

Briefing Paper in advance of NSG10 meeting in March 2010

Future Arrangements for NDA National Engagement

NDA Lead:

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Background:

NDA stakeholder engagement, both at the local and national level, has been discussed many times at the NSG and at NSG7 (November 2008), a commitment was given that there would be four more NSGs and then a review. NSGs have almost exclusively focussed on supporting the development of the next NDA Strategy, so the thinking behind this commitment was that four more NSGs took us up to the point at which the next version of the NDA's Strategy was ready to be published. As the work to review our Strategy comes to a close and with the experience of 9 NSGs under our belt, as well as five years of operations, it is a good time to take a breath and consider what we (the NDA) and our stakeholders actually need from our national engagement.

Although the commitment to "four more NSGs" actually takes us to NSG11 in September, the NDA wants to reach NSG11 with an agreed understanding of what comes next. The review will therefore be carried out between NSG10 and NSG11. As our independent convenor, the Environment Council will lead the review on behalf of the NDA and stakeholders and they will set out their thinking on the process for the review during this session at the NSG.

Purpose of the session at NSG10:

To set out the NDA's needs from national engagement and to ask stakeholders to articulate and discuss their needs.

Further Information:

Participants may wish to look at the meeting reports from previous NSGs when the issue of stakeholder engagement and communications has been discussed. These are all available on the NDA website <http://www.nda.gov.uk/stakeholders/nsg/index.cfm>. In addition, it is suggested that participants look at the public and stakeholder engagement and communications critical enabler that is also on the NDA website in the "Our Strategy" section www.nda.gov.uk/strategy/

Next steps:

These will be discussed as part of the session at the NSG.