INFORMATION SHEET

OECD NEA Workshop on the Role of Innovation in the Nuclear Back-End

Harnessing Robotics and Advanced Technologies for Safer, More Efficient Activities

Key Information

Dates: Monday 31 March (site visits), Tuesday 1 April – Thursday 3 April (workshop programme), Friday 4 April (site visits)

Venue: Energus Conference Centre, Blackwood Rd, Lillyhall, Workington CA14 4JW, United Kingdom. Google Maps link

Hotels: Accommodation is available in nearby Cockermouth, with shuttle buses to run between the town and Energus each morning and afternoon to transport delegates.

Agenda: The workshop programme may be found online here.

Travel

UK visa information

The UK government has information on visa requirements and applications procedures on their website: https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration

You can check if you need a visa to travel to the UK here: https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

The list of countries who require an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) may be found online here. You can download the ETA app from the App Store and Google Play, or apply online via the website.

Note that most travellers from the European Union do not currently require an ETA to travel to the UK. **This will change from the 2 April 2025.** If you enter the UK before this date to attend the workshop, your entry requirements will not change. If you are entering the UK on or after the 2 April, you may need to apply for an ETA. Please check your ETA or visa requirements before you travel.

Getting to Cockermouth

The town of Cockermouth (Google Maps link) is a short drive from the conference centre and has several hotels and restaurants. The closest international airports are Manchester, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Car hire is available at the airports and Cockermouth may be reached within a 3-4h drive, depending on traffic conditions.

There are regular trains from these airports to the stations of Penrith (station code PNR, Google Maps link) and Carlisle (station code CAR, Google Maps link), which are the closest mainline stations to Cockermouth. Note that Sunday services may run less frequently. Information on train times and ticket prices may be found on the National Rail UK website. If you are travelling to London airports, there is a direct train from London Euston to Penrith/Carlisle. These trains are operated by Avanti West Cost and TransPennine Express, and tickets may be purchased directly from their websites.

From Penrith train station, the X5 bus runs every half an hour and goes directly to Cockermouth. Timetables and tickets may be found on the Stagecoach website. There are also local taxi services available at a cost of ~£90 each way:

- Penrith Taxis: https://www.penrithtaxis.com/
  - + 44 1768 899 298
- Station Taxis Penrith: https://www.stationtaxispenrith.co.uk/
  - +44 1768 211 004
- Cumbria Airport Taxis: https://www.cumbriaairporttaxis.com/
  - +44 7779 616 169

From Carlisle, the 600 bus runs from the bus station (Google Maps link) to Cockermouth. The timetable may be found here and tickets may be purchased via the Stagecoach website.

- Carlisle Taxi Company: https://carlisletaxicompany.co.uk/
  - Online booking form
- Carlisle 247365 Taxis: http://www.carlisle-taxis.com/
  - +44 1228 247 365
- Radio Taxis: https://radiocarlisletaxis.co.uk/
  - +44 1228 527 575
  - +44 1228 515 818

There is an Enterprise car hire in Penrith and an Enterprise, Europcar, and Avis car hire in Carlisle. Please note that these service centres are not open on Sundays.

Getting to Energus

Energus has ample car parking available on site, including four 22 kW MER EV chargers.

There will be a shuttle bus running between Cockermouth and Energus from Tuesday 1 – Thursday 3 April to transport delegates to and from the conference centre.

The shuttle bus service will pick up from two locations in Cockermouth: the bus stop outside Bryson's Bakery on Main Street (Google Maps link), and the car park of the Premier Inn.

Please sign up for the shuttle buses using the form at the link here. The deadline for reserving spaces on the buses is the **17 March 2025**.

Site visits

The site visit shuttle bus information will be shared separately with the participants.

Accommodation

While there is no designated workshop hotel block, there are several hotels available in central Cockermouth which are convenient for the shuttle bus departures:

- Manor House Hotel: http://www.manorcockermouth.co.uk/
- The Trout Hotel: http://www.trouthotel.co.uk/
- Allerdale Court Hotel: https://allerdalecourthotel.co.uk/
- Premier Inn: https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/cumbria/cockermouth
- Travelodge: https://www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/350/cockermouth-hotel

Restaurants

There are several restaurants in Cockermouth serving traditional English cuisine. Note that many restaurants have limited opening hours during the week.

- Derwent Restaurant at The Trout Hotel: https://trouthotel.co.uk/dining/derwent-restaurant/
  - Open for dinner from 5:45-8PM
- Manor House Hotel Restaurant: https://www.manorcockermouth.co.uk/eat-and-drink
  - Open for dinner from 6:30-8PM (closed on Sundays)
- The Bitter End: https://bitterend.co.uk/
  - Open from 4PM, food served until 8:30PM
- BLOCKS Steakhouse at Allerdale Court Hotel: https://blockssteakhouse.co.uk/
  - Open from 5:30PM, food served until 8:45PM (closed Sundays & Mondays)
- Aspava Turkish Restaurant: http://www.aspavarestaurant.co.uk/
  - Open from 10AM, food served until 8:30PM (closed on Tuesdays)

Contacts

Please use the workshop email for all questions about this event:

- winart@oecd-nea.org

The UK emergency number for police, ambulance, and fire services is 999.