

CONSULTATION – WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr Norman Williams
LEAD OFFICER: Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Martin Jepson
REPORT AUTHOR: Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Martin Jepson

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| Summary | This report advises Members of the results of consultation on a Whitehaven Town Council. |
| Recommendation: | That the Working Party decides on a recommendation to Council. |

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A draft consultation period began on 26th June 2008, with a notice in the Whitehaven News inviting comments on whether to have a Whitehaven Town Council.
- 1.2 The Consultation included:-
- a) Writing to all Councillors;
 - b) Press releases;
 - c) A notice board in the Copeland Centre and Whitehaven Library inviting the public to take and return questionnaires;
 - d) Questionnaires delivered to all Post Offices;
 - e) A full page item in the most recent “Copeland Matters”;
 - f) A Team Talk item for staff;
 - g) An item on the Home page of the Council’s web-site with all relevant articles/notices including the questionnaire available for completion.
- 1.3 Despite inviting Members to ask for public meetings in their areas only Millom requested such a meeting. That meeting, which took place on August 6th was well attended and produced a very useful and worthwhile debate.
- 1.4 The number of formal written responses to the consultation was disappointing, with only in the region of 75 responses (depending on how some joint responses were calculated) with some in favour, some against and some making general points.

2 FURTHER CONSULTATION

- 2.1 In view of the relatively small response a further extended period of consultation was agreed with commercial organisations and the results will be reported verbally.

List of Appendices – None

List of Background Documents **Feedback responses**

List of Consultees: **Chief Executive, Acting Head of Finance**