

Emergency Planning Partnership

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Geoff Blackwell
LEAD OFFICER: Dr John Stanforth
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Summary: This report is to confirm Copeland BCs support for a Partnership Agreement for Local Authority Emergency Planning across Cumbria.

Recommendation: It is recommended that members approve the contribution to the Partnership of £16,672 for 2005/06, this being 85% of the sum allocated to Copeland in the FSS settlement for this financial year.

This sum to be allocated from Contingencies. The balance on Contingencies prior to any reports on this agenda being approved is £161,576.

Impact on delivering Copeland 2020 objectives: None directly from this report.

Impact on other statutory objectives (e.g. crime & disorder, LA21): Copeland BC is designated Category 1 responder organisation under the Civil Contingencies Act (CCA).

Financial and human resource implications: Annual budget commitment to the partnership is required, at 85% of the amount allocated under FSS allocations.

Project & Risk Management:

Key Decision Status

- **Financial:** None
- **Ward:** None

Other Ward Implications: None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Under the Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) Copeland BC now has a responsibility to co-operate in emergency planning arrangements.
- 1.2 An amount was included in the Formula Spending Share (FSS) allocation for 2005/06, but at the time of the budget setting for 2005/06, this amount was unknown, and so a budget bid was unable to be submitted.

2. CUMBRIA WIDE PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1 As all the authorities in Cumbria have a responsibility to co-operate in emergency planning arrangements, a partnership has been formed to ensure that a joint service can be provided across Cumbria.
- 2.2 To date, Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle, Cumbria, Eden and South Lakeland Councils have all signed up to the Partnership. A Partnership Agreement has been drafted and is included at Appendix A.
- 2.2 This agreement seeks to harmonise the Local Authorities' response and co-ordination with all other Category 1 and Category 2 organisations. The Agreement further aims to provide consistent wide coverage and a cost effective means of delivering the service.

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 Joint funding arrangements have been agreed to finance the appointment of two additional Emergency Planning Officers and to fund their emergency planning activities delivered directly to and for the District Councils.
- 3.2 Contributions to these arrangements have been agreed at 85% of the sums allocated to District Councils in the FSS settlement for 2005/06 financial year. For Copeland BC this equates to 85% of £19,614, ie a contribution of £16,672 is required. The partnership will initially run until March 2008, and therefore Budget Bids will be required for the following two financial years. These will be presented to Budget Working Party in due course.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that Members fully support the proposals for a joint Emergency Planning agreement, across all the Cumbrian authorities, and that the £16,672 for this year's contribution is financed from Contingencies.

List of Appendices: Appendix A – Partnership Agreement for Local Authority Emergency Planning in Cumbriae fraud case management system

Officers Consulted: Cllr.G Blackwell, Cllr. E Woodburn, Chief Executive, Head of Finance & Business Development, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Accountancy Services Manager,

