



**Minutes of the 105th AWE Local Liaison Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
AWE, MS Teams**

**Present:**

Andy Scargill	Chair
Cllr Phil Bassil	Brimpton Parish Council
Cllr Avril Burdett	Tadley Town Council
Cllr Jon Chishick	Tidmarsh & Sulham Parish Council
Cllr Sophie Crawford	Aldermaston Parish Council
Cllr Chris Johnson	Wokingham Borough Council
Cllr Robert Jones	Padworth Parish Council
Cllr Mark Keeping	Reading Borough Council
Cllr Clive Littlewood	Holybrook Parish Council
Cllr David Livingstone	Silchester Parish Council
Cllr Mollie Lock	Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council
Cllr Royce Longton	West Berkshire Council
Cllr Peter Markwick	Baughurst Parish Council
Cllr George McGarvie	Pamber Parish Council
Cllr Clarence Mitchell	Reading Borough Council
Cllr Ian Montgomery	Shinfield Parish Council
Cllr Susan Mullan	Tadley Town Council
Cllr Jim Thompson	Wokefield Parish Council
Cllr Tim Whitaker	Mapledurham Parish Council

Rhian Adams	AWE
Nick Bolton	AWE
Suzanne Chenery	AWE
Chris Daniels	AWE
Joanna Graham	AWE
Douglas Greenway	AWE
Val Hincks	AWE
Claire Lockwood	AWE
Lucy Millington	AWE
John Steele	AWE

Jonah Maddocks	WBC
Carolyn Richardson	WBC

**Regulators:**

Gary Cook	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Ian Rogers	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Rob Green	Environment Agency

**Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillors: Mark Binns, Dominic Boeck, Graham Bridgman, John Chapman, Penee Chopping, Stuart Coker, Kevin Cross, Suzie Ferguson, Stuart Frost, Malcolm Large, David Leeks, David Shirt, Paul Woodley

**Actions from previous meetings**

**ACTION 1/104:** Include the AWE Emergency Plan on the agenda of the next meeting (Simon Hardaker/Suzanne Chenery)

*COMPLETED: Included on the agenda for meeting 105*

**ACTION 2/104:** Send details of the dates for the exercises that AWE intend to invite LLC members to. (Simon Hardaker/Suzanne Chenery)

*COMPLETED: Unfortunately, it is not possible to invite external stakeholders to internal training/test exercises for security reasons. However, it is possible for external stakeholders to attend formal demonstration exercises and invites will be sent out to the next one of these.*

**ACTION 3/104:** Regarding noise experienced off-site, due to the final demolition of a very large structure built of reinforced concrete on the Aldermaston site. Cllr Bridgman asked if we could clarify that this concern emanated from Wokefield Parish Council. A response will be followed up in the minutes (Simon Hardaker/Johann Walker)

*Response provided in presentation material for LLC Meeting 105 - CLOSED*

**ACTION 4/104:** Regarding a report of an alarm that Cllr. Shirt thought came from the AWE on 3rd March. Can you advise us if there was an alarm on this day please? Check dates and details and report back to Cllr Shirt (Johann Walker)

*Response provided in presentation material for LLC Meeting 105 - CLOSED*

**ACTION 5/104:** Set up a meeting with Cllr Burdett and any other interested parishes to discuss the Hub Planning Application (John Steele)

*COMPLETED - CLOSED*

**ACTION 6/104:** Check if AWE can still supply speed limit reminder signs to local parishes now that they are a non-department government organisation and report back to Penny Waterfield (John Steele)

*CLOSED*

**ACTION 7/104:** Include the Emergency Plan on the agenda of the next LLC meeting in July (Suzanne Chenery)

*COMPLETED - CLOSED*

**ACTION 8/104:** An item will be added to the next LLC agenda covering the scope of volunteering capabilities.

*COMPLETED - CLOSED*

## **Approval of the 104th meeting minutes**

### **Chairman's update**

#### **Introduction**

Andy Scargill who is the Executive Director, ESH & Quality chaired the meeting and welcomed members to the 105th meeting.

#### **Membership Changes**

- Wasing Parish Council – Paul Woodley replaces Nick Corp
- Reading Borough Council – Helen Manghnani and Micky Leng have been replaced with Clarence Mitchell and Mark Keeping
- Wokingham Borough Council – Barry Patman has been replaced with Chris Johnson
- Baughurst Parish Council – Penny Waterfield has been replaced with Peter Markwick (although Penny remains the clerk)
- Mortimer West End Council – Kevin Cross
- Wokefield Parish Council – Jim Thompson replaces Debbie Fisher

#### **Covid Update**

On 31st March 2022 the national response to COVID was stepped down and testing for the illness ceased to be widely available. AWE has followed the national and MoD approach and stood down the Business Resilience Team that were managing the AWE risk. In line with the normal Business Resilience processes, AWE continues to monitor the situation and is prepared to re-establish a response should the situation degrade once again. AWE would like to reiterate its thanks to the teams at West Berkshire Council and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) for the support and guidance provided throughout the pandemic.

#### **Site operations**

AWE continues to take all actions necessary to keep the sites secure during this period of escalated tension in Europe.

Action like this brings with it an increased threat of cyber or other security and the Security team has been monitoring the situation as it has escalated, ensuring preparations to protect AWE are robust.

As per recent communications, the Office for Nuclear Regulation has issued AWE with a Prohibition Notice for the Plutonium Technology Centre at the Aldermaston site.

AWE acknowledged the Prohibition Notice which reflects the updated controls that have already been put in place. AWE will continue working closely and collaboratively with the Office for Nuclear Regulation for the required improvements.

AWE are currently installing defibrillators across the site to support the safety agenda in the event of an emergency. A roadshow across both sites in June took place to raise awareness of where they are and how to use them.

AWE's recruitment team has been shortlisted for Large Recruitment Team of the Year at The Firm Awards.

### **Community News**

A summary of recent community news was previously circulated attached to the LLC meeting invite. The next edition of the AWE Community magazine called Connect will be sent out in September when it is published. It will be circulated to 56,000 homes and will also be available to view on the AWE website.

The latest Environment, Social, Governance report (ESG) was published in March which provides a summary of the work that AWE has done in 2020 and 2021.

### **LLC Communications Brief**

**Chris Daniels**

**Senior Manager, Environmental, Social & Governance  
Corporate Affairs**

At the last LLC meeting there was a request that all members be made aware of security exercises and this was taken as an action. At the beginning of April a communication was sent out stating that there was going to be a security exercise. Following this announcement, it then appeared on Facebook on the 'Spotted in Tadley' page. This however caused a few security issues for AWE so with the advice of the legal team on how to provide information without compromising AWE's security it was decided that when communications are sent out, they will have either 'Not For Distribution' written at the top which means it is for the recipient only or 'For Distribution' which means it can be shared publicly.

### **Environment, Safety and Health Update**

**Nick Bolton**

**ESH&Q Service Delivery Lead**

Nick gave an overview of performance in personal and process safety during the period, advising members that the OSHA TRI rate to the end of May 2022 was 0.207 with an increase on the best rate ever achieved which was in February 2021 at 0.162.

There was a total of 16 Reportable Injury Events that occurred in the 12 months to the end of May 2022. In the same period to end of May 2021 there were 16 OSHA Events recorded. The RIDDOR rate at the end of May was the best rate that AWE has ever received.

Since the last LLC meeting in March 2022, one Process Safety event was raised in the period January to May 2022 which required an INF1 to be submitted to the regulator. This was due to a transformer failing resulting in power loss to some buildings. The damaged transformer was isolated and power was reinstated through an alternative transformer. An inspection of all transformers was carried out to identify those with the same configuration; remedial action is being prioritised based on risk. A Level 3 Investigation was initiated.

AWE is currently in the process of developing a new 'Process Safety for Leaders' training programme for the senior leaders and executives. A pilot for this was held in May and it will be rolled out across the business in a couple of months.

The number of events notified to the ONR appears to have raised over the years but this is due to a an increased effort by the business to report and also the inclusion of more varied events.

**Questions arising:**

**Cllr Keeping:** Can you explain why the numbers are high during the pandemic?

**Nick Bolton:** As previously stated, AWE are reporting more incidents in different categories now which is the main reason for that rise over the last 3 years. During the pandemic, we were still operating most of our operational facilities, so whilst a number of people that didn't need to be on site during the pandemic were working from home, obviously there were still a number of people outside the operations.

**Cllr Johnson:** Just to clarify, the increase in reported cases does not correlate to an increase in severity of injury?

**Nick Bolton:** No it does not.

**AWE Emergency Planning & Preparedness**

**Carolyn Richardson**

**Service Manager – Joint Emergency Planning Unit, WBC**

West Berkshire Council has a responsibility to make sure that AWE is compliant with REPP19, albeit that everything has to work really well with all the neighbouring authorities because of the way that the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) works, in particular how it crosses borders. There are four other authorities that West Berkshire Council work with which are Reading, Wokingham, Basingstoke & Deane and Hampshire County Councils. There are also 27 other agencies that the Council works with to try and make sure that AWE is compliant with REPP19.

Reflecting on the last brief in March 2020, there was an update on the redetermination of the detailed emergency planning zone. At this time lockdown was being enforced due to COVID. However, that did not stop work with AWE on a number of projects including COVID. We had a joint approach to COVID in our response with a bit of a shift in emphasis on some of the work that was being carried out with AWE and that was mainly working with the site in relation to COVID. The Council were engaged regularly with the AWE onsite team to make sure that everyone understood what was happening on site. As far as any outbreaks or any implications, the regulators were and still are the enforcing authority, but the Council needed to understand if there was anything that was needed to be done to support them.

In April 2020, the AWE off-Site Emergency Plan was revised to take into account the new DEPZ and the implications from it at that stage. In addition, the Council also prepared and finalized the information booklet that is distributed out every three years to every resident within the DEPZ and updated the website.

Aldex19 was due to take place in November 2019, this was paused as a result of Brexit meaning that some partners were struggling to commit as they would normally, so the exercise was moved to March 2020, which again due to the Covid outbreak was put on hold. The Council worked with the regulators and instead of doing a Level 2 exercise which is the full commander control exercise, it was agreed

with the regulators to set up 6 targeted workshops and exercises on key specific areas. This was all completed in February 2022.

They are useful exercises to do because it really does focus in on certain elements of the plan that you don't normally get when you're doing a big level exercise. The scale of work associated with these exercises is quite vast due to 27 responders taking part in different exercises. These workshops/exercises focused on road closures, rail services, evacuation and sheltering processes, no-notice activation, STAC (Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell) and a media exercise. These exercises have all been completed and a debrief for each of these has been done and it is currently going through the ratification and approval process. At the moment there are 54 recommendations which are already being worked on and some of them have already been put in place. On top of that, the Council is now in the process of undertaking regular training sessions under the new plan.

The Council is also working with a number of partners in relation to the development control process. Obviously with the changes in the DEPZ that has created quite a lot of interest from developers and planning authorities as well when they're reviewing their local plan.

Finally, the Council has continued with the Offsite Planning Group meetings throughout the last two years, including those with the National Local Authority Nuclear to discuss any new things, implications sharing, good practice and learning.

Looking forward at the next 6 to 9 months, there's a lot of work still going on as the Council returns to full business as usual. This involves the off site planning group meetings and engagement with the national side of things. Later this year we will receive the 3 yearly consequence report from AWE and from that it will be determined as to whether any changes are necessary for the detailed emergency planning zone. There will also be an exercise in April/May 2023.

The Council also intends on reinvigorating the community work that has been done in the past, working with schools and local businesses and would also be happy to come along to any of your Parish Council meetings to explain what WBC do.

**Questions arising:**

**Cllr McGarvie:** Is the new emergency plan publicly available yet and can we read it?

**Carolyn Richardson:** Not yet as it's still going through the consultation process and we are also debating about whether to make it public or not as it keeps evolving and changing. Also there is a huge amount of content which is really aimed at the emergency services/responders and not the public. We have been looking to releasing a new public information booklet which will focus on what should be done in the event of an emergency and it should have a longer life span.

**Cllr McGarvie:** One concern that mine and other councils share is gaps in the plan such as what happens with children travelling into school especially due to the unreliability of the school buses and also our concerns about the amount of retail outlets that surround the site which attracts the public. Something else that was discussed was the possibility of a 200 housing development being built on the edge of the DEPZ. Now I believe the reason this area isn't in the DEPZ is because there is no housing there but as soon as you build against the boundary will that change where the DEPZ needs to be?

**Carolyn Richardson:** We do include 'children travelling to and from school' as part of the process which provides details about what we do and don't do. Perhaps it might be worthwhile if we set up a training session for you all similar to the ones that we do for our responders and we can maybe pick up some of the things that particularly relate to the Community. We do actually work with the schools, providing guidance for the schools on what they need to do about going into a lockdown and then we will have to either provide support for them or move them out.

**Action 105/01:** Provide the LLC members with more information regarding children travelling to and from school in the event of an emergency and where school transport has failed to provide a reliable bus service leaving children to walk home possibly through DEPZ areas. (Carolyn Richardson)

Regarding the retail outlets, there has been lots of discussion around that. We do try and mitigate that with planning applications with those that are new businesses. We feel that they should be having a lot more engagement as far as to what they would do in an emergency and their site is implicated in or involved in that emergency.

Regarding the housing development, we have told the planners that there must be a buffer otherwise, if there is any change, then they will be included in the DEPZ which will make the situation even worse for everybody so we are trying to mitigate to stop that actually happening and also the regulators are involved with any plans that I think involve the development of over 200 properties.

**Cllr Susan Mullens:** Regarding housing particularly in Tadley and Pamber we were talking about this last night and the amount discussed was 300 houses. Is this the same development or another that might be coming our way?

**Carolyn Richardson:** I can't comment at the moment. Under development control all the local Council Emergency Planners meet fortnightly to discuss the planning applications that have been received and we cross everything to see if what we proposed is reasonable with the off-site plan being taken into account.

**Cllr Susan Mullens:** It's not a planning application yet. It's just from a developer who is asking the question.

**Carolyn Richardson:** We suggest for all questions from developers that they submit a pre-app so we can put everything through the planning service.

**Action 105/02:** Set up an Emergency Plan 'Awareness Session' (to include Development Control Reviews if possible) for LLC Members (Carolyn Richardson - WBC)

**Cllr Lock:** When you're talking about the DEPZ area, please don't forget Wokingham Parish Council, which backs right on to Burghfield and also part of Mortimer because the children again are going to Willink School, which is in Burghfield even though they are Mortimer children. When you are looking at the plans, don't look too narrowly. Remember Wokefield and Mortimer. Thank you.

**Jo Graham**

**Deputy Manager Emergency Response**

AWE has a very robust emergency plan for both Aldermaston and Burghfield sites. All of the emergency plans are approved by the regulator, so that's very high level and site emergency arrangements are in place. This information is set out in very complex and lengthy documents which detail the responses. These documents go into detail of what capabilities AWE has available and how those capabilities are enforced in response to different scenarios.

Every facility on both sites has facility emergency response plans and within those plans it goes into far more detail from a facility point of view such as what do the facility staff need to do in response to various scenarios and what do corporate responders, blue light services need to understand if they respond to one of those facilities.

AWE has a technical input into the AWE Off Site Emergency plan owned by West Berkshire Council (WBC) and supports Carolyn of WBC with any changes that are required if those changes come from AWE. So, with AWE's top level site emergency plans, the site emergency arrangements and the AWE off-site emergency plan, AWE works very closely with the local authorities. If there are any changes to any of those plans, AWE ensures that the opposite plans are reflected and updated as well.

All of the plans and arrangements are all documented and validated and are updated and reviewed if required. If AWE were to have an emergency exercise and a learning opportunity was found within that exercise, then AWE would then go back and look at the plans and arrangements and see whether they need to be adjusted or updated in response to any review.

Facility exercises are quite low level, intimate local exercises and AWE also have large scale site exercises which the local liaison committee are informed of. The Level 1 exercise is where AWE demonstrates its emergency arrangements to the regulators. The blue light services and other emergency response service providers who may be involved in an emergency situation, have opportunities to practice their skills within the constant training and exercising activities that are held at AWE.

Since Covid, AWE has identified that by using TEAMS, the business is able to get a lot more people on training activities. So, where a room may have been booked out with the capacity of 20 people, there is now the ability to communicate and have training sessions and competency sessions with possibly hundreds of people at the same time.

**Site Operations Update**

**Johann Walker**

**Head of Operational Site Services & Resources**

Rhian Adams covered the presentation in Johann's absence. Protestor activity continues with the 'Womens Peace Camp' on the second weekend of each month. There is no other planned activity scheduled at this time.

With regards to community concerns, a report was received regarding a 'booming noise' possibly coming from site that was heard from the callers' home in Spring Lane, Aldermaston. Both the MDP and Shift Manager could hear the sound from their respective locations and staff were deployed to investigate. Although the source of the noise was not determined, it was evident to be coming from



off Site, East of South-East corner in the direction of the Rugby Club. Feedback was provided to the caller who was satisfied with AWE's response.

Regarding Higher Activity waste, the transfer of 260 (HAW) drums to Sellafield has exceeded our committed target of 240 HAW drums for the first year of operations. The Operational Site Services & Resources (OSSR) Waste Operations team, with enabling support of Facility Management, Engineering, HAW Project, Health Physics, Nuclear Materials Management and security have safely transferred the waste to Sellafield for treatment and storage.

This work demonstrates that AWE can deliver on its commitments and ensures true on-site hazard reduction through the removal of legacy waste from AWE operations.

AWE commenced the second year of the contract with the target to double the number of drums transferred to 480 and treated at Sellafield. This follows on from the success of the year one shipments where AWE ensured that its cross functional teams were able to operate this new capability safely within the established business commitments.

### **Estate Development Update**

**John Steele**  
**Head of Estate, Development & Planning**

The planning application for the hub development, which is about 42,000 square meters of offices, labs and training areas, which was talked about pretty comprehensively at the last LLC meeting, was submitted to WBC towards the end of May. They have a date for a decision by mid September, but as with all planning applications, that date will move according to the consultation responses.

So far AWE have had a very articulate and comprehensive response from Aldermaston Parish Council in respect of planning conditions which are currently being worked through. Those comments focus on potential HGV impacts on the village during the construction phase and the Council has proposed a number of planning conditions relating to operation times for HGV, communications with local people and also the travel plan which has already opened up a discussion with West Berkshire Council on the travel plan at quite a senior level, so it's all being taken very seriously.

AWE will work with West Berkshire Council on the possible impact on the construction program, but also look at the benefits which are principally amenity benefits on the village, which is not about calculating just HGV numbers and working out percentages.

The representation about the community fund probably is outside the realms of planning. But again, it will be taken seriously because there's clearly an ongoing development to AWE.

Cllr Burdett, I haven't seen any evidence that Tadley Town Council had been consulting but I'm assuming you have. If you would like a presentation to the Tadley Council at one of its meetings, please just let me know and I'll come along during the public session prior to the main session and be available for any questions and just do a brief overview of that, which is what I did at Aldermaston Parish Council.

One development at Burghfield which Wokingham Borough Council was involved with as part of their

local plan review has had a response from one of the housing developers who promoted the Grazely Garden settlement to introduce rather large logistics centre on land located within the current Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ), and we're drafting a response to that to Wokingham Borough Council and at this stage it's a formal response because it's a formal submission in the local development plan preparation.

I would say that AWE don't get involved much with Basingstoke and Deane, so if there is any councillor here from that area, AWE would welcome opening up that sort of dialogue at a strategic level

**Questions arising:**

**Cllr Crawford:** I just want to thank you John for coming to speak to our Parish Council. It was incredibly useful, and I recommend anybody to take up John's kind offer to come and chat about it and ask questions about the application. Thank you also for updating us on these request lists and we look forward to hearing back from you.

**Cllr Lock:** I was just a bit concerned when I heard about the Grazely Green, because obviously part of it is in West Berkshire and I thought it had been parked because of problems. I thought funding had been lost from the government?

**John Steele:** Yes the Grazely Green development for the construction of 15,000 residential houses was dropped from the local plan, but the developers are now testing the planning policy in respect of other types of developments which may or may not be acceptable within a DEPZ and their current proposal is for a logistics center. This idea involves far less people. So, development proposals have certainly not gone away, but the residential proposal has gone away.

**Cllr Lock:** That's very close to the Burghfield site and it's discovered it could possibly be in the flood plain.

**John Steele:** MoD is working up an objection against that proposal.

**Cllr Johnson:** I actually live two miles from Burghfield within Shinfield Parish and I'm up in the DEPZ area. Grazley was one of the things I campaigned against adamantly. There are comments floating around about proposals for smaller developments adding small community additions?

**John Steele:** This is definitely not something that we have been consulted upon. In addition to the logistics proposal, AWE has also been asked to comment on a primary school proposal which is just within the eastern boundary of the DEPZ.

**Ask the Regulators**

**Gary Cook, Lead Site Inspector  
Office for Nuclear Regulation**

The ONR report was circulated prior to the meeting and covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 to the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

Gary told members that ONR is now undertaking a similar level of activity on-site in a range of activities compared to pre-Covid activity with the same frequency of visits.

ONR has inspected a range of licence conditions. There were also a few inspections outside of the licence conditions that cover such things as fire safety and conventional health and safety across both sites.

Regarding the LC36 improvement notices from previous reports relating to organisational changes, inspections were being carried out on a quarterly basis in order to track some of the closeout actions. ONR are now content that the progress has continued to the point that these inspections are no longer required and all LC36 matters will be carried out through the normal business as usual route.

ONR served a prohibition notice to the Plutonium Technology Centre which relates to safe systems of work being in place for workers within a certain part of that facility. The notice was served due to the oxygen levels and depleted oxygen levels within certain parts of the facility. There has been no risk to the public or to employees on site with regards to radiological and nuclear exposure. The ONR are continuing to work with AWE to progress improvements. ONR inspectors will be tracking this until completion.

There has been a lot of discussion around emergency arrangements and as the Site Inspector for AWE I will be focussed on the on-site emergency arrangements. The redemonstration that took place in April 2022 was an adequate demonstration and routine exercises are scheduled in the second half of 2022 for both Aldermaston and Burghfield sites.

**Questions arising:**

**Cllr Burdett:** Why has the low oxygen levels only just been discovered?

**Gary Cook:** It's not just been discovered. ONR gave an amber inspection early this year. That was followed up with an enforcement letter, but there were further instances of depleted oxygen levels in the facility, which is why we've served the notice, to ensure that those kind of events that have been occurring are adequately described in the safe systems of work and therefore mitigated against. In terms of people being able to evacuate if such events continue to occur, AWE is working on a permanent engineered solution such that the area of concern won't be designated as a confined space. The notice that ONR issued is in place to ensure that AWE is taking all practicable measures to mitigate the risks of any depleted oxygen levels within the facility.

**Rob Green**  
**Environment Agency**

The EA report was circulated prior to the meeting for the period 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 to 24th June 2022.

Rob informed the members that the Environment Agency has completed a number of routine compliance inspections during the period. One inspection focussed on the legacy production facilities at Aldermaston Site. There were two separate inspections at Burghfield site with one focussing on the Assembly Technology Centre and the other looking separately at the Sealed Radioactive Sources and Open Radioactive Sources activities. The EA also completed two regulatory inspections covering conventional (not involving radioactive material) activities: inorganic chemicals activities at Aldermaston Site and also carbon activities that are undertaken in both Aldermaston and Burghfield Sites. A routine assessment of radioactive waste disposals data (gaseous and aqueous liquid discharges) that AWE is required to submit to the EA was also completed. There were no non-compliances recorded during the inspections but a number of regulatory observations and recommendations of improvements were provided for AWE's consideration.

In terms of non-routine matters, the EA, ONR and DNSR took part in a decommissioning workshop - hosted by AWE - that was set up in response to concerns raised by ONR and the EA over AWE's decommissioning performance. The regulators provided feedback to AWE on its proposals to bring about accelerated decommissioning across its estate. The EA will continue to monitor that as work develops and as part of routine business.

The EA issued its 2022-23 Site Environment Review document, which sets out its regulatory priorities at AWE's sites for the year, including intervention and inspection areas. The document also sets out the EA's assessment of AWE's regulatory environmental performance over the previous year.

Rob reminded the members that the EA no longer has its own website, as it has been subsumed into the Gov.uk website, but both the Site Environment Review and copies of all compliance assessment reports are available on request.

#### **Questions arising**

**Cllr Keeping:** In the report it states that there were no non-compliances, however the report says 'we noted no compliances during the inspection' and that was for the Burghfield Site Sealed and Open Radioactive Sources section.

**Rob Green:** It should have read 'no non-compliances'. It was a typo. Apologies.

#### **Community Update**

**Chris Daniels**  
**Senior Manager, Environmental, Social & Governance**  
**Corporate Affairs**

The AWE Environment Social Governance report is now available on the website linked [here](#).

#### **Charity an Volunteering Update**

With regards to charity fundraising, because we are now an arms-length body and a NDPB (Non Department Public Body), we are not able to fundraise or donate money to things like the partnership with Thrive and other local charities anymore.

We recognize that, as a good corporate citizen and as such a big company in the local area, AWE wants to be involved in the Community and really help those charities that we have financially supported in the past which is why AWE have set up a new volunteering programme that went live towards the end of April which enables all employees to have the option to do two days of volunteering each year. One day is for a team based scheme to work with the whole team and to establish team building with a bit of helping the community as well. And one is for an individual volunteering day.

If anyone is aware of any volunteering opportunities in your parishes and your councils then please let us know by emailing [LLC@awe.co.uk](mailto:LLC@awe.co.uk)

#### **Education Outreach**

**Claire Lockwood**  
**Senior Manager Community Engagement**  
**Corporate Affairs**

#### **Primary Science Challenge 2022**

The Primary Science Challenge took place in May and it was inspirational for our 15 STEM Ambassadors and the 340 students who took part in years 4,5 and 6 to get together at this year's Primary Science Challenge.

It was delivered in partnership with the Education Business Partnership (EBP) South and EBP West Berkshire and the Challenge took place throughout May. It was open to primary schools across West Berkshire and Hampshire and it was all made possible by the support of the AWE STEM Ambassadors.

There was a combination of demonstrations and interactive workshops to inspire science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) learning. All the fun activities that the students took part in were aligned to the World Environment Day theme of Only One Earth.

From understanding what a carbon footprint is, to making a model wind-powered car with a focus on living sustainably in harmony with nature, the challenge culminates with the students designing and building their own model dream eco friendly home made from recycled items. The students submitted their entries to the STEM Ambassador Judging Panel this week, and the winning entries, one from West Berkshire along with one from Hampshire will be announced on the 14th of July.

### **TeenTech 2022**

Stepping into Virtual Reality (VR) and programming Spheros (which are small rolling robots) were the fun ways our STEM Ambassadors inspired 300 pupils from Hampshire at June's Teen-Tech Festival.

The 12 to 14 year olds tackled simple tasks wearing headsets in a VR environment at the AWE stand at the Annual STEM Career Showcase that's supported by major high-tech employers. They also used coding to control the Spheros around a maze in the Challenge Zone. Both were a real hit.

The AWE activities had a big wow factor and really got the students buzzing and asking questions, especially around the Spheros. The 20 STEM Ambassadors and apprentices did an amazing job on the day at Hampshire Court Hotel, helping and sharing the excitement, as well as helping manage the preparations beforehand.

### **Questions arising**

**Cllr Lock:** Why was West Berkshire with Willink and other West Berkshire Schools not included?

**Claire Lockwood:** This was because it was a Hampshire based event. I will feed back your interest in the inclusion of West Berkshire.

<p><b>Action 105/03:</b> Find out if there is a partnership between Teen Tech and EBP West Berkshire and if so, suggest that West Berkshire schools are included. (Claire Lockwood)</p>
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### **Any Other Business**

- A survey will be sent to all members for them to feedback on the format of the LLC meetings and what information they would like to discuss at the future meetings.

### **Proposed 2022 Meeting Dates**

LLC Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> November