

Information for Those Living in Outline Planning Zones

Over many years the UK has developed, and refined, detailed plans for how the response to a nuclear emergency should be managed. There has never been a nuclear incident in the UK that required the activation of these plans, but it's important they exist and are reviewed.

A specific emergency plan for **DSRL Dounreay and Vulcan NRTE** can be viewed [here](#).

Councils with nuclear facilities in their areas, and nearby, have recently been required to review these plans and create additional strategic level plans for wider areas around these sites. These are known as Outline Planning Zones.

Protective arrangements for people in the Outline Planning Zone would only be activated if it was determined the risk from the event extended beyond the area for which detailed emergency plans already exist. If the plan for the wider area was activated, it would be a decision based on the best available information as opposed to previously developed planning assumptions.

The Outline Planning Zone surrounding **DSRL Dounreay and Vulcan NRTE** is 5km.

Outline Planning Zones are always 'circles' around specific sites and it is possible that some Outline Planning Zones for some facilities may overlap with others.

This is not the case in DSRL Dounreay and Vulcan NRTE.

Defining the zone this way allows those who will have to respond to such an event, such as police, fire and other emergency services, to draft public protection plans ready to be put into operation.



Warning

How would I be warned?

- Warnings would be given via television, radio and social media
- Organisations involved in the response, such as the emergency services, will use their own media channels to give out advice



Protective Actions

What might I be asked to do?

- For the time being there is nothing you need to do
- In the event of a nuclear emergency being declared you would not need to take any action unless directed to do so, however you should keep up to date with information on the incident issued by official sources, such as government and the emergency services
- In the extremely unlikely event that plans covering Outline Planning Zones were ever activated, advice on what you would need to do would be communicated through the media
- Because every incident would differ, you may be asked to take different actions from people living in other areas of the Outline Planning Zone
- You could be asked to take protective actions of staying indoors or leaving the area. More information on these can be found in the DSRL Dounreay & Vulcan NRTE Emergency Plan and in this information from [Public Health England](#)

For more information on ionising radiation visit [here](#)

Map of Dounreay & Vulcan Outline Planning Zone

