

BAE Systems Local Liaison Committee

10.30am 26th January 2017

Rydal Suite, The Forum, Barrow in Furness

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Charlie Simcox	Associated British Ports
Allan Day	BAE Systems
John McNeill	BAE Systems
Lara Cowperthwaite	BAE Systems
Len Hodgkiss	BAE Systems
Michael Braclay	BAE Systems
Paul Connell	BAE Systems
Shirley Callow	BAE Systems
Tiffany Battersby	BAE Systems
Simon Craig	Barrow BID
Andy Buck	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Anita Husband	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Brendan Sweeney (Chair)	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Colin Thomson	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Debra Seward	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Derek Gawne	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Desmond Barlow	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Lee Roberts	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Marie Derbyshire	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Martin McLeavy	Barrow Borough Council
Councillor Anne Burns	Cumbria County Council
Councillor Frank Cassidy	Cumbria County Council
Rupert Anderson	Cumbria Constabulary
Alison Love	Cumbria County Council
Jonathan Burgess	Cumbria County Council
Rebecca Maidment	Cumbria County Council - Adult Social Care
Jamie Coward	Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service
Stuart Dolan	Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service
Mike Baggs	Environment Agency
David Smith	MOD- Defence Nuclear Safety Authority
Grahame Gunning	NWAS
G Sangha	Office for Nuclear Regulation

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Cllr Brendan Sweeney welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the aims and objectives for the forum meeting.

2 Minutes of last meeting held on 2nd February 2016

The minutes from the last meeting held on 2nd February 2016 were reviewed and agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

3 BAE SYSTEMS On Site Update

Michael Barclay, BAE Systems, introduced himself to the attendees and explained his role within BAE Systems. An introduction was given regarding the format for the meeting and it was confirmed that questions would be taken by each presenter following their presentation. It was also noted that any suggestions regarding future topics or subjects, within the scope of the meeting, would be welcomed.

Nuclear Submarine Build Programme Update

Len Hodgkiss, BAE Systems, gave an overview of the Submarine Build Programme. 2016 has focused on setting out delivery programmes for boats 4 and 5. Further improvements to the build programme, through the Significant Change Management Programme, continue to be developed. The presentation included photographic sequences showing how the modular build is carried out. Key points of interest included:

- Dreadnought Cut Steel commenced in October 2016 and fabrication has started.
- The facilities programme continues to progress to support the Dreadnought Programme.
- September 2016 saw the 30 year anniversary of Devonshire Dock Hall; which is a unique facility for the building of submarines.
- HMS Astute, Ambush and Artful have all completed testing and entered service.
- Audacious, boat 4, has now been through her naming ceremony. She will be launched in Spring 2017, with an exit date planned for Spring 2018. The naming ceremony in December 2016 was a celebration of achievement and was attended by local school children, build staff and invited guests.
- Anson, boat 5, is currently within Devonshire Dock Hall and has most of her modular build complete. The major systems and commissioning has commenced.
- Agamemnon, boat 6, has all major units complete and has been moved to Devonshire Dock Hall.
- Boat 7 is scheduled to be transferred to Devonshire Dock Hall during 2017.

Site Emergency Planning Committee Report

Paul Connell, BAE Systems, gave an overview of the on site emergency arrangements and the regulations that govern the emergency arrangements and business continuity on the BAE Systems site. An overview of the exercises undertaken in 2016 was given, these included a full response exercise for a nuclear emergency and two exercises at Walney Aerodrome. Paul confirmed that 2017 was a busy year for exercises with focus on casualty recovery, security, business continuity and an exercise based at Ramsden Dock Basin.

An overview was given on the key work streams for the team including the formal assessment of Command and Control Teams, replacement of the automated telephone system and a review of the sites Nuclear Site Emergency Plan (NSEP).

It was noted that due to the shelf life of the stable iodine these will need to be redistributed. In line with this redistribution there will be a new Business Emergency Action Card to reaffirm the advice given to businesses and commercial sites within 500m of the two licenced sites. An overview was given regarding the Periodic Review of Safety, which is a 10 year review, which is undertaken against the IAEA Safety Factor framework.

Due to the development of the site and variation of boundary, in line with the Primary Build Capability, the site will be required to apply for relicensing. It was noted that this is undertaken through a formal submission to Office for Nuclear Regulation and Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator.

Paul Connell, BAE Systems, also gave a brief overview on the variety of work being undertaken with external agencies including training, site visits and jointly delivered agency road show.

Questions were asked regarding the attendance to other emergency exercises as observers; Michael Barclay confirmed that BAE Systems attend other Cumbrian exercises and other exercises based at submarine facilities. These exercises have an opportunity for feedback, the development of lessons learnt and identifying best practice.

Safety, Health and Environment Report

John McNeil, BAE Systems, gave an overview on how the Safety, Health and Environment team links to the emergency planning for the site. The team cover three main locations and an example of the roles within the team included occupational health, fire and rescue team, technical specialists and advisors.

John gave an overview on how safety, health, fire and environmental management is supported through legal legislation, positive economic outcomes and a moral obligation.

Questions were asked regarding the sites on going assessment of accidents to reduce the overall number of incidents. There was a further a question regarding industrial noise affecting residents in South Walney; John confirmed that the issue was being investigated but that the source has yet to been fully established, therefore investigations are on going at this time.

Work in the Community

Tiffany Battersby, BAE Systems, gave an overview of the work of the Corporate Responsibility Team. This was focused on the Community Benefits of BAE being a nuclear site. These included:

- Training opportunities
- Opportunity to showcase the expertise, knowledge and talent within Barrow.
- Community investment.

Site Development Programme – Planned Works and Construction

Allan Day, BAE Systems, gave an overview on the progress of the Site Development Programme do date as it moves towards its half way point. The programme is to enable to build and commissioning of the Dreadnought Submarine Programme. Challenges that need to be overcome include the physical size of and technology within Dreadnought. The programme is a combination of new build and refurbishment of existing infrastructure.

There continues to be a large amount of work undertaken, with significant use of sub contractors. Future elements of the programme include refurbishment of the Devonshire Dock Hall, a new quay for Dreadnought and assessment of the water depth in the dock

system. Allan reflected on the importance of opportunities to engage the community and the press in planned activities.

Questions included community issues including redundant traffic lights, TV reception issues, loss of access to pavements for significant period of time and parking. Allan gave an overview of the on going work to assess the impact on the TV reception due to the site development works, once the scale is identified a process of developing a solution will commence. It was confirmed that the redundant traffic lights will be resolved following the transfer of land to Cumbria County Council. It was confirmed that the pavement which was raised as an issue was being worked on by Electricity North West contractors and concerns have been raised regarding the safety and timescales during the work; this is a key lesson learnt for any future works. Further solutions to the parking issues are under consideration and staff are actively encouraged to park and drive responsibly. A Cumbria County Council consultation period is to start shortly regarding the revision of on road parking restrictions.

4 Cumbria County Council Off Site Update and Off Site Emergency Planning Sub – Committee Report

Jonathan Burgess, Cumbria County Council, gave an overview on the activities of the Off Site Emergency Planning Committee activity and Cumbria County Council's responsibilities regarding the production of the BAE Systems Off Site Emergency Plan, including engaging with a large number of agencies.

Activities for the off site responders within Cumbria in 2016 included an Off Site Exercise, training activities, familiarisation site visits, on site training opportunities and complementary exercises across the county. The process of developing a debrief from an exercise and how agencies go about identifying lesson learnt, was explained; this demonstrated how continuous improvements are made. The purpose of the Emergency Planning Sub Committee was discussed together with the identification of activities such as the review of countermeasures to protect the public, planning and delivering an extendibility workshop, exercise planning and delivery and a full Off Site Emergency Plan revision.

Questions related to planning for evacuation around site, as set out in plans in previous years. Jonathan Burgess confirmed that although the Off Site Emergency Plan does not have significant evacuation planning in place there is countywide evacuation planning in place and for the BAE Systems site the primary countermeasures, as recommended by Public Health England, is for the taking of Stable Iodine and sheltering.

5 Office for Nuclear Regulation Report

Govinder Sangha, Office for Nuclear Regulation, provided the reports from the last year of Office for Nuclear Regulation. An overview was given on the assessments made over the last year.

Questions the Chair asked if there was anything specific this year that Govinder wished to comment on. It was confirmed that this was a normal year of activity and there are no significant issues to discuss.

6 Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator Report

David Smith, Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator, provided the latest report from the site. David gave an overview of the scope of his role it was confirmed that this has been a successful year.

7 Environment Agency – Nuclear Regulation Group Report

Mike Baggs, Environment Agency, provided an annual report on the environmental regulation for the site. Mike gave an overview of his role and the variety of permits that BAE Systems hold with the Environment Agency. It was confirmed that the amount of radioactive waste produced by BAE Systems is both low in radioactivity and volume. Detail was given regarding the testing of the propulsion module, prior to being loaded into the submarine. This testing burns fuel and therefore is an activity that needs permits and careful monitoring. Issues that arose with the facility in 2015 have now been rectified.

Questions regarding monitoring the SMITE facilities and outlets into the Walney Channel. It was confirmed that these are both monitored to approved techniques; however some facilities are monitored by the Environment Agency and some by the Environmental Health. A query was raised regarding the use of radiography to inspect weld quality. It was confirmed that this was done both as sealed and open shop process. These activities are only carried out in an exclusion area where all individuals are removed from the area.

8 Any Other Business

None raised.

Michael Barclay, BAE Systems, thanked all those who attended for their time and asked for feedback on the subjects and scope of the morning.

A suggestion was made to explain more about how the submarine is linked to the nuclear reactor.