Business Growth Initiative 2006/07

Proposed Allocation of Funding - £ 160 K

1. Joint Enterprise Development Programme with Allerdale BC £60K

Total funding package of £ 240 K, including £ 60K from Allerdale, £ 60K from ERDF and £ 60K from NWDA. Outputs are being drawn up for this programme, the outputs will reflect the level of funding from partners, although geographical areas will differ across borough boundaries.

2. Partnership project with St Martin's College (University of Cumbria) £15K

Work in partnership with the established Business Community Enterprise Unit of St Martins College to encourage employment of under-graduates and graduates within Copeland businesses through the provision of grant support (output - 20 Companies supported).

3. Whitehaven Town Centre Programme - £ 55K

In order to compete in the competitive retail market Whitehaven Town Centre will need to undergo dramatic changes. This funding will be used to implement recommendations from recently completed studies. Key suggestions include:

Capital Costs for Public Realm Programme linked to proposals within Sea Change Study (also eligible for 50% matched funding)

Develop new opportunities for retail for Whitehaven using vacant/ new proposed units (additional matched funding to be sourced).

4. Business Development Initiatives-Egremont, Cleator Moor and Millom £30K

Projects to be worked up with Business Networks in each town, to meet local business needs. £10K allocated to each Town.