

## **Consultation Plan for South Whitehaven Draft SPD and West Whitehaven Issues and Options**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Councillor George Clements

**LEAD OFFICER:** John Groves

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Louise Kirkup

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To consider the following:

1. Joint Consultation Plan for South Whitehaven Draft SPD and West Whitehaven SPD Issues and Options

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the items reported on below are noted and approved as required.

### **1. JOINT CONSULTATION PLAN FOR SOUTH WHITEHAVEN DRAFT SPD AND WEST WHITEHAVEN SPD ISSUES AND OPTIONS DOCUMENT**

- 1.1 This should be considered alongside Items 6 and 7 as it gives details about how we intend to consult with the public on the South Whitehaven Draft SPD and the West Whitehaven Issues and Options document. It is proposed to consult on both documents during the 6 week period from 12<sup>th</sup> November to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2012, and for this reason, and the fact that the SPDs are being produced for neighbouring areas which share many planning objectives, it is proposed to “twin track” the two consultation processes.

- 1.2 The brief summary in Appendix Item 1 outlines the work done to date and the proposed techniques and groups to be consulted during the consultation for both planning documents. This meets, and with the consultation to date will exceed, the minimum requirements that are outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement. We would welcome feedback from Members regarding the proposed activities and groups and in particular whether Members consider it would be beneficial to hold a consultation event for Borough and County Councillors.
- 1.3 Members are asked to consider and approve the Consultation Plan subject to any amendments agreed at the meeting.

### **List of Appendices**

Item 1: Joint Consultation Plan for South Whitehaven Draft SPD and West Whitehaven SPD Issues and Options Document

**South Whitehaven SPD and West Whitehaven SPD**

**Joint Consultation Plan**

The Borough Council is committed to thorough and meaningful public consultation as an integral part of the local planning process. The following Report provides Members of the LDF Working Party with an overview of consultation activities to date for the South Whitehaven and West Whitehaven SPDs, schedule of consultation activities for the next stages of production for the two documents, groups to be consulted and next stages of production. Comments on the activities set out in this report are welcomed.

**1. Consultation to date**

**South Whitehaven SPD**

A Drop-In Event was held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012 at St Peters Community Hall which was open to the general public. A consultation session was also held with Young Cumbria who are based in St Peters Community Centre. There have also been on-going discussions between Cumbria County Council and Home Group regarding possible developer contributions. Wherever appropriate the suggestions and comments received have been built into the Draft SPD.

**West Whitehaven SPD**

A public drop in event was held at St Peters Community Centre on Woodhouse on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012 for local residents, community organisations and Borough and County Councillors. In addition, a Stakeholder discussion meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> September for local landowners and those with an interest in land within or adjoining the West Whitehaven SPD area. Wherever appropriate the suggestions and comments received have been built into the Issues and Options document.

**2. Schedule of Proposed Consultation Activities November – December 2012**

A schedule of activities is drafted below for the next round of consultation for the Draft South Whitehaven SPD and West Whitehaven Issues and Options SPD.

	South Whitehaven SPD	West Whitehaven SPD
On-going	Website – our website will be used at all stages of production	
Nov 2012	Press Release issued with details of Public Open events to raise awareness	
<b>6 WEEK JOINT CONSULTATION 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER TO 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2012</b>		
Nov/Dec 2012	Public Open Events at Kells Library and St Peters Community Hall (see below for further details)	
Nov/Dec 2012	Borough and County Councillors workshop.	

Nov/Dec 2012	Youth Engagement working with Young Cumbria (based in St Peters) through Emma Dickinson, Youth Engagement Officer
Nov/Dec 2012	School Projects through Emma Dickinson, Youth Engagement Officer
Nov/Dec 2012	Attendance at meetings, i.e. Copeland Disability Forum Access Working Group, Whitehaven Locality
Nov/Dec	Copies of the Documents, response forms and background documents will be available to view in all public libraries in Copeland, the Copeland Centre, Tourist Information Centre and The Beacon.
Nov/Dec 2012	Letter to stakeholders to notify them of consultation

### Open Events

It is proposed to hold Open Events for the public at two locations in the Kells and Woodhouse estates. The two venues chosen are St Peters Community Hall and Kells Library. The St Peters event will be held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012 from 10.30am to 6.30pm and the Kells Library event on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December between 2.15pm and 5pm (normal library opening hours). It is hoped that by providing the two events at different venues on varying days/times we will maximise the opportunities for the public to attend.

In addition to providing display material, we hope to produce a flyer to distribute at the Open Events.

### Promotion of Open Events

We will use the press, newsletters, website and social media to promote the Open Events as follows:

- We will use the Copeland Borough Council website to promote the Open Events, the documents will also be available to download on our website.
- A Press Release will be sent to Whitehaven News via our Communications Team.
- An article will be placed in Dispatches (Copeland BC produced newsletter to Town and Parish Councils and other local stakeholders) and The Word (Copeland Council's staff newsletter).
- We will also utilise social media to promote the Open Events through the Council's Facebook page and Twitter account.

### Posters

Posters will be produced to promote the drop in event and will be placed in the following locations:

- Kells library
- Community Centres in the area
- Churches: St Marys, St Peters, Woodbank Evangelical Church (Greenbank)
- Local Schools: St Mary's RC, Kells Infants, Monkgray Junior
- Shops/Businesses in the area
- Pharmacy on High Road
- Pubs/Clubs on the estates: Kells Royal British Legion, The Stump (High Road, Kells), The Lion (Greenbank)

## Borough and County Councillor Workshop

LDF Working Party Members are asked to consider if it would be beneficial to hold a consultation event for Borough and County Councillors in addition to the Open Events.

### Deposit Locations

Copies of the South Whitehaven Draft Supplementary Planning Document, West Whitehaven Issues and Options, response forms and background documents will be available in all public libraries in Copeland, The Copeland Centre, Whitehaven Tourist information Centre and The Beacon.

### **3. Groups to be consulted**

We will endeavour to engage all sectors of the Community. It is proposed to consult with the following groups (feedback from Members of the LDF Working Party welcome):

- All Copeland Borough Councillors
- Cumbria County Councillors in Whitehaven
- Council Departments
- Home Group
- Home Group tenants through their communication channels (if any)
- Colourful Coast Partners – RSPB, National Trust, Land Trust
- Sport England
- Churches in the Area: St Marys, St Peters, Woodbank Evangelical Church (Greenbank)
- St. Mary's RC School
- Kells Infants School
- Monkway Junior School
- Young Cumbria
- NPL
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust
- Cumbria Disability Forum

### **3. Next Stages**

The table below summarises the next stages of the production process.

	South Whitehaven SPD	West Whitehaven SPD
January 2013	Consideration, review and amendment	Consideration, review and amendment
February 2013		Take Draft SPD to LDF working Party for approval for consultation
February / March 2013		Consideration, review and amendment
Spring 2013	Take SPD to LDF Working Party	Take SPD to LDF Working Party
Spring 2013	Adoption	Adoption

#### **4. Feedback**

We would welcome feedback from Members regarding the proposed activities and groups to be consulted and in particular whether Members consider it would be beneficial to hold a consultation event for Borough and County Councillors.