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Councillor David Blackburn

NFLA/MFP Chapter Secretary  
Richard Outram

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Vacant

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NFLA SC Vice-Chair (Scotland)  
Councillor Bill Butler

NFLA Scotland Secretary  
Cathy Birrell

NFLA Welsh Forum Chair  
Cllr Sue Lent

NFLA Welsh Forum Vice-Chair  
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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 globally and in Europe:**  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.eu>  
**KIMO:**  
<http://www.kimointernational.org>  
**ICAN:** <http://www.icanw.org>  
**ICAN UK:** <http://www.ican-uk.org>



Cumbrians say no to nuclear waste dumps (Left) Protestors hand in a petition at Copeland Borough Council on World Oceans Day (Right) Millom & District group rally in Haverigg. Images: RFL/MAD

## NFLA joins protestors on frontline against new nuclear

As the decision day for Sizewell-C fast approaches, the Chair and Secretary of the NFLA will be attending an important rally in Saxmundham, Suffolk on Saturday 2 July.

At the event, organised by Together against Sizewell C, Councillor David Blackburn and Richard Outram will be speaking about the history and work of the NFLA, and why in the face of Johnson's nuclear designs it is so important for local authorities to join us in the fight against new nuclear.

## NFLA supports Cumbrians mobilising against nuclear waste dump

The NFLA Secretary has been busy providing advice and practical support to Cumbrians who have mobilised against plans by Nuclear Waste Services to carry out intrusive seismic testing in the Irish Sea (*see also May newsletter*) or establish a nuclear waste dump in Millom or Haverigg.

Incredibly an online petition initiated by Radiation Free Lakeland in opposition to the

On Monday 4 July, Richard will travel over to West Mersea to discuss the threat posed by Bradwell B.

Lastly on Saturday 23 July, Richard joins a march and rally in Caernarvon against new nuclear plants at Wylfa and Trawsfynydd in North Wales.

Details of the events are:  
**Sizewell C - More Questions than Answers**  
– Saturday 2nd July 10am – 1.30pm, Saxmundham Market Hall, High Street,

seismic blasting plan has already gathered over 43,000 signatures from supporters concerned at the impact on marine life.

The petition can be signed at:  
<https://www.change.org/p/save-the-whale-and-the-snail-stop-nuclear-waste-services-blasting-the-irish-sea>

A new group, Millom and District Against the Nuclear Waste Dump, has already

Saxmundham IP17 1AF  
[Please note there will be **no** trains on Saturday]

**Opposing Bradwell B –**  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 11.30am – 1.30pm, West Mersea Town Council, 15 Melrose Road, West Mersea, Colchester, Essex CO5 8JD

**A United Welsh Front against Nuclear Power –**  
Saturday 23rd July 10am  
Meet on Caernarvon Square to march to Llety Arall, 9 Palace Street (9 Stryd y Plas). Event ends mid-afternoon.

amazingly mobilised hundreds of local people in support in only one week.

Both groups have recently staged protest rallies (see top).

Which just goes to show that contrary to the pro-nuclear rumour mill and media, there is real opposition in Cumbria.

**NFLA media releases,  
June 2022:**  
**(On website)**

- Over 30,000 say No to seismic testing in Irish Sea—28 June
- NFLA in Saxmundham on Saturday for Stop Sizewell Seminar – 27 June
- ‘Lacking in scientific rigour’: Damning verdict of marine expert on Nuclear Waste Services seismic testing plan – 27 June
- More Power to Millom: NFLA backs new protest group opposed to nuclear waste dump - 24 June
- Un-‘Finished’ business: yet more delays to French EPR Farce in Finland – 20 June
- Global Wind Day appeal to ‘unlock’ onshore wind to achieve net zero – 15 June
- An imminent radiological threat: NFLA questions whether Hinkley Point C and Sizewell ‘fatally flawed’ – 14 June
- NFLA joins call for UK to attend nuclear ban summit – 8 June
- NFLA oppose seismic testing on World Oceans Day – 8 June
- Not now, but not never – Aviva respond to NFLA letter – 1 June
- Why no new residents and no name change on Theddlethorpe waste dump group – 1 June

**NFLA Briefings, June 2022 (on website)**

Mayors for Peace Briefing 7-The Manchester Peace Garden. NFLA Briefings no 238 and 238a-Report back on the nuclear weapon ban treaty webinar.

## Taishan-1 one year on: NFLA questions if EPR ‘fatally flawed’.

On June 14, the NFLA marked the first anniversary of the reports of an accident at Taishan-1 in China.

In late May 2021, US media outlets reported the venting of radioactive gas at the plant. Over the days and weeks that followed French operator EDF became more and more frustrated by Chinese reluctance to temporarily shut down operations. EDF contacted US regulators for

assistance, describing the situation as ‘*an imminent radiological threat to the site and to the public*’.

The reactor was shut down after international pressure and has remained so ever since, whilst investigations continue.

Why does this matter?

Because the same reactor design, the EPR, is intended for Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C and the NFLA has real concerns that recent

revelations may indicate that this design is ‘fatally flawed.’

For French regulators have reported that there has been excessive vibration in the reactor due to a design flaw and excessive corrosion of parts.

Elsewhere the Finnish EPR at Olkiluoto-3 suffered a further setback when operator TVO recently announced that defects now mean the new plant will not become operational until year end.

## NFLA leads on talks to establish new NGO Forum with NDA

In February, a letter was sent by the NFLA, co-sponsored by anti-nuclear and environmental groups, to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority seeking the establishment of a new Forum to discuss NDA business.

Nuclear waste management issues will continue to be mostly

discussed by the Radioactive Waste Management Exchange and most new nuclear issues within the BEIS NGO Forum.

The NFLA Secretary supported by colleagues from BANNG (Bradwell Against New Nuclear Group) and TASC (Together against Sizewell C) had several online discussions with senior NDA staff to agree the Terms of Reference for the group.

The NFLA and co-sponsors to their letter are each entitled to nominate a representative to serve on the new Forum and they will constitute the initial membership.

Membership will however also be open to other NGOs.

It is hoped that the Forum can be formally launched at the NDA Stakeholder Summit to be held in Edinburgh in September.

## Threat to extend AGR operations so far fizzles out

In response to our recent letter from the NFLA to the Chief Nuclear Inspector seeking a meeting to discuss possible moves to extend the operational life of Britain’s aged AGR reactors, the Office of

Nuclear Regulation has confirmed that EDF Energy does not intend to submit an application to extend the life of Hinkley Point B and that the two reactors will cease operations in July and August 2022.

The ONR has offered to discuss the AGR closure programme with the NFLA and to table this as a discussion item at the next Forum to be held with nuclear campaign groups in mid-November.

## Change at the Top

NFLA Chair Councillor David Blackburn has agreed to take on the role of Nuleaf Vice Chair (NFLA).

Councillor Sue Lent has agreed to become the new Chair of the Welsh NFLA

## Webinars and Events

### The Government's Nuclear Scam, 28<sup>th</sup> June.

For anyone who missed this recent excellent webinar it can be found at: <https://youtu.be/mnP5c93WSCQ>

### CND 19 July 7-8pm How to get our Councils to support the TPNW

A practical workshop aimed at activists and elected members who are looking to get their local council to pass a resolution about the nuclear weapon treaty ban

Link to be circulated when available.

**40<sup>th</sup>**  
**Anniversary**



June 24, 2022

Together with

**8,174**  
member cities  
across the world!

## NFLA makes Global Wind Day appeal to unlock onshore wind

On Global Wind Day (15 June) the Chair of the NFLA wrote to the Prime Minister and environment ministers asking them to do more to unlock the potential of onshore wind.

Wind power costs two-thirds less per unit of electricity delivered than gas and comes without greenhouse gases.

Recent surveys have shown that 80% of the

public support onshore wind, over twice the level of support garnered for nuclear.

Yet despite this the previous Conservative Government, led by David Cameron, imposed new planning barriers to prevent further inshore wind developments.

Now the NFLA is working with campaign group Possible to urge the UK government to ease

planning restrictions and provide more financial support for community wind projects.

We hope to host a webinar on this issue soon.

NFLA Chair, Cllr David Blackburn said:

*"Onshore wind is a proven, relatively cheap, green and sustainable power source. The NFLA believes there really is no excuse for the government not to 'unlock' onshore wind to help achieve net zero."*

## Mayors for Peace delegates at nuclear weapon ban conference

Vienna recently played host to the First Meeting of the States Parties (1MSP) to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The treaty, the first in international law to outlaw the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons, has now been ratified by 66 states, around a third of the total United Nations.

Between 21 – 23 June, signatory states and their civil society supporters met to discuss the progress of the treaty so far and plan the next steps.

Amongst those present were delegates from Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Norway, all NATO states, as well as Australia. Britain was notable by its absence.

Manchester City Councillor Eddy Newman and Mayors for Peace Secretary Richard Outram attended on behalf of

the UK/Ireland Chapter.

Cllr Newman was asked to speak about the work of the UK/Ireland Chapter at a side event held in the UN conference centre, and later they both attended an Executive Council meeting, with the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and a meeting with the European Chapter Lead Cities to map out future joint actions.

A full report will follow shortly.

## Vienna meet-up to map out international co-operation

The 1MSP also provided an excellent opportunity to meet with our colleagues in Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe on a Wednesday morning and, over excellent cake and coffee in a Vienna café, share views about nuclear developments in the UK and Europe, and identify the common issues on which the NFLA and CNFE could jointly campaign. The NFLA has supported the CNFE campaign to prevent the European Commission from altering the 'taxonomy' to reclassify gas and nuclear as 'green'. We agreed to continue the campaign on taxonomy and look to work on the threat posed by plans to extend the operational lives of old reactors, introduce small modular reactors and build nuclear waste dumps.