynedd and Anglesey.

The letter also called on the Council to move its JDLP away from new

nuclear and to embrace renewables. The bilingual letter was written in cooperation with a number of local councillors.

At the meeting, councillors called on the Welsh Government to speed up its review of planning so as to allow the Council to amend its JDLP. See the NFLA website for details.

NDA to take on EDF's AGRs for decommissioning

NFLA and other groups wish to see further information on the funding for a recent decision that the NDA will decommission the EDF AGR nuclear fleet, once they close and are re-fuelled.

In a joint decision with the UK Government, the NDA will take on the EDF sites over the next decade or so, with funds provided

through the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF).

This issue is becoming more pressing as EDF has announced the Dungeness site will now close due to ongoing challenges with it.

The Hunterston B and Hinkley Point B sites will stop generating in 2022, and it is now thought other reactors like Heysham, Hartle-

pool and Torness will close much earlier than initially planned. This will only leave Sizewell B operating into the next decade, unless new nuclear reactors are built in the next few years.

NFLA and other NGOs are seeking to find out more detail as to whether the NLF has sufficient funds in it to cover the liability, or if more public money is required.

Forthcoming dates or meetings of interest to NFLA members

Mayors for Peace global Executive Conference, 7th July

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day ceremonies, 6th and 9th August

UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace webinar for International Peace Day, 21st September

NFLA Steering Committee, 24th September

NFLA Forum meetings will be scheduled in September and October, with a number of public meetings also being developed