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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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NFLA welcome Mayors for Peace reaching the milestone of 8,000 members in 165 countries (image courtesy of Mayors for Peace)

NFLA Steering Committee & AGM held

On the 5th February, the NFLA Steering Committee held its first meeting of 2021, as well as the 2020/21 NFLA Annual General Meeting.

Representatives of the four NFLA National Forums elected Cllr David Blackburn to remain as Steering Committee Chair across

the year.

The Steering Committee had detailed discussions on new nuclear and radioactive waste and determined that Cllr Sean Chaytor would be its nomination to be NFLA Vice Chair of the LGA NuLEAF group.

The Steering Committee agreed to commission a

NFLA report on the West Cumbria Coal Mine development and parallel issues around a deep underground, partially under-sea radioactive waste repository. A further report on the need for a green recovery was also agreed.

A note of both meetings is on the NFLA website.

NFLA Scotland concern over SEPA cyber-attack & regulation

The NFLA Scotland Forum met on the 11th February with a well-attended meeting to look at its policy moves through 2021.

There was a good discussion on the NFLA Scotland Policy Advisor's report and members welcome the response of the Scottish Government to its ideas for the

decommissioning of the Hunterston reactor.

There was also real concern at the recent alarming cyber-attack on the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) which has seen critical information compromised or lost. It was agreed that the NFLA Secretary write to the Scottish Govern-

ment and SEPA on both issues to seek assurance that safety critical areas of nuclear regulation are protected.

There were also reports from the NFLA Secretary and CND Scotland. The recent 'Beyond Nuclear' & NET defence diversification webinar were welcomed. Its AGM will be held the 18th March.

NFLA media releases.

February 2021: (On NFLA website)

- RSPB petition on Sizewell C with over 100k signatures shows the depth of public concern over the development
- Why Beaufort's Dyke is not a good location for a NI-Scotland bridge or tunnel due to radwaste, munition and toxic dumping
- NFLA and KIMO deeply concerned over industrial ships going out of control at Hunterston port

10th anniversary of Fukushima being commemorated

March 11th, 2021 will see the 10th anniversary of the Fukushima disaster – the single worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

NFLA are aware or involved in 3 major events – a IPPNW conference on the 27th February, a Japanese environmental groups conference on the 11th March and a CNFE / NFLA / Alliance of Regions webinar on the 12th March. These will all be profiled in the March newsletter.

NFLA plans English, Irish and Welsh Forum meetings

The programmes for the NFLA English, Irish and Welsh Forum meetings are being put together.

The NFLA English Forum webinar will be held on the 5th March. It will focus on 3 issues – a specific look at the new nuclear debate, with particular referen-

ce to Sizewell C; the West Cumbria coal-mine & deep radwaste repository issue; and NFLA reports on the green recovery. A flyer is on the NFLA website to register.

The NFLA Welsh Forum will be held on the 9th April. It will look at EDF's decision to look

now at 2 sites for dumping dredged mud from Hinkley Point C, the issues over Wylfa and Trawsfynydd with SMRs and local energy reports.

The NFLA Irish Forum is on the 16th April and will look at green energy, Beaufort's Dyke and an under-sea GDF.

NFLA and KIMO raise concern over Hunterston jetty incident

The NFLA has issued a joint media release raising concern over an alarming incident close to the Hunterston nuclear reactor site involving ships coming off their moorings.

On the 2nd February, two vessels stationed at the Hunterston jetty broke their moorings during a

period of high winds and severe weather.

A serious emergency was only narrowly avoided by swift action from the emergency services. NFLA and KIMO both support the view of the Friends of the Firth of Clyde that a full independent inquiry is needed. They also

note the ongoing concern that there is just one emergency towing vessel for the whole of Scotland for such serious incidents.

A new report on the transport by sea of radioactive materials by KIMO is being prepared, which the NFLA is fully supporting.

NFLA note Beaufort's Dyke concern over transport links

The NFLA Secretariat has publicised its continuing concerns that the sea channel between Northern Ireland and Scotland, known as Beaufort's Dyke, may not be the best location for a

road bridge or tunnel.

The UK Government has sought advice on the costs and feasibility of a transport link. NFLA have recently published a report noting that the

Beaufort's Dyke area is a busy shipping lane with toxic chemicals, radioactive waste and munitions dumped on the surface. A link further north would be very expensive as well.

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

- Scottish Government has a great opportunity to support decentralised energy
- RSPB petition on Sizewell C receiving over 100k signatures shows depths of public concern with it

NFLA – NGO JOINT RESPONSE TO HOUSE OF LORDS RISK ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The NFLA have supported a joint response with other NGOs to the House of Lords Risk Planning & Assessment Select Committee inquiry.

The inquiry looks at the risks to the country of disruptive national hazards.

The joint NFLA-NGO response looks at the risks to the country of an incident involving a nuclear site like Sizewell or Sellafield. The NFLA focus its concerns on nuclear emergency planning risks. The response is on the NFLA website.

NFLA publish report assessing UK Energy White Paper

The NFLA has published a detailed report on the UK Government's Energy White Paper.

The White Paper is the first cogent statement of UK energy policy for some time. In its analysis, NFLA Policy Advisor Pete Roche and Dr Ian Fairlie note the Energy White Paper is

full of lots of promises but contains little detail. Many of the initiatives that may underpin energy policy are still being drafted.

On the new nuclear side, political support is given to large nuclear, small nuclear reactors and a fusion reactor. However, the resources

for such work is still unclear, with the likes of Aviva and Legal & General saying they would not fund a large nuclear power plant.

The White Paper says some interesting things about renewables and decentralized energy, which the NFLA will look further into.

European / UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace progress

The European Mayors for Peace Chapter has reached another milestone in finalizing its statutes and structure. It is also putting together a new website.

The legal statutes will help it structure its work programme and meetings. With the detail now agreed, it is just getting its formal

sign-off from Mayors.

A new website will provide new focus for its work and showcase the work done of individual state Chapters across Europe. The Chapter is also looking at further webinars this year.

The General Conference of Mayors for Peace has had to be cancelled due

to issues with travel, but a MFP Executive meeting will determine its strategy for the next few years. It is being held in August.

The UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter will hold a webinar on the 26th March. Monaghan, Galway and Cornwall County Councils have all joined recently.

Forthcoming dates or meetings of interest to NFLA members

NFLA English Forum webinar, 5th March

NFLA Scotland AGM web meeting, 18th March

NFLA Steering Committee web meeting, 26th March

UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter webinar, 26th March

NFLA Welsh Forum webinar, 9th April

NFLA All Ireland Sustainable Energy Forum webinar, 16th April