

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

MEETING HELD ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Ms E Woodburn, Chairman; G Clements, G Blackwell; J Bowman; H Branney; C Giel; A Holliday and N Williams

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: F McMorrow Acting Chief Executive; K Parker, Acting Corporate Director, Quality of Life; J Salt, Head of Customer Services; J Crellin, Head of Finance and MIS; J C Betteridge, Head of Development Strategy; P Graham, Head of Development Operations; C Coombs Acting Head of Leisure and Environmental Services; H Mitchell, Head of Policy and Performance; M Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; D Bechelli, Flood & Coastal Defence Engineer; T Capper, Democratic Services Manager

START TIME: 2.00PM

CLOSE TIME: 3.05PM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive of Copeland Borough Council dated 22 September 2009

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Decision	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0043	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context:
To consider the statement of decisions made at the meeting held on 25 August 2009

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
That the statements of decisions made on 25 August 2009 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Explanation
N/A

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: M Jepson
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 3	
Subject: Declarations of Interest	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0044	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context:
To note declaration of interests

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
There were no declarations of Interest

Explanation
N/A

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: N/A

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: N/A
--	--------------------------

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Forward Plan September – December 2009	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0045	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context:

To consider the forward plan of Key decision to be made by the Executive September – December 2009

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions September – December 2009 as amended be noted.

Explanation

N/A

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: M Jepson
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Albion Square Stage 1 – Design Consultancy	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0046	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context:

To advise Members on progress of this key regeneration project and continue the progress and development of the project with additional funding

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That a) £52,000 be committed and earmarked from Capital Receipts Reserves to fund the development of the Albion Square project to complete Stage 1 resulting in a detailed design and planning application; and

b) the Capital Programme 2009/10 be revised to reflect this increase in approvals

Explanation

In June 2009 the Council committed to the Albion Square project. To date the Council has matched funding from West Lakes Renaissance of £155,000.

Following an extensive process of 155 Expressions of Interest, 35 Pre Qualification Questionnaires and a short list of 7 top national design consortia, the project group have appointed RMJM to develop the design of the scheme. In a parallel process Eversheds have been appointed to undertake the site assembly process.

The work already undertaken by RMJM together with the letting of the CPO contract has been met by the previously approved project budget for phase 1 of this Stage 1 development.

This report seeks approval to allocate funding to complete stage 1.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: J Betteridge	

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: Looking After Our Town Centres	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0047	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:

Executive is advised of plans to allocate Copeland's funding from DCLG aimed at improving our town centres

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

Executive is asked to

a) approve the outline action plan to allocate the funding

b) approve delegation of detail decision making on the programme to Julie Betteridge (Head of Development Strategy) in consultation with Cllr C Giel (Development Strategy Portfolio holder) with regard detail spend within each town

Explanation

In August the Government announced a £3million funding package to help town centres through the recession.

Copeland is one of the successful Local Authorities to have been awarded funding and has been allocated £52,632 to fund creative ways to use its empty shops and re-open them as facilities for communities.

This report advises of plans to allocate Copeland's funding.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: J Betteridge
--	-----------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9	
Subject: Remote Working	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0048	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor J Bowman

Context:

The report seeks the agreement of the Executive to a new policy which sets the Council's framework for the introduction and operation of various forms of remote working

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the draft Remote Working policy be approved and become effective as soon as possible.

Explanation

Since 2005/6 the Council has set up several pilots to trial remote working, which include :

Executive last considered Remote Working on 24 October 2006. It is now considered important to regularise the framework that the Council has in place for remote working, so that it can be used as a normal part of work management arrangements when needed. The requirement to meet Government Direct Code of Connection (Coco) by 30 September 2009 is an additional driver to ensure that remote connections to the Council's network comply with national standards. Remote working is now considered to be an important component of the Council's business continuity arrangements. A Council policy for this will safeguard the Council's operations.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date:
2 October 2009

Publication Date:
25 September 2009

Recorded by:
T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on:
2 October 2009

Contact Officers:
H Mitchell

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item:10	
Subject: Copeland Future Jobs Initiative	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0049	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:
To consider a report on developing the Copeland Futures Jobs Initiative

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
Executive are requested to:

- a) note the progress on developing the initiative;**
- b) agree in principle that the Council will be the employer for the Copeland Future Jobs Fund Initiative; and,**
- c) note that a detailed report on the initiative, including resourcing, will be brought back to Executive by November 2009**

Explanation

Copeland Borough Council successfully applied to the Future Jobs Fund for an initiative to create 48 additional jobs targeted at long term unemployed young people across Copeland. We are working in partnership with a range of partners supporting and enabling workless people into job and training opportunities, including Job Centre Plus.

The Copeland Future Jobs Fund Initiative is looking at engaging 30 employers to provide the 48 one year jobs. We are expecting 40 of the 48 ie 83% to be under 25 years of age and 12% to be on incapacity benefit rather than a long term claimant. We have set a target for all the Future Job Fund employees to receive vocational training whilst in this employment with at least half getting accredited qualifications as a result. We anticipate 15 of the employees will require basic skills training and at least a quarter of the individuals will require intense support prior to starting their employment.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: J Betteridge
--	-----------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11	
Subject: Write Offs Approved by Corporate Team	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0050	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor E Woodburn

Context:
To note the writing off of debts.

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
That the writing off of debts totaling £186,294.60 be noted

Explanation
Under the Council's Financial Regulations all write offs must be submitted by the Service Manager to their Head of Service for counter signing before being considered by Corporate Team.
Once approved by Corporate Team a summary must be reported to Executive, this report is that summary

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: P Graham
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Partnership Development and Asset Management	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0051	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context:

This report advises of potential improvements in shared services through a partnership with Her Majesty's Revenue Commissioners (HMRC) to provide their 'Face to Face' services within the Copeland Centre for a period of three years. Some income will be generated but the Council will not incur any costs.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That Council be recommended to approve in principle :- that

a) a lease to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (or body designated by such for holding property for their functions) of part of the Copeland Centre be granted; and

(b) the completion of any ancillary documentation necessary to facilitate such lease; and in both cases the approval of the detailed terms of such documentation be delegated to the Head of Development Operations in consultation with the Head of Finance and Management Information Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Explanation

As a result of national changes to governance Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs has approached Copeland Borough Council to explore the opportunity for provision of space at the Copeland Centre for provision of services within the town and Borough.

A positive response from the Council demonstrate a willingness to contribute to provision of joined up services and officers would wish to make every effort to assist so long as this does not prejudice Council services. The proposals have been taken to Corporate Team where a positive response was received.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: P Graham
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 13	
Subject: Copeland Regeneration Plan	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0052	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That

- a) the revised spend profile for the Working Neighbourhood Fund be noted; and**
- b) the revised spend profile be extended into 2011/12 to enable planned resources to deliver key actions in the Copeland Regeneration Plan be agreed.**

Explanation

In August, 2008, the Executive approved a three year spend profile, 2008-11, for the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) to enable a range of regeneration activities. The past year has seen the development and delivery of the Copeland Regeneration Plan.

Current (WNF) commissioning will enable over 120 jobs, train and support X local people and assist Y small business start ups through supporting over ten regeneration activities over the next 3 years

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date:
2 October 2009

Publication Date:
25 September 2009

Recorded by:
T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on:
2 October 2009

Contact Officers:
J Betteridge

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 14	
Subject: Wise – Enterprise Coaches Delivery in Copeland	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0053	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:

This report highlights the continuation of the successful WISE initiative in West Cumbria and an opportunity for the Council as a key partner to assist in the local recruitment of Copeland project workers

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That

a) the Council take on the employer role for the three Copeland project staff on fixed term contracts in line with the available funding; and

b) the final decision be delegated to the Head of Development Strategy and Human Resources Manager in consultation with the two Portfolio-Holders, Cllr Cath Giel and Cllr John Bowman

Explanation

The WISE (Ways into Self Employment) project has been very successful over its first three years of operation working with 528 residents in Copeland. A package of funding including £60,000 LABGI resources from Copeland Borough Council enabled the delivery until March 2009. Allerdale Borough Council agreed to take the lead partner role including employing and managing the four project staff across West Cumbria..

The WISE project is continuing for a further three years, 2009-12, to provide an extended service of enterprise coaches within the communities within the boroughs of Copeland and Allerdale. This project will be delivering alongside and referring local residents to the intensive business start up contractors under the national Business Support Simplification Programme.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: Councillor C Giel	

Copeland Borough Council
Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 15	
Subject: Shoreline Management Plan	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0054	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Holliday

Context:

This report is to advise Members of the review of the Shoreline Management Plan and the imminent public consultation stage

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That process to date and support the public consultation process outlined in the report be noted

Explanation

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a high level strategic document for management of the coastline. Although it is non statutory, it is necessary to support the application for grant aid from the Environment Agency for coastal defense schemes. As a strategic planning document it ties in with the Local Development Framework with both documents taking account of each other.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: C Coombs
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 16	
Subject: Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme – Grant of a Lease at Seascale	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0055	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor H Branney

Context:

To advise Members of action taken under the Executive's urgent business procedure in respect of an amendment to a lease previously granted to Seascale Parish Council for the purposes of the Seascale Wheeled Activity/BMX project

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the urgent action, as an Appendix to the report, in respect of the Seascale Wheeled Activity/BMX project, is noted

Explanation

In accordance with Councils reporting procedures for Urgent Actions.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009
--

Contact Officers:

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item:	
Subject: Exclusion of Press and Public	
Date of Decision: 22 September 2009	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0056	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder:

Context:
Excludes Press and Public from Meetings for Agenda Item 17

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining items of business on the grounds of exempt information as identified in paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

Explanation
N/A

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: M Jepson
--	-------------------------------

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 17	
Subject: Bank Guarantee for Whitehaven Rugby League Football Club Ltd	
Date of Decision:	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/09/0057	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context:

To consider a request to extend the Council's agreement to underwrite a bank overdraft facility for a further period of 6 months

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision

That the request to extend the underwriting of the bank overdraft facility for a further 6 months to the end of March 2010 be approved

Explanation

To continue to support the Pow Beck Valley Sports Village project.

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 October 2009	Publication Date: 25 September 2009	Recorded by: T Capper
--	--	--------------------------

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 October 2009	Contact Officers: F McMorrow
--	---------------------------------