

**COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**

**MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Miss E Woodburn Leader; M Ashbrook; G Blackwell; G Clements; J Hewitson; N Williams; H Wormstrup

Apologies for absence: Councillors G Blackwell; A Holliday

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr J Stanforth, Chief Executive; T Chilcott, Corporate Director Quality of Life; F McMorrow, Corporate Director Economic Prosperity and Sustainability; S Borwick, Head of Finance and Business Development; M Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; M Tichford, Head of Regeneration; C Nicholson, Accountancy Services Manager; T Magean, Parks and Open Spaces Manager (Items 1-7); D James, Member Services Officer; L Taylor, Member Services (Technical Support) Officer

**START TIME: 4.00 PM    CLOSE TIME: 4.30PM**

**CERTIFICATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive of Copeland Borough Council dated 17 January 2006**

## Copeland Borough Council

### Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Executive Decisions	
Date of Decision: 17 January 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/0122	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: Decisions made at the previous meetings requiring formal approval

Key Decision Status: No

Decision  
**That the Statements of decisions made at the meeting held on the 6 December 2005 be agreed as a correct record**

Explanation  
  
N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 25 January 2006	Publication Date: 20 January 2006	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 January 2006	Contact Officers: Denise James
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**Copeland Borough Council**  
**Statement of Executive Decision**

Agenda Item: 5	
Subject: Forward Plan	
Date of Decision: 17 January 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/0123	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: To consider the forward plan of Key decisions January 2006 – April 2006

Key Decision Status: N/A

Decision

**That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions be noted**

Explanation

N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 25 January 2005	Publication Date: 20 January 2006	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 January 2005	Contact Officers: Denise James
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## Copeland Borough Council

### Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Draft General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital Programme And Council Tax 2006/07	
Date of Decision: 17 January 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/05/0124	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor E Woodburn

Context:

To recommend to Council the 2006/07 Revenue Budget and additions to the Capital Programme and to inform members of the estimated Council Tax to be levied for the financial year 2006/07.

During consideration of this item it was noted that alternative figures had been requested by the Budget Working Party, for the proposals for Off Street Car Parking – Fees and Charges, these had not been submitted to the Executive therefore Members asked that these figures be resubmitted prior to formal approval at Council in February.

Key Decision Status:

Financial - Yes  
Ward – Yes

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Decision

**That Council be recommended to approve that**

- 1) a. the base be increased budget from £8,827,925 to £9,536,529, including recurring bids of £995,189;
  - b. the non-recurring revenue bids of £913,088 as detailed in the report be approved;
  - c. the additions to the capital programme for 2006-07 of £640,180 as detailed in the report be approved;
  - d. the utilisation of resources as identified in paragraph 5, of the report, for the 2006-07 budget be approved;
  - e. with the omission of pages 32-34 Proposed Fees and Charges for Off Street Car Parking the proposed fees & charges as detailed in Appendix A be approved.
  - f. the approval of the Council tax base be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council; and
  - g. the setting of the Budget Requirement at £10,317,605 for 2006-07; and
- 2) further options/proposals for Proposed Fees and Charges for Off Street Car Parking be resubmitted prior to submission to Council for formal approval.

Explanation

A report was approved by Executive on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2005 outlining the budget strategy to be followed, the setting up of the Resource Steering Group and the Budget Working Party, and the consultation that would be undertaken for the setting of the budget 2006/07.

The Budget and Policy Framework approved in the constitution allows for a conflict mechanism if the Council does not agree with proposals by the Executive. Legislation requires that the Executive advise Council its budget recommendations prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> February. No figures have yet been received from the County Council or Police Authority, some parish precepts are outstanding and the Formula Grant settlement (revenue support grant from central government) is draft. Therefore at this stage, only the level of Council tax relating to Copeland can be recommended.

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Alternative Options Considered:

**That the Executive recommends to Council that:**

- 1) the base be increased budget from £8,827,925 to £9,536,529, including recurring bids of £995,189;**
- 2) the non-recurring revenue bids of £913,088 as detailed in the report be approved;**
- 3) the additions to the capital programme for 2006-07 of £640,180 as detailed in the report be approved;**
- 4) the utilisation of resources as identified in paragraph 5, of the report, for the 2006-07 budget be approved;**
- 5) the fees & charges shown in Appendix B be approved;**
- 6) the approval of the Council tax base be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council; and**
- 7) the setting of the Budget Requirement at £10,317,605 for 2006-07 be approved**

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date:  
25 January 2006

Publication Date:  
20 January 2006

Recorded by:  
D James

Call-in Period Expires on:  
25 January 2006

Contact Officers:  
S Borwick

**Copeland Borough Council**  
**Statement of Executive Decision**

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Change of Use for Reserve Budget	
Date of Decision: 17 January 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/05/0125	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report asks for Executive agreement that a balance in a reserve budget be used for another purpose.

During consideration of this item the Portfolio Holder reported that a further £2,500 may have been identified and asked the Head of Finance and Business Development to look at this, and if possible include this in the transfer.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision  
**That**

- a) the unused balance of £9,958 in the Clerical Trainee's trading account be added to the Council's Training Budget for 2005/06 and**
- b) subject to the Head of Finance and Business Development confirming the availability, the proposed £2,500 be added to the Council's Training Budget for 2005/06.**

Explanation  
The Council's clerical training scheme ceased on 1 June 2005 leaving an underspend in the trading account of £9,958. It is probable that some of the training proposals put forward will not be supported due to lack of funds in the Council's training and development budget. Therefore Members are asked to agree the transfer of unused reserve for additional training.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 25 January 2006	Publication Date: 20 January 2006	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 January 2006	Contact Officers: Denise James
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## Copeland Borough Council

### Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: World Heritage Site Inscription for the Lake District	
Date of Decision: 17 January 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/0126	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: This report outlines a proposal to seek World Heritage Status for the Lake District and asks Executive whether they wish to support the initiative.

During consideration of this item Members felt that a list of questions/issues were still outstanding and felt that further reports were necessary prior to any final decision being made

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

**That further reports be presented in due course on the outcomes of discussions, and if appropriate on the draft proposals**

Explanation

For some years now various bodies within the Lake District National Park have been looking at the possibility of obtaining World Heritage Site Status from UNESCO. The Lake District Proposal is for inscription as a "cultural landscape".

The likely cost of preparing a bid is estimated to be between £300k and £350k. A meeting of interested parties took place on 14 October attended by the Chief Executive. Whilst there was support for the proposal there was also scepticism about the benefits that inscription would bring, and concerns were raised about potential planning implications.

A consultants report funded by NWDA casts doubt on the economic benefits of WHS Inscription.

This report asks Members to consider the way forward.



Alternative Options Considered:

1. Whether or not to support the initiative to obtain WHS Inscription for the Lake District in the light of the information available at the present time and
2. to agree that further reports be presented on the outcomes of discussions, and if appropriate on the draft proposals.

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date:  
25 January 2006

Publication Date:  
20 January 2006

Recorded by:  
Denise James

Call-in Period Expires on:  
25 January 2006

Contact Officers:  
Denise James