

News story: National Thermal Hydraulic Facility Consultation

Within the recent Nuclear Sector Deal, £40m was announced for a UK national thermal hydraulic research and testing facility, as part of the Nuclear Innovation Programme.

The purpose of such a facility, to be built in North Wales, will be to:

- Establish the UK as a world leader in nuclear thermal hydraulics;
- Position the UK to take advantage of nuclear fission new build, Small Modular Reactor deployment and Advanced Modular Reactor development; and
- Enable the UK to contribute more effectively to the next generation of fission reactors and enable the UK supply chain to benefit from the worldwide increase in nuclear new build.

To ensure the facility achieves these objectives, it is crucial that there is consultation across the UK nuclear industry. To this end, UKAEA has been commissioned by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Assembly Government to consult with UK industry and research communities to develop the outline design, delivery and future operational plans of such a facility.

To obtain the broadest possible input, UKAEA – working with partners including National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) and Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (NAMRC) – will host a series of workshops to which all industrial, research and academic organisations are invited. Three workshops are currently planned as follows:

- Culham – Tuesday 6 November 2019
- Rotherham – Thursday 8 November 2019
- Bangor – Tuesday 13 November 2019

Specific details for each workshop will be announced shortly.

Additionally, recognising that some organisations may wish to discuss their requirements in more detail and/or in confidence, specific “one to one” meetings will be arranged as required.

UKAEA aims to complete all the initial consultations by Christmas 2018, for data to be compiled and plans developed for submission to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Assembly Government by Easter 2019.

For further details please contact:

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or

Press release: Change of Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in January 2019

2018 FC0, Director of Communication 2017 to 2018 FC0, FC0 Co-ordinator, UK-France Summit 2014 to 2017 Jerusalem, Consul General 2013 Full time language training (Arabic) 2011 to 2013 Juba, Consul General, then Her Majesty's Ambassador 2009 to 2010 FC0, Deputy Director, Estates Change 2009 Bamako, UK Special Envoy to Mali and Head, Crisis Management Team 2006 to 2009 Rome, Minister/Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission 2005 Full-time language training (Italian) 2004 to 2005 FC0, UK Special Representative for Sudan 2002 to 2004 FC0, Head, Sudan Unit 2000 to 2002 FC0, Head, Egypt, Libya and Sudan Section, Near East and North Africa Department 1996 to 2000 Ankara, First Secretary (Political/Military) 1995 to 1996 Full-time language training (Arabic and part-time Turkish) 1994 to 1995 FC0, Nuclear Weapons Desk Officer, Security Policy Department

National Statistics: Farming Statistics – 2018, UK wheat and barley production first estimate

This publication gives the first estimate of the quantity of wheat and barley produced in the UK from the 2018 harvest. Full UK provisional results including yield and area data for wheat and barley, along with results for the remaining cereal and oilseed rape crops will be included in the release that is published on Thursday 11 October 2018. The full release will be available [here](#).

Next update: see the [statistics release calendar](#)

Defra statistics: farming

Email
farming-statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

You can also contact us via Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DefraStats>

Press release: £4 million of false invoices lands financing boss 10-year ban

David Andrew Marsden (62), from Exeter, was the director of finance company First Capital Factors Limited (FCF). Incorporated in 2009, FCF offered recourse factoring facilities for small and medium businesses where they would buy a company's invoices to provide them with advanced finance.

To be able to purchase their clients' invoices, FCF secured funding from other companies. However, one of FCF's funders spotted irregularities within FCF's portfolio and sought advice from a business advisory firm in August 2016, who agreed that these concerns within FCF's loan book.

The funder used its statutory right as a fixed charge holder to appoint an administrator and following further enquiries, it was discovered that David Marsden instructed a number of his clients to produce false invoices, before he submitted them to FCF's funders to secure illegitimate funds.

FCF operated a back-to-back receivables finance facility, where FCF would assign debts to the funder in exchange for 65% funding. Using this method, David Marsden fraudulently secured close to £4.3 million before transferring money from FCF to other companies he was connected with in order to avoid paying his creditors.

On 18 September 2018, the Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from David Marsden, after he admitted acting in collusion with certain clients to defraud a back to back receivables finance provider.

Effective from 9 October 2018, Andrew Marsden is now banned for 10 years from directly or indirectly becoming involved, without the permission of the court, in the promotion, formation or management of a company.

Martin Gitner, Deputy Head of Insolvent Investigations for the Insolvency Service, said:

All the evidence pointed to Andrew Marsden orchestrating the scheme and he clearly controlled all the companies he colluded with to raise millions of pounds worth of false invoices.

His substantial ban will protect other creditors from suffering

losses and improve standards in the marketplace. It should also act as a deterrent to others who may be tempted to misuse invoice finance facilities in order to secure illegitimate funds.

David Andrew Marsden is from Exeter and his date of birth is July 1954.

First Capital Factors Limited (Company Reg no. 07011294) was incorporated in September 2009.

On 18 September 2018, the Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from David Andrew Marsden, after he admitted acting in collusion with certain client entities to defraud a back to back receivables finance provider.

The fraud was principally conducted by instructing the colluding FCF clients to raise invoices which could be notified to the Back to Back Receivables Finance provider and against which an advance could be requested. As a result, FCF had access to funds in the sum of at least £4,281,000 to which it was not entitled, which can be attributed to funds advanced against the false invoices raised under the direction of Mr Marsden.

His ban is effective from 9 October 2018 and lasts for 10 years.

A disqualification order has the effect that without specific permission of a court, a person with a disqualification cannot:

- act as a director of a company
- take part, directly or indirectly, in the promotion, formation or management of a company or limited liability partnership
- be a receiver of a company's property

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a [range of other restrictions](#).

The Insolvency Service administers the insolvency regime, investigating all compulsory liquidations and individual insolvencies (bankruptcies) through the Official Receiver to establish why they became insolvent. It may also use powers under the Companies Act 1985 to conduct confidential fact-finding investigations into the activities of live limited companies in the UK. In addition, the agency deals with disqualification of directors in corporate failures, assesses and pays statutory entitlement to redundancy payments when an employer cannot or will not pay employees, provides banking and investment services for bankruptcy and liquidation estate funds and advises ministers and other government departments on insolvency law and practice.

Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is [available](#).

Media enquiries for this press release – 020 7674 6910 or 020 7596 6187

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

[News story: Digital Local Land Charges Register goes live for City of London Corporation](#)

From 8 October 2018, anyone requiring Local Land Charges searches for the Square Mile will need to get them from HM Land Registry rather than going directly to the City of London Corporation.

The City of London Corporation follows 2 other local authorities in migrating its Local Land Charges data to the new national register following the launch of the new service on 11 July 2018 with [Warwick District Council](#).

Allison Bradbury, Head of the Local Land Charges Programme at HM Land Registry, said:

“The City of London has one of the most dynamic business property markets in the world. By making their local land charges information instantly accessible via HM Land Registry’s central, digital register, we are ensuring that customers can access essential information about property transactions instantly, saving both time and money.”

Richard Steele, Corporate Spatial Data Manager at the City of London Corporation, said:

“While there are relatively few residents in the Square Mile, we have around 500,000 workers. This means a lot of buildings in a small area and around 23,000 local land charges relating to those buildings. Previously, our local land charges data was held in a mixture of paper and digital systems. Before migrating all the information to HM Land Registry’s digital register, we have digitised and accuracy-checked all the data. This helps to reduce business risk for future property transactions in the area. By taking part in the process the turnaround times for local land charges search results for properties in the City will be reduced from days to seconds.”

HM Land Registry is working in partnership with a number of local authorities in England this year to migrate their Local Land Charges data to a central, digital register. Once migrated, anyone will be able to get instant online search results via GOV.UK using the [Search for Local Land Charges](#) service.

HM Land Registry’s business customers can use their existing portal and Business Gateway channels or their usual search providers.

Customers will need to continue to submit CON29 enquiries to the local

authority.

HM Land Registry is leading the way in using digital technology to provide quicker and simpler services for homebuyers.

For an overview of the new service, watch our short video.

[Creating a national Local Land Charges Register](#)

For more information, read about the [Local Land Charges Programme](#).