

28th October 1997.

John Ainslie,
Administrator,
Scottish CND
15 Sauchland Street,
Glasgow G4 1QH.

Dear John,

I enclose replies from the leaders of Renfrewshire Council, and from its Chief Executive, about Exercise Short Seminar. Use them as you see fit. I didn't ask about the Potassium Iodate tablets as I wrote before I got the information about this.

I find the rather sanguine
tone of the Chief Executive's letter
rather alarming. Paisley is only 30 km
from Faslane; even though this exercise
is apparently not the 'worst scenario',
nevertheless I would expect more than
'precautionary ... reassurance ... alloy
fess' by way of an appropriate
response.

I think I'll contact the Paisley
Daily Express; ~~but~~ if you have any
further recommendations — or if
Scottish CND will be doing this anyway —
could you let me know. Either way I
could write a letter.

Best wishes,

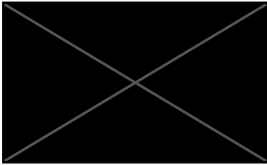



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

Tel: 0141 840 3376 Fax: 0141 840 3697
My Ref: chex/epurenf/2/AMK
Your Ref:
Date: 21st October 1997



Renfrewshire
Council



Dear Miss 

FASLANE EXERCISE "SHORT SERMON"

I refer to your recent letter which was passed to me by the Leader of the Council for comment on our involvement in the above exercise and our general emergency planning arrangements with regard to nuclear incidents at Faslane.

The above exercise is being conducted between Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th November 1997 and is one of a series of simulated accident exercises which are held regularly by the Royal Navy, in co-operation with a range of agencies in the west of Scotland, in particular the relevant local authorities and health boards for the area.


All such multi-agency exercises in this area must be endorsed by the Strathclyde Emergencies Co-ordination Committee (SECC), which is chaired by the Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police and is comprised of senior representatives of the emergency services, local authorities, health boards and other relevant organisations.

The inclusion of Exercise "Short Sermon" as part of this year's exercise programme was agreed and endorsed by the SECC Committee. As an active member of the above Committee, Renfrewshire Council has been fully involved in exercise design and exercise planning with the Royal Navy. As in previous years, we will be sending an official to observe the Exercise. A number of other local authorities are also involved in the exercise.

With regard to emergency arrangements within this Council area for mitigating the effects of a nuclear incident at Faslane, we would, by virtue of the distance from the Base, be primarily involved with enforcing the precautionary local food bans (meat, milk, green vegetables, etc), that would be brought into action. We would also assist Argyll and Clyde Health Board in the provision and establishment of centres for radiation monitoring to reassure the public and to allay any contamination fears in the Renfrewshire area.

I hope the above information is of interest to you.

Yours sincerely,


Tom Scholes
Chief Executive

c.c. Councillor H Henry, Leader of the Council

Your Ref:

My Ref: HH/ENV/014/RC

Contact: Councillor Henry

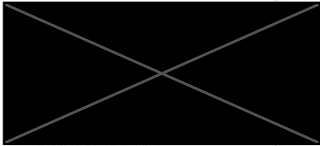
Telephone: 0141-840 3372

Fax: 0141-840 3366

Date: 17 October 1997



**Renfrewshire
Council**



Dear Miss 

Thank you for your letter regarding emergency planning. I share your concerns about the potential effect of a nuclear explosion, particularly as Faslane. I am however like you more concerned about the wider effect which nuclear weapons pose to our society and like the majority of the public want to see moves towards the complete removal of nuclear weapons.

As far as your specific enquiry is concerned about emergency planning procedures at Faslane and the exercise being conducted between 17th and 19th November, our Chief Executive is responsible for emergency planning procedures and I have passed him a copy of your letter and asked him to reply directly to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Henry
Leader of the Council