Submission to Cabinet

10th April 2018

Labour
Leicestershire County Council Labour Group

From Max Hunt CC, the Labour Spokesperson

Item 9: Nuclear Dumping

- This is an important paper particularly whilst there is a possibility that nuclear dumping will occur in the county (eg the Widmerpool Gulf in north Leicestershire).
- The main problem associated with the proposed policy is that the most significant and sensitive concerns are removed from the local planning framework. Leicestershire a mere consultee by assigning nuclear dumping as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NISP) determined by the Planning Inspectorate.
- As such, and as with other environmentally sensitive plans (eg Fracking, EfW Incinerators) the principle is determined by national agencies and regulatory bodies, leaving the local planning process emasculated.

Turning to the paper itself I draw Cabinet's attention to these issues:

- Notwithstanding the above, I suspect there will be little disagreement from members on the **National Policy Statement** which requires profession input of the technology and physical processes.
- The document and advice from officers on the "**Community Partnership**" and the Potential Host Community should be questioned. From the Cumbria experience (para 25) it does indeed need to be a wide area but this should also include transport corridors. The real problem, however, is that the nature of the nuclear toxins are such that a very wide area could conceivably be affected. Within the constraints of the paper, therefore, the PHC needs to include the nearest major urban area and their agents.
- The initial "**Community Investment**" funding of £1million has been discredited as a naked bribe to community leaders or opinion formers. Furthermore, if these proposals will seriously generate "*skilled jobs for hundreds of people over many decades*"(para 20) the funding would be a drop in the ocean of infrastructure spending and ongoing revenues.
- The "**Test of support**", as we make clear in response 8 (page 127) if unclear and clarity is essential if the Test is to have credibility. We need to know exactly where and how a veto can be exercised locally. Otherwise it is just a fig leaf.

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