

# RIC T-10 - Nuclear Regulation in the Time of Transformation

Mark Foy Chief Nuclear Inspector – UK Office for Nuclear Regulation 9 March 2021



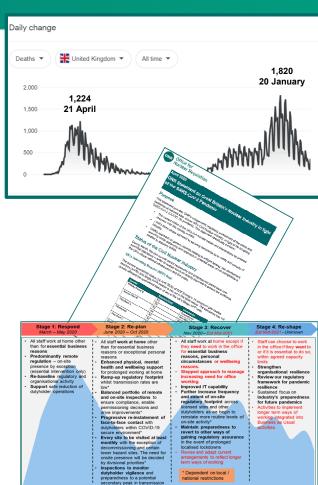
### **Covid-19 Challenge and Response**

- Nature of UK pandemic Exponential increase in cases and deaths, dynamic with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> waves, requires strict protection measures, otherwise further waves?
- ONR priorities Health and well being off regulatory staff, assurance of continued nuclear/radiological safety and security across industry
- ONR responsive to the changing nature of the pandemic, doing things differently, avoid undue burden
- ONR staff working form home for 12-months IT worked well, assessment and permissioning work has continued unabated
- Balanced approach to regulation Remote and onsite activities, operators internal assurance, previous inspection results, flexible and agile
- Recovery plans aligned to those of our duty holders, other regulators and government wherever possible
- Provision of information from industry, assurance to domestic and international stakeholders
- Continually benchmarking UK and international good practice, moving to new normal, lessons

ONR implemented its 4-step pandemic response plan



1. Respond 2. Re-plan 3. Recover 4. Reshape



### Transformation, modernisation, risk informed

#### **Transformation**

- Covid-19 » required a response » new ways of working » new normal
- Implement a blended approach to home/office/site working
- · Increased flexibility to our working patterns
- Optimise our regulatory approach and technology for our future needs
- · Ensure our culture can sustain our new ways of working.

#### **Modernisation**

- · People Fully inclusive organisation, maximising benefit of diversity of workforce
- ONRs enabling approach, extends to innovation 'Innovation Cell'
- IT Modernisation Full rollout during the pandemic
- Regulatory processes Complete modernisation, new software platform
- Innovation in regulation Better use if technology, agile framework, cooperation

#### **Risk Informed**

- Not new to the UK Basis of our approach to nuclear regulation
- Level of risk informs targeting of resources Licensing, assessment, enforcement
- Consider individual and societal risk ALARP, legal duty, dutyholder to demonstrate
- Safety case demonstrate level of risk is ALARP and where improvements needed
- ONR regulation targeted and proportionate in relation to the risk arising



Enabling Early engagement, fit for purpose solutions, common agreed outcomes, collaboration, overcoming barriers



## Key messages

### ONRs Mission: To protect society by securing safe nuclear operations

- Continued safety and security in the nuclear industry is paramount
- Need to be responsive to the changing nature of our environment pandemic, innovation etc.
- Will require us to do things differently, must avoid undue burden Achieved during Covid-19
- Regulators must remain current Change is necessary, fit for purpose, agile, flexible, able to respond, risk informed
- Diversity and inclusion essential part of modernisation –Talent pool, new perspectives, better creativity, improved decision making
- Important for regulators and industry to work together to ensure safe and secure outcomes