

# News story: Dounreay management makes long-term employment commitment to workforce

Around 1,100 Dounreay Site Restoration Limited (DSRL) staff taking apart the former research site have been told about a series of future commitments including the offer of a job with one of the companies behind the site's parent body organisation Cavendish Dounreay Partnership.

Managing Director Phil Craig said:

Our mission is around safety, delivery and the future transition of our people. We recognise that ongoing employment could become a distraction as decommissioning becomes more visible in the years ahead and so we want to act early and ensure our employees have a number of options. Everyone will have different aspirations so there cannot be a single solution.

There are some exciting opportunities on the horizon for the Highlands and beyond. We will develop training and support programmes to put individuals in the strongest possible position to move into another local job with one of the growing industries such as space or renewable energy. Importantly, there will also be a job offer with one of Dounreay's parent companies for any DSRL staff member who wishes to receive one.

Cavendish Dounreay Partnership is a consortium made up of Cavendish Nuclear, Jacobs and AECOM. Together they employ more than 220,000 with locations around the world including Caithness.

Jamie Stone, Member of Parliament for Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, said:

The Dounreay workforce has developed skills that are second to none and we should be proud of the work that they are doing to decommission the site. It is difficult to know that you are ultimately working your way out of a job and so I welcome early consideration of how these skills can be put to the best possible use in the future. The commitment from Cavendish Dounreay Partnership to offer jobs is good news for the workforce and I will be working with them to ensure as many of those roles as possible are based within this community.

Gail Ross, Member of the Scottish Parliament for Caithness, Sutherland and Ross, added:

This is a positive announcement, not only for those working at Dounreay today, but for our community looking forward. It provides options and reassurance to many of the highly skilled workers who will seek ongoing employment. By making an announcement now, everyone has time to work together and understand how this can best benefit staff, the companies involved and our local area.

Cavendish Dounreay Partnership Chairman Simon Bowen said:

This is an early but clear commitment. The principle is to ensure that everyone who wants a job when their role at Dounreay is complete finds ongoing employment. We will be working with trade unions, local businesses and others in the months and years ahead to develop the detail and ensure the support is there for a team that right now has a busy programme of work ahead of it, delivering one of the most technically challenging nuclear closure programmes of its kind.

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# Speech: Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion speech at UK-Ghana Investment Summit

Your excellencies The President and Vice President of Ghana,

Honorable Minister,

High Commissioners,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

Thank you. I am delighted to be here in Accra to welcome you all here to this first UK-Ghana Investment Summit (Ghana). It is the culmination of a great deal of hard work and partnership between our countries – a joint effort of the UK-Ghana Chamber of Commerce, as well as the UK's Department for International Trade, International Development, and our Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

During her recent visit to Africa, Prime Minister Theresa May set out the UK's ambition to be the G7's largest Foreign Direct Investor in Africa by 2022. Ghana will be a key part of that new strategy for Africa. It is a key market for the UK – our fifth largest export and seventh largest import market in Africa.

This meeting is the first chance to turn those words into action – and it is fitting that this is the first major event following the Prime Minister's visit.

It brings over 50 major UK companies to Ghana to learn about the opportunities here... ..talk through in detail the incentives and infrastructure available to support their investment... ..engage face-to-face with ministers and officials on their specific sector ...and to be introduced to potential local partners.

It is part of our drive for a stronger, more coherent and more targeted UK approach to Ghana. Only last week, our Trade Envoy to Ghana Adam Afriyie witnessed the announcement of a joint venture between the UK's Baird & Co. and the Precious Minerals Marketing Company for the establishment of an assaying plant in Ghana's International Airport zone – a first for the region.

And yesterday, we convened the first UK-Ghana Business Council – a six-monthly government to government forum to take forward our new strategic partnership. But these are only first steps. There are so many opportunities

yet to be realised. Because the UK and Ghana have a shared agenda – and complementary strengths. Our mutual ties are built on our shared membership of the Commonwealth, our common language, legal system, shared history, and shared time zone – at least for half a year!

More than 100,000 people born in Ghana live in the UK – and the Ghanaian diaspora, including those born in the UK, is likely to be about a quarter of a million. Our two countries are ideal partners to build on these links to foster our mutual prosperity: both catalyzing Ghana's economic transformation and providing UK business with the opportunity to invest in and partner with some of the most exciting companies and entrepreneurs in Africa.

And the UK Government is taking real, practical steps to achieve this – working in partnership with the Ghanaian government to stimulate investment... ..improving ease of doing business... ..breaking down barriers to trade... ..mobilizing Ghana's own domestic resources... ..and to support your President's vision of moving 'beyond aid'. And we will build further on this shared agenda with the UK-Africa Investment Summit being hosted in London next year. We also have our world leading export credit guarantee agency, UK Export Finance – for which I am the responsible Minister. It supports overseas buyers of the UK goods and services by helping them access competitive finance. It can provide an additional level of certainty and security for UK businesses, and for those companies who use it, they say it is a 'game-changer'.

UKEF's support in Ghana is in high demand. It has capacity to offer local currency financing, so firms can 'buy UK, pay Ghanaian'. UKEF's impact has already been demonstrated through projects such as the Offshore Cape Three Points oil and gas project, for which UKEF provided US\$400 million in finance, and the recently financed Kumasi Airport Phase 2 expansion project. And this is only a part of the wider strategic agenda we have across Africa.

Whether in the 0.7% of gross national income we are spending to support investment and job creation in Africa and in developing economies across the world... ..the ambition of our Development Finance Institution, CDC, to invest £3.5 billion in African nations over the next four years... ..or the UK's key role in the International Finance Corporation, investing billions in African firms and financial institutions.

And we are radically expanding the UK government's presence in Africa, opening new missions and bringing in trade experts, investment specialists, and other policy experts. Because the UK supports Ghana's ambition to be a hub for investment in Africa. And the UK has the companies that can invest in Ghana to help you do just this.

As someone coming from a business background, I know how important it is to have the right commercial environment in place to allow the private sector to drive that growth and deliver the jobs that will be at the heart of our partnership... ..transforming labour markets, opening up opportunity and unleashing entrepreneurial spirit.

Yes, the UK has the capacity to leverage sums of private sector investment

from the world's most international capital market. But this is about more than just money. We want Ghana to view the UK as a partner of choice for investment – and that means offering an array of addition skills to help foster the right corporate environment to maximise growth, investment and employment.

From our world-class professional services, our internationally leading expertise in sectors like education, science and research, or the business networks and experiences of some of the world's most innovative companies. The importance of that mission, to be that investment partner of choice, is testified to by the number of UK investors here today.

Over the next two days, these investors will be unveiling plans for potential business deals worth over £500 million. They range from infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, water treatment plants and rail refurbishment, to support in facilitating investment to Ghana's priority industrial sectors, to showcasing the unrivalled financial services and world-class professional services expertise of UK firms.

And as you scope out the potential of these projects, I want you here to know that you do so with the full support of the UK Government. The number and seniority of the Ghanaian Government ministers attending this summit – led of course by the President himself [H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo] who will address you shortly – show an impressive commitment to engage.

His vision – to take 'Ghana Beyond Aid' is ambitious and compelling – based on economic transformation, industrialization, such as the One District One Factory initiative, and closer integration with global supply chains.

Your vision is one we are keen to partner on. And it's what this Summit is all about. So let's make the most of it... ..Let's partner the financial strength, services and technical expertise of the UK companies with the potential, ambition and local networks of Ghanaian firms... And build a bright, secure and prosperous future for the people of Ghana and the UK.

Thank you.

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## **[News story: New physical activity resource for health professionals](#)**

Launching at the [International Society for Physical Activity and Health Congress \(ISPAH\)](#) this week (15 to 17 October 2018), the new digital [Moving Medicine tool](#) will help healthcare professionals advise patients on how physical activity can help to manage their conditions, prevent disease and aid recovery.

It is produced by the Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine (FSEM) in partnership with Public Health England (PHE) and Sport England with support from National Lottery funding.

Currently one in four of the population in England does less than 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity a week and are classified as inactive.

Physical inactivity is in the top 10 greatest causes of ill health nationally, with negative impacts on health, wellbeing, social and economic outcomes for individuals and communities.

Evidence shows that one in four patients would be more active if advised by a GP or nurse, yet nearly three quarters of GPs do not speak about the benefits of physical activity to patients due to either lack of knowledge, skills or confidence.

The tool focuses on helping to address the most common long term health conditions affecting the population, such as cancer, depression, musculoskeletal pain and type 2 diabetes.

Developed in consultation with over 300 healthcare professionals and patients and using evidence-based step-by-step guidance, Moving Medicine is designed to provide healthcare professionals with the latest evidence to address this knowledge and skills gap in the NHS and support healthier outcomes for patients as a result.

Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social care said:

There is a mountain of evidence to suggest that patients with all kinds of conditions – from depression to diabetes – would benefit from more exercise, yet understandably those suffering with chronic illness are more likely to be inactive.

That's why it's so important healthcare professionals have the information they need at their fingertips to advise patients with complex health needs on how to get more active – and this doesn't have to mean joining a gym. It can be doing more of the things we love, whether that's playing football, swimming or going for long walks. I am delighted to launch this brilliant web tool for healthcare professionals – I hope it will help pave the way for a culture shift in medicine where referrals for exercise are just as common as prescriptions for medication.

Dr Alison Tedstone, Head of Physical Activity at Public Health England, said:

With millions accessing the NHS every day, healthcare professionals play a vital role in helping people to better understand the benefits of physical activity on their health.

Taking the time to have these conversations has the power to inspire people to move more and make a big difference to their health.

Dr Paul D Jackson, President, Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine (UK) said:

The development of the Moving Medicine platform has been a truly collaborative effort, drawing on the expertise of many across a wide range of different disciplines and professional bodies as well as medical Royal Colleges, associated charities and patient groups.

We all believe that introducing more physical activity into every care pathway across the NHS is an essential, cost-effective intervention to improve people's health. Moving Medicine will ensure that all health care professionals have up to date information on physical activity presented in a useable, easy to understand format, enabling them to inform their patients and motivate them to become more active.

Sarah Ruane, Strategic Lead for Health, Sport England said:

We know that it can be difficult to fit being active into busy lives. But for people who are dealing with illness or injury the thought of being active can be even more daunting. That's why healthcare professionals have such a vital role to play.

Moving Medicine is a simple idea with huge potential to transform the lives of the millions of people who are inactive and living with health conditions. Equipping healthcare professionals with the practical information that they need to have supportive conversations with their patients, will help many more people to experience the range of health benefits that being active can bring.

Moving Medicine is a major component of the Moving Healthcare Professionals Programme, which is designed to support healthcare professionals embed physical activity into their approach to treating patients for common conditions in line with existing [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence guidance](#).

The resource has been launched at the seventh ISPAH congress in London this week (15 to 17 October 2018), which aims to bring the best minds together to bridge the gap between physical activity research, policy and practice to support healthier nations across the world.



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## Press release: Major retailers help consumers be greener by burning cleaner

Some of the UK's leading retailers are taking important steps to encourage their customers to buy cleaner fuels to heat their homes and reduce the impact on their health and the environment.

Around 38% of particulate matter emissions in the UK come from burning wood and coal in the home, a major contributor to air pollution.

But it is possible to reduce emissions significantly by burning drier, cleaner, more efficient products. Retailers including ASDA and B&Q have been encouraging and incentivising customers to purchase 'Ready to Burn' wood and 'smokeless' products.

More than fifty companies are now signed up to the 'Ready to Burn' scheme and firewood and briquettes with the Woodsure 'Ready to Burn' logo are available from local stove stores through to large outlets, including Tesco, Sainsbury's, B&Q and Wickes.

Following the launch of the ambitious Clean Air Strategy, the government held a consultation on proposals to phase out the most polluting fuels. This closed on Friday and the government will be analysing the responses and announcing next steps in due course.

Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey said:

Burning dirty fuels to heat a home is a huge contributor to air pollution and I warmly welcome this commitment from retailers to help move consumers to burning cleaner fuels for this winter.

I encourage all stores to follow their lead, and for all users to stop using wet wood and smoky coal to reduce the amount of harmful pollution to which they unwittingly expose themselves, their families and the environment. Dried wood and smokeless coal make for a better fire both heatwise and healthwise.

Retailers are carrying out a wide range of actions to help consumers switch to cleaner, alternative fuels:

- Lidl have committed to only sell wood that adheres to Woodsure conditions, meaning consumers have a guarantee that the fuel meets

specified standards, including having the right moisture content and being sourced from sustainably managed woodland.

- B&Q has trained store colleagues on the benefits of cleaner fuels and more efficient stoves and heaters to help educate their customers.
- Asda has removed non-kiln dried wood logs and house coal from all of its London stores, guiding customers towards making better choices.
- Tesco has produced in-store advertising promoting the benefits of “Ready to Burn” solid fuels and where to find them in store.
- Booker, which provides stock for newsagents and convenience stores across the country, has confirmed it will be including “Ready to Burn” products as part of their autumn/winter range.

The commitments come during the first ever Green GB Week – celebrating the UK’s progress in tackling climate change while galvanising support for further action to protect our environment.

Ryan McDonnell, Lidl UK’s Commercial Board Director, said:

At Lidl UK we take our environmental responsibilities very seriously and are proud to source and sell dry wood which adheres to the quality specifications set out by Woodsure.

As well as an intention to phase out the most polluting fuels, the government’s Clean Air Strategy sets out that only the cleanest stoves will be available for sale by 2022. Stove retailers are clear that quality fuels are an important part of ensuring that modern stoves work as efficiently as possible, helping to minimize emissions.

Mark Smith from the Whitstable Stove Shop said:

If there’s one thing I’ve learned as a stove retailer, it’s that the quality of the wood burnt in a log burner is all important and it’s a false economy to do otherwise.

The consistency of ‘Ready to Burn’ approved logs has ensured our customers have been happy with the performance of their stoves.

Together, burning cleaner fuels and using modern efficient appliances produces less smoke, soot, and more heat, protecting consumers and the environment. [burnright.co.uk](https://burnright.co.uk) include tips on what more you can do such as upgrading your appliance, getting your chimney swept regularly by a registered chimney sweep, and avoiding slumbering appliances overnight.

Many urban areas are Smoke Control Areas, in which it is only legal to burn using an exempted stove, or use an authorised fuel. This means burning wood or coal on an open fire is not permitted. Check the requirements for smoke control areas in your local area, then make sure you are burning clean, high

quality fuel on your Defra Exempt stove by looking for the Defra-supported 'Ready to Burn' logo on wood fuels.