

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Investment Maximising Project Legacy for Cumbria



March 2016

Foreword

Cumbria is a key part of the Northern Powerhouse, providing a strong and export orientated economy together with essential power, water and environmental resources. The value of this is reflected in the level of investments coming into our County over the next decade; these are worth in excess of £25bn. The core of this investment is centred upon the large-scale, nationally significant nuclear infrastructure projects needed to underpin the future growth of the UK economy.

It is recognised that a key part of Cumbria's economic offer derives from its position as an internationally-recognised centre of nuclear excellence. Cumbria has been the global heartland of the nuclear industry for over 60 years and Copeland already hosts two thirds of the UK's nuclear facilities. This concentration will increase with the delivery of the Moorside project.

NuGeneration Ltd.'s (NuGen's) proposed Moorside Nuclear Power Station, together with the associated National Grid investment in electrical transmission infrastructure are two Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) where decisions will be made nationally but the impacts will be local. When complete, the Moorside project will account for 7% of the UK's future electricity requirement, more than enough to power every home in north of England, together with 1,000 permanent jobs and over 6,000 construction jobs. This investment will allow Cumbria to build upon its strategic role as an international centre of nuclear excellence and expand and diversify economic clusters centred on the energy, nuclear and advanced manufacturing sectors. However, it is imperative that the impacts of the NSIPs are addressed locally in order to achieve lasting economic, social and environmental benefit from the investment.

The importance of the Moorside project and National Grid's North West Coast Connections (NWCC) transmission project and the legacy benefits they could bring is recognised within both the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and in local plans and strategies. The LEP and Local Authorities seek to achieve a positive relationship with the nuclear industry to ensure the best outcomes for Cumbria with investment coming forward in a sustainable and beneficial manner.

The significance of the Moorside and NWCC projects and their associated developments (including construction worker accommodation) cannot be looked at simply in terms of the energy that will be produced and transmitted and the jobs created. The physical and human effects during construction and operation also need to be considered. In particular there will be a need to improve infrastructure to enable local workers and businesses to support this investment. Additionally investment in infrastructure including social infrastructure and town centre development will help to de-risk the Moorside project. Moreover there is a need to ensure the social and environmental fabric of the host communities is not weakened but in fact strengthened for now and future generations.

This is a principle set out in National Policy Statements with the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) being clear about the need for the impact of proposals to be appropriately mitigated. Moreover, it acknowledges how during the consideration of schemes regard should be given to the legacy benefits that may accrue.

This document sets out the legacy opportunities that the LEP, Cumbria County Council and Copeland Borough Council wish to see realised in return for hosting these nationally significant infrastructure investments.

It has been prepared jointly by the LEP and Councils and presents our common position on mitigation and legacy arising from the NuGen and National Grid proposals. It must be noted however that this is only the starting point; as further details of the proposed development and its impacts emerge, the views of both Councils are also likely to evolve. The Councils with the support of local area committees and regeneration partnerships are also preparing a series of masterplans to provide guidance on the detailed spatial representation of the priorities and outcomes set out in this document in relation to the Associated Developments.

The document has been produced in direct response to the discussions that both Councils have had with NuGen and National Grid in respect of the Moorside/NWCC projects and is designed to help 'de-risk' elements of the projects and support delivery of both the Cumbria Strategic Economic Plan and local plans and strategies. In addition the document will help both project promoters to gain community acceptance to their proposals through plans to leave a positive legacy across Cumbria.

The approach taken is guided by the following strategic principles:

- The continued development of a partnership model towards supporting investment into the area and creating the conditions for growth;
- Continued liaison with industry partners and their wider supply chain, whether working with national public agencies or local SMEs and education providers;
- Taking a commercial approach, through using current opportunities to plan for and fund future growth;
- Agile delivery that allows different partners to lead and support during a scheme lifetime, focusing on increasing mutual benefits and reducing risk.
- The use of the construction phase to ensure that our key towns/ service centres receive a lasting legacy and are improved to better support operation and maintenance, both directly and through supply chain growth.

The remainder of this document focuses on the following five key topic areas:

1. Transport and Connectivity;
2. Resilience;
3. Skills and Supply Chain;
4. Environment and Sustainability;
5. Vibrant Communities.

This is followed by a review of timescales and milestones for delivery.

1. Transport and Connectivity

1.1 Our Priorities

Improved connectivity is at the heart of all economic growth plans in Cumbria. In terms of transport, a positive legacy should be achieved through retention of new rail facilities and services used by NuGen and National Grid during construction to encourage greater use of the railway and connectivity with buses, cycling and walking, to support a modal shift from road to rail use. The local highway also requires improvements to address capacity, road safety and traffic management issues arising from increased demand in traffic movement. As with physical infrastructure the development and enhancement of digital connectivity will support economic growth and maximise opportunities for supply chain investment, employment and SME growth.

Our priorities are therefore to:

- Increase capacity for rail freight and improve the speed, reliability, frequency and capacity of rail passenger services;
- Deliver local highway improvements and address pinch-points in the network;
- Improve port access and infrastructure, and specifically the Port of Workington, to support multi-modal logistics activity;
- Enhance local and long distance cycling and walking routes;
- Develop and manage a green travel plan to promote more sustainable travel;
- Improve ICT connectivity.

1.2 Strategic Issues

“Ensuring the movement of goods and people” is recognised as a key priority within the Cumbria SEP, and recognises the constraints in the local infrastructure. More specifically, key activities identified in the SEP include:

- Improvements to the coastal railway and sustainable transport to maximise its potential and capacity, including station hub enhancements;
- Developments at the Port of Workington, including improving access, to unlock development land as well as grow the port’s ability to act as a multi-modal transport hub.

It is clear that there will need to be a multimodal approach to the transport strategy for Moorside with a requirement for essential rail, port and highway infrastructure. It is on this basis that we have identified a range of critical infrastructure improvements. The delivery of these will help to ensure the NSIPs achieve a lasting and sustainable legacy benefit for local communities and businesses.

The local transport infrastructure is not adequate to cope with the construction of the Moorside project and the Associated Developments (including worker accommodation sites). Set out below are known constraints and opportunities that will need to be addressed:

- The Cumbria Coast railway line does not have the capacity to accommodate the forecast demand in freight distribution;
- The need for the local highway network to have the capacity to cope with the additional demand generated by the development during the construction and then over its operational life-time, without unacceptable impacts with respect to; severance, congestion, journey time, amenity of local communities, the environment and highway safety;
- The need to address known pinch-points in the local network, including:
 - A66 Ramsay Brow / A596 Hall Brow, Workington
 - A597 Falcon Street gyratory, Workington
 - A595 Rosehill junction
 - A595 Pelican Garage junction
 - Coach Road, Whitehaven
 - A595 / A5094 Inkerman Terrace / Ribton Moorside
 - A595 / B5295 Egremont Road, Whitehaven
 - A595 / A5086, Egremont
 - A595 Calder Bridge;
- The need to ensure the Port of Workington can support nuclear new build;
- The requirement to maximise opportunities for sustainable travel and to ensure these are integral to the layout and design of development proposals;
- The need to address the cumulative traffic impact of Moorside with Sellafield on the road network arising from travel-to-work activity including issues relating to parking;
- In recognition of the potential impact of the NWCC project specifically issues concerning the Duddon Bridge, Whicham Valley and Muncaster Fell need to be considered.

It will be essential to ensure that no existing and future community or economic activity within Cumbria is compromised during the construction and operational periods of the proposals.

1.3 Outcome and Benefits for Cumbria

Based on the above, the following outcomes are expected to be realised from the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Outcome Title	Detail
1a. Rail improvements	<p>Investment in the Cumbria Coast railway line to increase freight distribution capacity and improve the reliability, speed and frequency of services from Carlisle to Carnforth. This should be alongside investment to address the maintenance backlog, in order to ensure journey reliability and resilience, and to provide additional capacity and operational flexibility to improve freight logistics and passenger travel. In addition to railway line and service improvements there is a need for investment in stations along the line from Carlisle to Barrow and finally a need to ensure the future resilience of the line through improvement of flood defences.</p> <p>The additional capacity developed for the construction of Moorside should be retained to ensure that sustainable transport movements are established and maintained during operation, as well as enabling the delivery of more sustainable transport modes for the adjoining Sellafield site.</p>
1b. Highway improvements	<p>Investment in existing and new highway infrastructure to ensure that necessary transport services and infrastructure are in place to meet the transport demands generated by the Moorside and NWCC projects and the Associated Development. Local highway improvements should include those listed in 1.2 above and specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A66 Ramsay Brow and Port of Workington access; • Upgrading the A595 corridor to relieve congestion and improve access to employment sites. This should include supporting the potential for an alternative route to east of Whitehaven; • New access to Sellafield and Moorside to include addressing the A595 pinch point at Calder Bridge • Other highway junction and capacity improvements required to address the impact of highway demands arising from Associated Development sites including Coach Road at Corkickle.
1c. Port improvements	<p>Investment to lessen the requirement for temporary infrastructure and to maximise investment in existing port facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Workington Road Access – replacement road-over-rail bridge and removal of unsound and capacity restricting masonry arch bridge; • Port of Workington Rail Access – new rail infrastructure to deliver additional capacity / operational flexibility to handle increased demand for daily freight train movement / handling; • Improved access to Port of Workington from the A66; • Improvements to the Port of Barrow are important for the Walney Off-shore wind farm and for National Grid, for whom improved rail connectivity may be required. • Opportunities to enhance existing commercial facilities at Millom and Whitehaven ports.

Outcome Title	Detail
1d. Cycling and Walking improvements	Investment in cycleway/footpath infrastructure to provide opportunities for travel on foot / cycle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and up-graded footpath and cycle routes including links between Whitehaven, Cleator Moor and Egremont and Moorside; • Provide improved footpath and dedicated cycle paths along the corridor of the NWCC project with links into the National Park and re-use of haul routes created from the construction phase; • Integrating cycleway and footpath provision within and between the associated development sites and to Town Centres.
1e. Travel Plans	A green travel plan to be prepared to achieve a reduction in travel by car, increased use of sustainable transport modes, minimised car parking requirements and full use of enhanced rail capacity.

1.4 Opportunity for Joint Working

Delivering these legacy benefits will require joint working on a range of fronts between developers, site operators, local authorities, the LEP, Highways England, Network Rail and Transport for the North together with other infrastructure providers.

The LEP has already secured funding for improvements to the Port of Workington and is committed to working with NuGen and National Grid to help secure funding to enable early delivery of infrastructure improvements, particularly on the Cumbria Coast railway line.

Joint working with Highways England to deliver improvements on the strategic road network is already underway and will be further supported by the West of the M6 Strategic Connectivity Study.

Up-front investment in the infrastructure is recognised as being critical to the delivery of the development proposals and on this basis it is expected that where the LEP provides up-front funding that investment can be recovered once final development consents are secured.

Given the proximity of Sellafield, a joint travel plan needs to be prepared by NuGen and Sellafield with joint working and management of transport and movement at the sites.

NuGen and National Grid should also work jointly with key stakeholder to identify opportunities for the receipt, management and despatch of components and materials for the construction of both projects. These facilities should be developed through a clear site selection process which places an emphasis on a strategy for future use by wider businesses or for alternative site development purposes.

2. Resilience

2.1 Our Priorities

The aim is to ensure that resilience is built into Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects so that robust emergency plans can be put in place to be able to deal with severe weather events, including flooding, snow and/or landslides that affect the road or rail network. Furthermore, it is imperative that NuGen can demonstrate a viable Emergency Plan in the event of an emergency on site or at Sellafield. The long term mitigation priorities for developing Cumbria's resilience are:

- Enhanced emergency services capabilities including improvements at West Cumberland Hospital;
- Local highway network improvements at key pinch points close to the Moorside site;
- Improved flood defences, particularly the coastal flood defences along the railway line, to meet forecast climate change requirements;
- 100% mobile and ICT communications coverage in Cumbria.

2.2 Strategic Issues

Emergencies can have a significant economic impact as demonstrated by the December 2015 floods. The SEP recognises that "the right infrastructure to provide sustainable resilient connections between businesses and their markets and workforces is fundamental to realising the economic potential in West Cumbria".

The very nature of the Moorside Nuclear Power Station makes resilience and safety a core consideration in the delivery, operation and long term mitigation of proposals, including the relationship with the Sellafield Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ).

Consideration of resilience must include the construction and operational stages of the projects. It must also include a clear and effective emergency plan that will allow workers to shelter or evacuate the site by road, rail or marine modes (or a combination thereof if appropriate).

The Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects will place an increased burden on the resilience of infrastructure and will require a clear and effective Emergency Plan to be in place. It will also require the following issues to be addressed:

- The ability of the emergency services and facilities to cope;
- "Not-spots" in mobile and ICT communications coverage preventing effective communications in the event of an emergency;
- Flood defences being robust enough to prevent isolation of the site;
- Pinch points in the road network and ability for people to move away in the event of an evacuation from site;
- Influx of temporary workers could place additional pressures on community safety services.

2.3 Outcome and Benefits for Cumbria

Based on the above, the following outcomes and benefits are expected to be realised from the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Outcome Title	Detail
2a. Emergency services	There will be a requirement for investment in services and facilities necessary to facilitate an evacuation. This will also need to be supported by the provision of enhanced emergency services capabilities and community safety services, including improvements at West Cumberland Hospital.
2b. Resilient transport infrastructure	NuGen must demonstrate it has made adequate provision to shelter and evacuate workers, both independently and in conjunction with any evacuation of Sellafield workers, in the event of an incident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail capability – available train units, their deployment, rail network management and operation during an incident; • Road capability – available vehicles, their deployment, adequate highway infrastructure; • Access to suitable sheltering facilities on site. These must also include contingency plans, for example in situations where flooding or landslides affect networks.
2c. Flood defences	Investment in coastal defences will be required and there may also be a requirement for investment in local flood defences and sustainable urban drainage systems and to safeguard transport networks.
2d. Mobile communications	The need to deliver near to 100% mobile communications and highest speed broadband coverage in Cumbria. This will also support existing and new businesses with remote working, videoconferencing, cloud computing, new markets and social media.

2.4 Opportunity for Joint Working

It will be essential that elements of the resilience strategy are prepared working closely with emergency services, infrastructure providers and local Government. There will be a need to work with relevant agencies in relation to the development of appropriate infrastructure so that it is resilient enough to cope in the event of an Emergency Plan having to be implemented.

It will be important for NuGen to work with Sellafield on the emerging Sellafield Off-Site Emergency Plan. This will need to satisfactorily demonstrate there is appropriate access and egress for each site.

The LEP will work with Government and other partners to ensure delivery of near to 100% mobile communications coverage. Fibre optic broadband is currently being rolled-out to over 95% of premises in Cumbria through the Connecting Cumbria programme.

A coastal flood defence strategy is being developed by local partners that will assess how best to improve flood resilience along the coast. Following recent flood events, further assessments will be undertaken working with the Environment Agency to identify measures required and how best to improve flood resilience.

3. Skills and Supply Chain

3.1 Our Priorities

The aim is to enable local people to access a broad range of personal and professional development opportunities in sectors that are directly underpinning local growth and the wider UK economy. This includes targeted training and skills provision to meet the wide range of employment opportunities. Opportunities for use of the local supply chain must also be maximised in both construction and operational phases of the projects. The mitigation priorities for skills and supply chain are as follows:

- Access to jobs – identify opportunities and create pathways in a timely manner to ensure there is sufficient time to maximise the development of skills locally, to enable local people to be able to compete for employment opportunities and progress in the labour market;
- Recruitment and retention of talent to Cumbria to address the decline in the working age population and to support the development of and potential impact on other sectors;
- Develop local business capability and capacity to secure contracts and to diversify their business;
- Work with partners to promote Cumbria as a premier business location to facilitate investment from supply chain companies on key employment sites and using legacy investment to upgrade sites to enable supply chain to relocate and invest;
- Invest in Research and Development and create opportunities for innovation to facilitate longer term growth and diversification of the economy.

3.2 Strategic Issues

The UK is on the cusp of a nuclear renaissance. The Nuclear Sector Skills Strategy recognises the important role that building a large and skilled workforce can play in ensuring economic growth, competitiveness and prosperity both locally and nationally. The UK nuclear sector is set to expand and it needs to regain momentum after a period of dormancy if the economic and business growth opportunities associated with the nuclear programme are to be realised. With the planned construction of the Moorside Power Station, there is an imperative to develop the right skills for the nuclear industry alongside building the capacity and capability of the supply chain to enable local companies to compete successfully and benefit from this long term investment.

The delivery of large and complex development will require access to a workforce with the right skills. It is in the interests of NuGen and National Grid (and their suppliers) and the host community for these skills to be locally available. The nuclear sector will need to compete for skilled workers, and it is the Government's ambition that 90% of the sector's skill needs are met from the UK. Ensuring our workforces and businesses have the skills needed by industry is recognised in the Centre of Nuclear Excellence priority in the SEP and articulated clearly in the recently published Cumbria LEP Skills Plan.

More specifically, the SEP identifies the following key activities:

- Create a Nuclear Technology Innovation Gateway that will be the centrepiece of the Centre for Nuclear Excellence...and will house world-class research facilities...and will provide the focus for the development of new technologies;
- Provide business growth assistancewith a focus on supporting commercialisation of innovations and spin-out businesses;
- Specialist skills development . . .to provide appropriate education and training at all levels in technical and business skills to meet sector needs and support local residents to access employment opportunities;
- Nuclear and energy supply chain development.

3.3 Outcome and Benefits for Cumbria

Based on the above, the following mitigation outcomes are expected to be realised from the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Outcome Title	Detail
3a. Employment for local people	<p>Local people will be encouraged to pursue relevant subjects and training qualifications leading to career opportunities created by the Moorside and NWCC projects. This will include contractual commitments by NuGen and National Grid for target numbers to be achieved for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work experience placements be offered per year to local schools / skills providers; • Previously unemployed residents recruited through employer-led academies; • Apprenticeships for young people, including higher and degree apprenticeships. <p>NuGen and National Grid will need to resource measures to ensure that those not in work are supported to gain the skills necessary to be 'work-ready' when the developments are underway. This will include investment in existing educational institutions to increase capacity to meet the skills demands.</p>
3b. Recruitment and retention of talent	<p>There will be the recruitment of graduates and apprentices who can be attracted by high value career opportunities to settle and remain in Cumbria, and provide a highly skilled local workforce. This will require the provision of additional training facilities in the key centres of population across Cumbria including at Carlisle and Whitehaven/Workington and provide the focus for recruitment of talent to the employment opportunities generated by the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.</p>
3c. Growing existing businesses	<p>Local businesses will have support to develop the capacity and capability to secure contracts and use the opportunity to grow and diversify to be able to win contracts elsewhere. NuGen and National Grid will need to include targets and mechanisms within their Procurement Strategies that create opportunities for engagement of local supply chain companies in their project delivery. Targeted business support will be required for supply chain companies, to improve their capability or to enable their expansion, whether for individual companies or for clusters of businesses.</p>
3d. Attracting new businesses	<p>Work with partners to invest in marketing and promotion to encourage new businesses to choose to locate in Cumbria. Supply chain businesses will be attracted to sites in close proximity to the Moorside development site and key strategic employment sites across the county.</p> <p>Local sites in close proximity to Moorside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitehaven Commercial Park; • Leaconfield Industrial Estate, Cleator Moor; • Bridge End in Egremont. <p>Strategic Employment Sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Lakes Science Park; • Kingmoor Park Enterprise Zone; • Ministry of Defence Longtown; • Lillyhall; • Barrow Waterfront. <p>Construction/logistic depots along the NWCC corridor can create additional local economic benefit.</p>
3e. R&D and innovation	<p>The Nationally Significant developments will contribute to further development and growth of the Nuclear Technology Innovation Gateway at West Lakes Science Park, reinforcing its place as the centrepiece of the Centre of Nuclear Excellence.</p>

3.4 Opportunity for Joint Working

Delivering the skilled workforce needed will require the close working between a number of key bodies including, developers, LEP, supply chain businesses, schools and HE/FE institutions. The LEP, through its Skills Plan, will work with NuGen and National Grid to identify the skills and training needs and the interventions that will be required in order to meet those needs and in turn help local people access employment as well as attract talent to the County. This could include investment in up to date nuclear operations training facilities that simulate human factors and process operations for nuclear processes.

Prior to and during the construction phase, construction companies would be expected to demonstrate how they would support the provision of local jobs and training, apprenticeships and work experience opportunities through the procurement process.

The LEP has committed to investing in the Nuclear Technology Innovation Gateway with the University of Manchester and recognises the potential for engagement of NuGen in this project. Support for the supply chain can be provided through collaborative working with the LEP's Business Growth Hub.

NuGen and National Grid should work jointly with local partners in the development of procurement strategies, learning lessons from Sellafield. It will be important to set clear and measurable targets and thereby create local training, employment and supply chain opportunities and benefits.

4. Environment and Sustainability

4.1 Our Priorities

Cumbria's environment is one of its best assets. It provides both a major tourist attraction and a superior quality of life for residents. There should be no detrimental impact on the area's environmental quality as a result of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure developments. Opportunities which encourage the appropriate use of the natural and built environment to support a healthy and vibrant lifestyle for residents and visitors should be maximised.

There is a strong link between the environmental assets and the economy and as such the legacy priorities will focus on the following:

- Utilising local quarries to supply aggregates in order to minimise transportation of materials but also to ensure an economic benefit to Cumbrian businesses;
- Mitigation of environmental impacts on the natural environment;
- Protection and enhancement of the historic environment to ensure Cumbria's assets are safeguarded. Re-use and improvement of historic buildings, where appropriate;
- Taking a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of Green and Blue Infrastructure;
- Provide direct support to the tourism industry to maximise business visitor opportunities and mitigate any impact associated with negative perceptions relating to the nuclear sector and vertical infrastructure on the landscape;
- Use of energy efficient and low carbon technologies in the design, construction and operation of the projects and Associated Developments.

4.2 Strategic Issues

Cumbria is internationally known for its high quality environment; this is recognised in the SEP and underlined by a visitor economy which brought 41.5m visitors to the County in 2014. The SEP highlights that "the quality of the landscape is a key driver behind people choosing to live and work in the county" and therefore "protecting the quality of the environment is vital to the success of many of our businesses". The quality of our towns and their offer in terms of their environmental quality and associated social and cultural offer is of equal importance.

More specifically, the SEP identifies the following key activities for supporting Cumbria as a World Class Visitor Destination:

- Investment in destinations and attractions so Cumbria can compete on an international stage (including Hadrian's Wall);
- Delivering sustainable transport infrastructure and interventions, making it easier for visitors to arrive and move between destinations;
- Significantly raising the international awareness, appeal and identity of Cumbria by hosting major, world class events and through targeted marketing.

The SEP, in promoting 'Low Carbon Cumbria', recognises Cumbria's existing specialisms in civil and defence nuclear technologies and encourages the use of "the most efficient and sustainable energy generation capabilities found in Cumbria's natural environment."

Cumbria's environmental assets are important and it will be critical for development to be supported by measures to mitigate their environmental impact including upon visual amenity and from the visual impact on landscapes. Given the significance of environmental and heritage assets to the area's economy, the following issues will need to be taken into account;

- The requirement to address the visual impact of developments, including landscape impacts within, and visible from, the Lake District National Park;
- The need to supply a large volume of aggregates for construction of the projects;
- The generation of waste and spoil arising from the projects to be properly managed to minimise environmental impact;
- The need to overcome damage to the area's image as a tourist destination;
- Managing short and long term impacts on tourism or on tourist accommodation and destinations;
- Addressing loss of and disruption to rights of way resulting from the development, which could also impact on connectivity and the visitor economy;
- Ensuring archaeological and heritage assets are properly protected, including Hadrian's Wall World Heritage site;
- Ensuring appropriate care and attention is given to impacts on watercourses and to marine and terrestrial ecology.

4.3 Outcome and Benefits for Cumbria

Based on the above, the following outcomes and benefits are expected to be realised from the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Outcome Title	Detail
4a. Minerals and Waste	<p>A minimal amount of spoil should be transported off-site in order to reduce traffic impacts and disposal to landfill. Where spoil is taken off-site it should be recycled or re-used to create a legacy benefit.</p> <p>The preparation and implementation of a Site Waste Strategy which seeks to minimise waste generation and waste movements and encourage re-use and recycling as an alternative to landfill.</p> <p>The preparation and implementation of a Radiological Waste Strategy to minimise the volume and activity level of nuclear waste and provide for safe storage or disposal, with a focus on minimising transport of the waste.</p> <p>The maximisation of the use of aggregates and materials from local quarries, particularly those that are, or could become, rail connected.</p>
4b. Natural Environment	<p>Impacts will be properly assessed in the Environmental Impact Assessment. The visual impact of the effect on surrounding landscapes including cumulative impacts with the adjacent Sellafield site and overhead electricity lines should be mitigated and where not possible, appropriate compensation provided.</p> <p>Appropriate mitigation measures will be provided for impacts on ecology and will be secured through an approved Ecological Mitigation Plan.</p>
4c. Historic Environment	<p>Archaeology will be recorded and artefacts retrieved where appropriate in accordance with an approved plan. A package of publicity and interpretation part funded by the NSIPs developers will be provided to accompany this.</p> <p>Historic buildings and heritage assets (including Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site) will need to be safeguarded and any impact appropriately mitigated. The use and improvement of historic buildings should be explored for off-site activities and associated development.</p>

Outcome Title	Detail
4d. Green and Blue Infrastructure	Delivering a planned and co-ordinated approach to the delivery of Green and Blue (sustainable urban drainage systems) Infrastructure across the Moorside site and all Associated Development sites. Consideration of how all Associated Development sites are physically linked to each other, to existing Town Centres and the Moorside site.
4e. Tourism	Maximise the benefits of additional business visitor opportunities to support diversification aspirations. Negative impacts on the leisure visitor economy will be mitigated and where possible additional benefits will be delivered to boost tourism, including creation of opportunities for new hotel and accommodation facilities, high quality visitor destinations / attractions and tourist accommodation, combined with investment in marketing and promotion of tourism in the county. Alternative high quality cycle paths and rights of way will be provided during the construction and operational phases of the development, together with a funded package of signage and promotion to improve recreational facilities and activities for visitors, including improvements to the Cumbrian Coastal Way and C2C cycleway.
4f. Low Carbon	Inclusion of energy efficiency and sustainability measures and renewable energy should be integrated into design, construction and operation of new developments and especially for the Associated Development sites.

4.4 Opportunity for Joint Working

Delivering these priorities will require close coordination of the development industry together with service and infrastructure providers including English Heritage, Environment Agency, Natural England, Cumbria Tourism and local communities themselves.

There is the opportunity for joint working with the LEP to prepare a tourism investment strategy to mitigate the impacts of major development on the visitor economy, particularly on Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site (from Carlisle to Ravenglass) and the Lake District National Park.

NuGen could also sign up to Cumbria County Council's Climate Change Commitment with other private, public and third sector organisations to collectively work towards reducing the region's carbon emissions.

5. Vibrant Communities

5.1 Our Priorities

The development of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects will have significant impacts on local communities and therefore it is important to derive long term project mitigation outcomes.

Our priority is to secure a sustainable and viable future for our local communities. The projects must ensure community cohesion and the delivery of community wellbeing and safety measures which respond to the needs of the communities of Copeland and Cumbria as a whole, as well as the needs and impacts of the Moorside and NWCC workforce and their dependents. This will be delivered by:

- Supporting social cohesion and ensuring the effective integration of the new developments and incoming workforce into the local community;
- Taking a comprehensive approach to community health and wellbeing, schools and education provision and social inclusion;
- Supporting Town Centre regeneration;
- Delivering permanent new high quality development (including housing) on Associated Development sites and seeking to ensure that Moorside or NWCC projects do not adversely impact on the availability or affordability of housing and accommodation for the local community.

5.2 Strategic Issues

The level of investment and change these major developments will bring will be significant. It will be crucial that our towns and villages contain a range of services and facilities needed to support and sustain vibrant communities. The SEP recognises the importance of, and need for, “improvements to social infrastructure (education and health) to strengthen West Cumbria’s growth potential.”

Furthermore, it will be crucial that the housing needed to support temporary workers (up to 6,000 construction workers for Moorside and around 500 for the Morecambe Bay tunnel associated with the NWCC project) can find a sustainable use following the construction period. Although the investment and employment impacts of growth will be positive in itself, it needs to be managed to avoid creating blight or missing the opportunity to deliver a lasting benefit.

These major investments will have a significant impact on host communities. A key impact will be the arrival of thousands of workers from across the country and around the world. Parts of the host community are already affected by social issues including higher than average levels of deprivation and low educational attainment. In order to avoid ‘boom and bust’ type impacts, the following issues will need to be addressed:

- Detailed assessment of the workforce profiles to assess the need to increase the capacity of local schools to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers arising from the location of the construction workforce;
- The delivery of interventions that minimise adverse health and well-being impacts on local communities;
- Ensuring that the social displacement impacts on children, young people and families living in local communities experiencing high levels of multiple deprivation do not arise;
- Taking steps to avoid potential impacts on general social work and associated services, including interventions to support social cohesion and avoid anti-social behaviour;
- The need to deliver sustainable sites for construction workers, that also provide future benefits within existing communities;
- Poor connectivity within and between communities and settlements
- The development of brownfield sites within existing communities.

5.3 Outcome and Benefits for Cumbria

Based on the above, the following outcomes and benefits are expected to be realised from the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Outcome Title	Detail
5a. Supporting social cohesion	A comprehensive package should be provided, aimed at supporting social cohesion whilst minimising crime and disorder, and with a positive contribution to high quality cultural, leisure and religious facilities and services. Associated developments must be carefully designed to maximise opportunities to physically, socially and economically link and support existing communities, ensuring effective integration of the incoming workforce.
5b. Community health and wellbeing	<p>A Health Impact Assessment will be undertaken to assess the impacts of the NuGen development on the local community. This will identify the impacts and mitigation measures that will be required to support social cohesion, including, but not restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring appropriate social care provision (including services to support potential increase in sexual assault, increased teenage pregnancies and domestic violence); • Improving the local hospital and health services to cope with increased demands; • Increasing capacity of local schools to accommodate any identified increase in pupil numbers; • Supporting families with English as a second language and translation services; • Managing the social displacement impacts on children, young people and families living in local communities experiencing high levels of multiple deprivation; • Supporting investment in new and improved community infrastructure - such as the £33m education campus in Whitehaven and the combined £7.2m on new health and fitness facilities in Cleator Moor and Whitehaven; • The upgrading of existing, and/or the provision of new open space and managed recreation/leisure facilities for temporary workers for shared use by the wider community.
5c. Schools and Education	<p>Taking a comprehensive approach to mitigate any identified impact of the increased worker accommodation population on the existing schools and in turn provide a legacy for education through investment in the local schools in proximity to Associated Development sites.</p> <p>To help integration of new workers and to increase training support for local people there will need to be investment in the enhancement of Community Development Centres to support adult learning.</p>

Outcome Title	Detail
5d. Town Centre Regeneration	<p>Supporting Town Centre regeneration objectives through Moorside accommodation and associated strategies, including the delivery of improved connectivity and movement between Associated Development sites and town centres, and the redevelopment of town centre brownfield sites particularly in Whitehaven.</p> <p>The approach should be supportive of the Copeland Local Plans and reinforce the role of Whitehaven, Cleator Moor, Egremont and Millom. It should be designed to fully integrate and connect with the wider physical, economic and social context of the local communities.</p>
5e. Delivering permanent high quality housing	<p>The Associated Development sites for construction worker accommodation at Mirehouse and Corkickle and potentially at other locations should provide a legacy of high quality family homes. The houses should be a mix of open-market and affordable and be appropriate to the existing settlement patterns. There is also the potential to transfer construction worker accommodation to Cumbria County Council (or other providers) for longer term use as extra care housing.</p> <p>Masterplans to support the development of these Associated Development sites are currently being prepared by Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council.</p> <p>In addition to the Associated Development sites, the supply of houses will need to be increased to accommodate workers wanting to live within the locality. Empty properties should be brought back into use and sites allocated in Local Plans should be brought forward for residential development.</p> <p>Minimising the risk of local people being disadvantaged due to development of Moorside, through effective and well planned mitigation proposals for the housing sector to maintain the current and planned affordable housing stock level and minimise impact on housing support services and voluntary services.</p>

5.4 Opportunity for Joint Working

Delivering these priorities will require close coordination of the development industry together with service and infrastructure providers including the Health Service, and local communities themselves. The development of the Health Impact Assessment will help to ensure the social, health and well-being impacts of the nationally significant developments are appropriately mitigated.

Working with the LEP, there is the opportunity to secure support for the delivery of permanent housing as well as funding to help unlock additional housing sites.

In relation to the Associated Development sites, Cumbria County Council and Copeland Borough Council are jointly preparing masterplans which should be used by NuGen to guide the detailed design of these sites. It will also be important for the Councils and the LEP to be engaged in the selection of the developers to ensure the delivery of appropriate permanent development and associated benefits.

Local communities will be encouraged to engage in the design, development and delivery of facilities with an emphasis on long term sustainable use. Agile delivery that allows different partners to lead and support during a scheme lifetime, focusing on increasing mutual benefits and reducing risk. This is important across the whole project, but particularly in relation to the Associated Development sites.

Timescales and Milestones

The NuGen and National Grid projects are seeking consent under the provisions of the Planning Act 2008 as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The NuGen project will also be underpinned by application(s) under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The key elements of the planning process for the Moorside Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) are as follows:

Project Timeline



Importantly for this document, the Planning Act provides for statutory periods of consultation and feedback pre-application. This enables Cumbria County Council, Copeland Borough Council, the LEP and NSIP developers an opportunity to work in partnership and shape the proposals in advance of NuGen making a Development Consent Order (DCO) submission. This places an onus of responsibility upon NuGen and National Grid to share information with the Councils and LEP in a timely manner linked into and around the formal pre-application consultation processes.

The key dates for consultation for the projects are as follows:

Key Milestones	NuGen	National Grid
Stage 2 consultation	May 2016	June 2016
Development Consent application	April 2017	April 2017
Development Consent	October 2018	October 2018
Construction	2019 - 2026	2019 - 2024
Operational (first reactor) and electricity grid connection	2024	2024

The Councils will work closely with the LEP to progress the following activities to support the delivery of mitigation and legacy benefits for Cumbria:

Activity	Milestone
Cumbria Coast railway – secure up-front investment to improve the coastal railway in readiness for use by NuGen and National Grid, repayable following consents and approvals processes	Prepare outline business case by April 2016 for approval by DfT/BIS.
Strategic roads – undertake strategic road study to identify improvements required west of the M6 for the A66, A595 and A590. This will include improvements to the A595 corridor around Whitehaven and A66 at Workington.	Complete strategic road study by May 2016 to feed into Highways England RIS2 programme.
Port of Workington – progress the improvements at the Port of Workington with Growth Deal funding and seek to secure additional funds.	Deliver new road access over the railway by March 2017 and secure additional funding for rail improvements.
Mobile phone coverage – secure funding to ensure delivery of near to 100% mobile phone coverage and high speed broadband	Prepare a business case by April 2016.
Centre of Nuclear Excellence – support the further development of West Lakes Science Park for R&D through establishment of the Nuclear Technology Innovation Gateway with involvement of NuGen.	University of Manchester and National Nuclear Laboratory to complete a business case by May 2016.
Skills – through the Skills Plan assess the skills needs associated with nationally significant developments and identify the interventions required to meet those needs.	Complete an implementation plan for the LEP Skills Plan by April 2016 and identify the projects to be progressed.
Housing and Regeneration – work with NuGen and developers to ensure associated development sites that will be used for workers during the construction phase can be converted to appropriate permanent uses (including housing) post construction.	Selection of suitable development partner(s) for Associated Development sites and preparation of site masterplans.
Employment sites – engage with the NuGen and National Grid and their supply chain to encourage investment on employment sites.	Establishment of Kingmoor Park as an Enterprise Zone by April 2016.
Tourism – develop a tourism strategy focused on Hadrian's Wall from Carlisle to Ravenglass to identify the investment required to mitigate the impacts of nationally significant infrastructure projects.	Complete a Hadrian's Wall corridor tourism strategy.

The above list of activities will be supplemented by the outcomes from the preparation of a series of masterplans currently being prepared by the Councils to provide guidance on the detailed spatial representation of the priorities set out in this document in relation to the associated developments.



