

My Cowdenbeath Mossmorran Survey - December 2025

Free text feedback received

1	As an ExxonMobil annuitant (living locally) with 35 years service it is devastating to see the demise of the plant ... however can't argue with the economics as explained by the chairman - lack of raw material from North Sea plus exorbitant utility costs and taxes ... difficult to see anyone else taking it on in it's current format ... would have to be a different industry ... hard to see what that might be but some innovative thinking required and UK /Scottish government assistance imperative - however given Grangemouth example it looks increasingly unlikely - absolutely devastated for the local area - much spending power going out of the area (plus loss of significant business rates to FRC) once decommissioning completed in a few years time ... ongoing work for some during this period but any future use likely depends on plans of Shell for the NGL plant next door
2	Should be reopened or used to create more jobs in the local community
3	My main worry is that FRACKING could be done in the area once Exxon close the plant. I know that Scotland said no but im also aware it is a free port area. Very worrying prospect
4	As it is an industrial site, & i hope jobs can be created.....it should be considered as a site for a Hydrogen Power Station
5	I am absolutely disgusted by the way the uk government is treating Scotland and its industries, what chances have business to remain open , tax after tax, high energy costs. There is no incentive to keep or retain ? Work with Exxon / business give them tax breaks for so many years etc . The returns would be huge , employment up . There is always a way . This is devastating for not only workers, families the local area . It's appalling that the uk government knew months ago not passed on the Scottish government and the workers given few months notice just before Christmas!
6	Exxon are one of the most profitable Companies globally, who should have had plans in place long ago to protect workers, the community and the planet. This day was inevitable. The creation of green, clean jobs is what is required. However like other Exxon sites that have closed around the world, this site and the workers at Mossmorran will no doubt be abandoned. Let's hope this will not be the case. As regards the site, if it's no longer being used Exxon have a responsibility to clean up the site and the surrounding area.
7	For years we have been battling against this being so close to towns and communities, it's not healthy for us or our kids
8	Being a high school when this plant was first planned /built Cowdenbeath was sold on the idea of downstream jobs. Cannot think of any it created certainly no plastic injection moulding companies. So after all this time Cowdenbeath people should benefit from what can be saved or created from the ashes that they leave
9	The plant is too close to a densely populated area and should be moved somewhere else. The plant was never meant to remain at Mossmorran indefinitely. Nursing an old plant doesn't provide the economic benefit that building a new plant brings to the local economy and it doesn't encourage sustainable development in oil and gas. Hopefully Exxon and Shell will move on and sell the land to a developer who will build something that benefits the local area.
10	This site after ExxonMobil removal will have an infrastructure of energy and water supply to assist companies wanting to use these infrastructures in their businesses.
11	As to the numbers of job losses predicted, Babcock in Rosyth Dockyard, would i hope, offer employment to trades like Welders, Pipefitters, Slingers, Scaffolders, Electricians etc. Mossmorran has long been a polluted in our area, personally, I'll be glad to see it decommissioned and the site restored to it's natural state.
12	Mossmorran has been causing distress and disruption to Cowdenbeath for may years with the lack of clarity on exactly what was going on in the plant as well as the breaches of guidelines for flaring we have been subject to excessive noise and smoke from the plant. Im delighted that this is finally coming to an end.
13	What about the years of pollution emissions to our community.
14	The government should be subsidising or giving concessions on energy to industry employers who are hit with the windfall tax to remain viable as operators in the UK
15	I live in Lochgelly and there's a film of grit always on my windows from Mossmorran shut it down. It's far too big to be this close to villages.
16	The local community complained about the plant for years,now it's tears because it's closing,careful what you wish for! Shell site will be next as it doesn't have a steam plant and Wilby invest to build one ..been dusting Exxon's since day one.
17	Whatever happens to the site and the land it's on, the environment and the health and wellbeing of the residents of Cowdenbeath and neighbouring areas should be top priority. Turning it into a nature reserve would be a lovely idea, but maybe not feasible if the land is contaminated. Just please let's not replace one eyesore that has a negative affect on the climate and environment with another one just as bad. Take this opportunity to make the area greener and cleaner.
18	The impact of the closure by the multi-billion dollar profit making company, is going to be felt long and hard across our community. Every aspect of life will be affected, bus drivers, sandwich makers, petrol stations, courier companies, hospitality, shops, hairdressers, vets...etc etc etc. Assistance from the Scottish Government and Central Government is required to ensure the local skilled workforce isn't forced onto benefits, or into minimum wage employment.
19	Won't be used for ethylene production. New massive plant in Belgium will take care of that. Plant permits means exxon have to return the exxon site to grass on they leave
20	The industry is no longer viable, so let's not flog a dead horse, ask leading questions on an attempt to get the answer MYCowdenbeath want or raise false expectations.
21	The priory should be seeking to establish new industry in the area, including, potentially, at the site. Spending to create a green site is nonsense when the area needs new jobs.
22	With the loss at exxon More company's in life and the sourrounding area will fail and more will lose jobs
23	And cowdenbeath and local area will lose out on lots off money that was brought in by plant and workers
24	The local community will be hit hard , as they have no idea how money was distributed locally over the years . When the money stops they will notice a difference . For all the complaints about the place it has done no harm to anyone . Most complainers only want financial compensation . I think it's really poor and shortsighted that people have wanted it shut down
25	The plant has long passed its sell by date, the local people were lied to about the building of the plant but the councillors had plenty backhanders to help the company building it
26	The government should be going all to save the plant from closure, the impact this plant closure will have on local businesses will be huge and won't be long until small businesses take close due to this closure
27	The company should be encouraged to stay i have friends who are facing job losses
28	They only take on apprenticeships from life
29	This loss will be monumental.
30	Exxon site should be redeveloped as I'm sure something can be made out the current plant. Therefore sustaining jobs and local economy
31	Perhaps the people in the community who actively called for the plant to be closed will hold their hands up and explain their part in thus
32	I worked at Mossmorran It's extremely dated and a depressing place of work.
33	There are very few employees who work there now with very limited roles to play, some will say "very cushy" and it's crazy to keep it open.
34	The local economy will not suffer with this particular closure.
35	The people of Cowdenbeath have been asking for closure for years
36	It will matter not what I disclose as a answer it has already been discussed Im sure
37	Everyone in Cowdenbeath been complaining about site for years now closing down they want to save it people need to think about this most people employed there aren't from this area so won't be any great loss to Cowdenbeath apart from the community cheques that get handed out
38	It needs to close, it is unsafe. Give them a fair redundancy. I've been made redundant 3 times in my careers. These things happens, you move on.
39	Given the current climate emergency, creating a regenerative project of some kind seems to be a priority. Miyawaki woodlands have been shown to be superb ways to help land recover and increase biodiversity dramatically, producing woods with ancient woodland indicator species after only a few years. I'd strongly advocate for such a use of the site - with an emphasis on providing visitors with an educational experience and an opportunity to build nature connection. As a Forest School leader I can also foresee significant opportunities for things such as an outdoor nursery and forest school to be eventually created on the site.
40	As far as I'm concerned locals hated mossmorran before this was announced. Now they love it when it's closing?? It needs to close, it is unsafe. Give them a fair redundancy. I've been made redundant 3 times in my careers. These things happens, you move on.
41	It would be a fantastic sustainability opportunity to transform the decommissioned plant into a nature reserve or conservation space, similar to The Ecology Centre at Kinghorn Loch. Please no more flats!
42	We will look back on this if it does become green fields again, saying we used to make our own products here but now it's just something else we import. We have highly skilled workforce here right now it would be a disaster to lose it.
43	As a Cowdenbeath, residents I feel that our infrastructure is well and truly broken when you look at our once bountant High Street and shops. As the closure of Exxon Mobile at Mossmorran is imminent this is yet another blow to our community and to the business people that are striving to make a living and serve the general public. It is also making the general public travel to other towns, cities to do what shopping they require hence the local business's are losing out. As a community we must all pull together to put Cowdenbeath on the map and not a static!
44	we stayed in south street for 24 years as a lot of the older residents would confirm it was a nightmare up there when mossmorran was flaring the houses were shaking and the sulphur coming in the vents was terrible , at that time they said the cancer in the area was very high so we were ..are glad its shutting
45	we can someone please explain why Grangemouth has been given 125 million but Mossmorran gets nothing
46	Whilst the politicians meet and try to persuade ExxonMobil to keep flogging their dead horse, which they won't, I think they all need to turn their attentions to the positive possibilities for the future of the site. It's got a lot of strategic advantages, and with the right vision, it could become something far greater, the "Just Transition" to a green energy hub, creating far more jobs than it held previously.
47	Here's why: The Status Quo is Unworkable: The FEP's future is fixed. Continuing to focus on its short-term extension is a political dead-end. The Opportunity is Uniquely Scottish: Mossmorran is the only site in Scotland that can host this transition due to its existing infrastructure. The Policy Must Precede the Project: Do not wait for ExxonMobil to change their 100-year business model. Instead, implement the two policy changes (Energy Price Parity & Green Zone Status) required to make the project commercially irresistible to a dedicated Net Zero partner.
48	I don't think it's as black and white as this survey suggests. Everyone has to play a part - including the local community, some of whom want everyone else to do it - happy to reap the rewards but not too keen on doing any work. Easier to blame the council, government etc..
49	Mossmorran has been a huge presence in Cowdenbeath area for a number of years and since the safety improvements there have been no issues. They have supported local groups with many donations. The decision to close needs to be reviewed
50	These are very leading questions. People complain about the site when it's running and complain when it closes. If it's not financially viable then they should close it, simple.
51	The Cowdenbeath area has had this chemical plant in the area for 40 years. A spell with cleaner area and no orange sky will be welcome by many.