

Minister for Parliamentary Business  
Bruce Crawford MSP

T: 0845 774 1741  
E: scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Isobel Lindsay  
Convenor  
Scotland4Peace  
9 Knocklea Place  
Biggar  
ML12 6DZ

2 April 2008

Dear Isobel

I am delighted that you will be able to attend the first meeting of the Working Group on Scotland Without Nuclear Weapons on 9 April 2008. This is likely to be a lively discussion and to ensure that we have time for you all to contribute fully, I would like to extend the meeting to 4:30pm. I appreciate that you may already have made travel arrangements for the event and there will be no difficulty if you need to slip away early.

I have also been asked whether we would grant access to the media in advance of the meeting to take "establishment shots" that might be used to accompany any coverage of the work of the Group. I think that this would be helpful in promoting our agenda but **I would be grateful if you could confirm that you are content with this approach** by contacting Elspeth Hough of the Secretariat as soon as possible on 0131 244 6933 or by email: [Elspeth.hough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Elspeth.hough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

I had promised to send you initial papers in advance of the meeting. Please find attached an agenda for the meeting, together with a proposal of how we might take forward the work in the remit for further discussion at the meeting (SWNW(08)03). As we will necessarily focus on governance issues for part of this first meeting, you will see that I am proposing we touch on only three of the substantive remit items on this instance and that we then focus on the remaining two themes at our next meeting. You will also note that the agenda includes an item entitled "round-table introduction" and I would be grateful if, under this item, you would be ready to introduce yourself to other Group members, outlining your particular areas of interest and what you are hoping that the Group will achieve. Additionally, you will wish to be aware that David Sinclair, who was to have represented the Church of Scotland, will be replaced by Ian Galloway and that I have asked Scottish Enterprise to assist the Group to liaise with industry as required, and that Ian McMahon will thus attend the meeting as an observer.

I also attach a note (SWNW(08) 02) setting out the proposed governance structure and initial thinking about ground-rules for the operation of the Group, again for discussion at the meeting. As you will be aware, the remit for our Group has been drawn up carefully to ensure that there is a lawful basis for the work that the Group will undertake, in light of the current devolution settlement. Paul Johnston of the Scottish Government Legal Directorate



will attend the meeting on 9 April to outline the current legislative framework within which the Group will carry out its activities and the consequent implications for the work of the Group. I look forward to meeting you on 9 April. In the interim, should you have any queries, or comments on the papers, please direct these to Elspeth Hough whose contact details are appended above.

**Bruce Crawford**

**WORKING GROUP ON SCOTLAND WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome by Minister for Parliamentary Business
2. Governance and Arrangements for Working Group (SWNW(08)02)  
Minister for Parliamentary Business  
Paul Johnston, Scottish Government Legal Directorate
3. Roundtable introductions
4. Work programme for the Group (SWNW(08)03)
5. Remit theme 1: in the event of a decision to remove nuclear weapons from HM Naval Base Clyde, to examine the economic impact and to identify options for the development of alternative employment opportunities.
  - ◆ Introduction by Dave Moxley, STUC
  - ◆ Discussion
6. Remit theme 3: explore the implications of seeking observer status at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Group and advise the Scottish Government on that process.
  - ◆ Introduction by Dr Rebecca Johnson, Acronym Institute
  - ◆ Discussion
7. Remit theme 4: consider the adequacy of the current licensing and regulatory framework that exists in relation to HM Naval Base Clyde in relation to environmental, planning and transport issues.
  - ◆ Introduction to the legislative framework - Scottish Government Legal Directorate
  - ◆ Discussion
8. Arrangements for next meeting
9. Group communiqué
10. Any Other Business

**Working Group on Scotland Without Nuclear Weapons: 9 April 2008****Proposed work programme : for discussion****Objective**

The objective of the Group is to explore the five key themes within the remit and to provide advice for Ministers on these matters.

It is proposed that the Group should aim to **produce a report**, covering the five identified themes, by the end of the first year. This report would be submitted by the Group to the Scottish Ministers.

**Proposed structure of meetings and business**

It is proposed that, in order to enable work to advance on each of the five themes concurrently, a small number of individuals should be identified to lead on each theme on behalf of the Group. It is for the Group to decide how best tasks may be allocated: a suggested division of labour is attached below for the Group's consideration. This should not be regarded as final at this stage.

It is envisaged that lead individuals would co-ordinate the Group's activity under the relevant theme and take the lead in ensuring that the relevant chapter of the report reflected the wider position of the Group. Lead individuals will also be responsible for liaising and consulting with external individuals with relevant expertise, identified by the Group.

It is proposed that the work programme for the forthcoming meetings be structured as follows:

- Meeting 1: Governance arrangements
  - Introduction to theme 1 (economic impact)
  - Introduction to theme 3 (the Non-Proliferation Treaty)
  - Introduction to theme 4 (legislative framework)
- Meeting 2: Introduction to theme 2 (international legal opinions)
  - Introduction to theme 5 (Scotland's contribution to peace)
  - Progress updates on themes 1, 3 and 4
- Meeting 3: Progress update on all themes
  - Discussion on drafting of report
- Meeting 4: Progress update on all themes
  - Consideration of draft chapters
- Meeting 5: Group to consider draft report for submission to Ministers.

## Dates/timing

It is envisaged that, subject to diaries, meetings will be held in August 2008 (meeting 2), November 2008 (meeting 3), February 2009 (meeting 4) and April 2009 (meeting 5).

## Proposed work programme: suggested division of lead responsibilities (for discussion)

**Theme 1:** in the event of a decision to remove nuclear weapons from HM Naval Base Clyde, to examine the economic impact and to identify options for the development of alternative employment opportunities.

*Possible lead members: **Dave Moxham, Ian Galloway, Cllr James Robb***

**Theme 2:** explore the various international opinions that exist on the legality of nuclear weapons so far as relevant to matters within the devolved competence of the Scottish Government.

*Possible lead members: **Scott Blair, John Deighan, Professor William Walker***

**Theme 3:** explore the implications of seeking observer status at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Group and advise the Scottish Government on that process

*Possible lead members: **Dr Rebecca Johnson, Professor William Walker***

**Theme 4:** consider the adequacy of the current licensing and regulatory framework that exists in relation to HM Naval Base Clyde in relation to environmental, planning and transport issues.

*Possible lead members: **Alan MacKinnon, Dr Richard Dixon, Scott Blair***

**Theme 5:** Identify good practice elsewhere in the world in developing peace and reconciliation and consider how Scotland might contribute to this work..

*Possible lead members: **Isobel Lindsay, Osama Saeed, Gillian Slider***

Report to Ministers with advice, within the context of their devolved responsibilities, on a regular basis

**Lead – Bruce Crawford, Minister for Parliamentary Business**

**Working Group on Scotland without Nuclear Weapons: 9 April 2008**

**Governance arrangements and proposed ground-rules for the Working Group on Scotland without Nuclear Weapons: for discussion**

**Governance arrangements**

The Working Group will be chaired by the Minister for Parliamentary Business, representing Scottish Ministers.

The Group will report to the Scottish Ministers.

The Minister for Parliamentary Business will update the Scottish Cabinet on the Group's findings and progress and provide feedback, as appropriate, to the Group.

Members of the Cabinet Secretariat of the Scottish Government will provide Secretariat to the Group. The Secretariat will assist the Group to draft its products which will be shared with the Minister for Parliamentary Business in final form.

Concise minutes of the meetings will be published on the Scottish Government website, once these have been agreed with Group members, in recognition of the broad public interest in the work of the Group.

**Proposed ground-rules**

The Group will focus on discussions pertinent to the five key themes identified in the remit and remain aware of the current devolution settlement within which the Group operates.

Group members are asked to respect "Chatham House rules" and not to divulge attributable comments outwith the meetings. This is to ensure that we can have a free and frank debate.

Group members are asked to treat documents shared with the Group as confidential and not to disclose these to other parties without the prior agreement of the Group.

When commenting externally on Government policy or matters related to the Group, Group members must be clear about the capacity in which they are commenting. The Minister for Parliamentary Business will serve as the official spokesperson for the Group.

The Group will agree a short communiqué for the press at the end of each meeting, and on the key messages to be fed back to the Cabinet.