# OPTIMISING SKILLS FOR OUR NUCLEAR FUTURE



# OUR NUCLEAR FUTURE

# WHY ARE WE HERE?

The UK has been a pioneer for advancing nuclear technologies for more than 60 years. Today nuclear is the only source of large scale, reliable, low carbon electricity generation and forms an essential part of our net zero future.

The Government's British Energy Security Strategy sets out the ambition for nuclear power, with a target of 24GW by 2050. The industry is primed to attract significant investment, right across the nuclear lifecycle, from construction and operation to decommissioning.



At the same time, the Government's policy to maintain a nuclear deterrent as part of its national security strategy has been in place since 1969, and was last endorsed in 2021, with the Integrated Review confirming the renewal of the UK's Trident deterrent. The UK's world-leading nuclear defence programme underpins our national security and makes a significant contribution to the economy through jobs, skills, research and development, and exports.

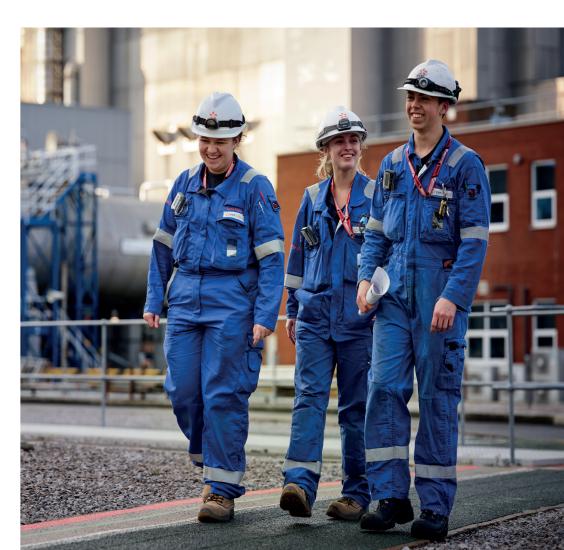
The expansion of nuclear new build programmes and decommissioning of legacy plant across civil and defence, at the same time as research and development of new and advanced technologies whilst solving waste storage issues creates a particular skills challenge for the sector. A sector that also faces competition for skills with other major infrastructure projects.

In order to deliver these complex national infrastructure projects using new and innovative technologies, the sector requires a highly skilled, modern workforce. A workforce, which will grow, creating rewarding and exciting career opportunities right across the UK. This is the NSSG mission.

The Nuclear Skills Strategy Group (NSSG) actively profiles the supply and demand of skills for nuclear and is committed to supporting the industry in the creation of a workforce capable of meeting the demands of the sector.

The NSSG brings together all areas of our nuclear industry to encourage and facilitate effective collaboration. Identifying, analysing and addressing the key issues and risks affecting the supply of skills.

Employer led, the NSSG provides 'one voice' to Government on skills in our sector. And with competition for talent both within UK nuclear and other sectors, the NSSG represents industry coming together to resolve the most critical skills issues.



Nuclear Skills Strategy Group

### OUR APPROACH

# HOW WE DELIVER

Risk Based	Taking an insight-led approach to skills planning, the NSSG uses the latest labour market intelligence to identify, evaluate and prioritise significant skills risks, developing effective skills interventions designed to mitigate.
Industry Led	NSSG members are a representative community of nuclear stakeholders, operating with transparency at the heart of the skills system and collaborating for the good of the sector.
Efficient	Adding value to the skills landscape, driving measurable progress against a sector delivery plan whilst providing clear and consistent stakeholder communication to avoid duplication or complexity.
A Clear Voice	A trusted and consistent voice on skills that delivers with impact and authority. Effectively engaging with stakeholders to respond to and influence the nuclear skills policy landscape.

The NSSG works together to prevent scarcity of skills in the future, ensuring that the UK has the right capabilities, at the right place at the right time, and maximising the opportunities associated with quality, green jobs.

The nuclear sector skill demands come from the client organisations owning the major projects. They form the **Nuclear Skills Strategy Board** in the NSSG, where they identify, quantify and manage the key skills risks and prioritise actions and interventions to address these risks where collaborative risk mitigation effort is the right solution.

The supply of skills for nuclear is delivered by a much broader set of organisations (including those in the client supply chain) who are uniquely placed to understand the availability of skills and will already be identifying solutions for their own future skills needs. Through the **Nuclear Skills Enabling Forum**, they work with organisations who support the delivery of skills to a) identify and signpost existing solutions that need scaling up and b) develop innovative and cost effective solutions where none currently exist. These prioritised skills mitigation activities will be delivered through subgroups of the Enabling Forum, sponsored by the Nuclear Skills Strategy Board.

This co-ordinated approach to identifying skills risks allows for a more holistic approach to planning, creating an evidence backed, single source of truth on the state of skills for nuclear. Subsequent decisions around interventions can be made with a clear view of what action is already taking place, minimising duplication of effort and sending clear signals of intent to the wider market.



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# OPERATING MODEL

### GET INVOLVED

The NSSG - A unified and agile skills system that uses labour market intelligence to facilitate and prioritise stakeholder activity that responds to and influences nuclear skills policy, for the success of our sector.

#### Skills Demand Skills Supply **Nuclear Skills Strategy Board Nuclear Skills Enabling Forum** Funding & Investment Leveraged Funding **Outcomes** Outcomes Risk Log & Prioritisation Reporting & Metrics • Strategic Plan • Risk Mitigation Plans **Monitor & Progress** Impact Assessment • Stakeholder Engagement Business Cases Annual LMI/Sector Heat Maps Solution Proposal Horizon Scannina Skills Risk Identification Sponsorship Gov Relations/Policy Context **Business Case** Dedicated Task & Finish Groups will have the authority, ability and resources to deliver defined and agreed skills solutions under the sponsorship of the Nuclear Skills Strategy Board

NSSG members actively champion UK nuclear as a sector of choice. Taking steps to ensure that the nuclear workforce is welcoming to all, is representative of the communities served and is an attractive industry to work in, offering high quality well paid jobs that allows people the opportunity to develop, grow and build rewarding careers.

To find out more about the work of the NSSG or to get involved in our Enabling Forum contact: nssgmembers@cogentskills.com

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