

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Ms E Woodburn; M Ashbrook; G Blackwell; G Clements; C Giel; A Holliday; H Wormstrup

An Apology for Absence was received from Councillor N Williams

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: L Murphy, Chief Executive; T Chilcott, Corporate Director (Quality of Life); S Borwick, Head of Finance and Business Development; M Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; H Mitchell, Head of Policy and Performance; M Tichford, Head of Regeneration; B Kirkbride, Community Renewal Manager; K Corby, Revenues and Benefits Service Manager; D James, Member Services Officer

START TIME: 2.00 PM CLOSE TIME: 3.40PM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive of Copeland Borough Council dated 13 June 2006

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Executive Decisions	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0017	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: Decisions made at the previous meeting requiring formal approval
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Key Decision Status: No

Decision That the Statements of decisions made at the meeting held on 23 May 2006 be agreed as a correct record.
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Explanation N/A

Alternative Options Considered: N/A

Interests Declared: N/A

Implementation Date: N/A	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: D James
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 3	
Subject: Arrangement of the Agenda	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0018	

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context: The Chairman informed Members that she would be declaring a prejudicial interest in agenda item 14 and would be leaving the meeting, and therefore it would be beneficial to consider this item last on the Agenda.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision That Agenda item 14 be considered last on the Agenda.

Explanation The Chairman informed Members that she would be declaring a prejudicial interest in agenda item 14 and would be leaving the meeting, and therefore it would be beneficial to consider this item last on the Agenda.
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Alternative Options Considered: To consider the Agenda as it stood.

Interests Declared: N/A

Implementation Date: N/A	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: D James
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Local Area Committee	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/019	

Portfolio Holder: Ms E Woodburn

Context:

This report seeks agreement of the Executive to participating in the arrangements for developing a Local Area Agreement in Cumbria. During consideration of this item it was confirmed that political input was done through the LSP and CSP

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That a) interest in developing a Local Area Agreement for Cumbria to commence in April 2007 be confirmed, along with the wish to be included in future consultation on the proposals for Cumbria; and

b) the possible contents of the LAA as appended to the report be noted; and

c) nominations to the group be subject to a further report to the Executive.

Explanation

A local area agreement is a three year agreement, based on local sustainable communities strategies, that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between Central Government, represented by Government Office, and a local area, represented by the lead local authority (here Cumbria County Council) and other key partners through local strategic partnerships (here Cumbria Strategic Partnership).

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: H Mitchell
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Cumbria Local Area Agreement – Economic Development Block	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0020	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:

This report outlines the work completed to date by the working group set up to develop the Economic Development Block of the Cumbria Local Area Agreement

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the signing up to the Economic Development Block of the Cumbria Local Area Agreement be supported.

Explanation

There are many organisations in Cumbria that are working to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors in the county. A Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a statement of priorities for these organisations to ensure that resources are aligned to help us best address the challenges we face. This report seeks support to sign up to the agreement.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 13 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Tichford
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: Cumbria Local Agreement – Economic Development Block	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0021	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor C Giel

Context:

This report provides details of the Local Authority Business Growth Incentives Scheme and proposes a range of initiatives to utilise the funding which would benefit the Copeland economy

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the draft programme be approved, subject to further details being provided at the August meeting of The Executive.

Explanation

The scheme allows local authorities to retain a share of increased business rates revenue generated in their area. By creating a direct financial incentive for local authorities to encourage business growth in their locality, LABGI provides the opportunity for local government and business to work together to deliver economic success and prosperity to their local community.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on:
22 June 2006

Contact Officers:
M Tichford

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9	
Subject: Western Lake District Tourism Partnership – Final Balance	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0022	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: This report outlines recommendations for the remaining balance from Accountable Body Status for Western Lake District Tourism Partnership.
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Key Decision Status: No

Decision That the remaining balance of £2300 be transferred to Cumbria Tourist Board, accountable body for Western Lake District Tourism Partnership to be spent on additional identified opportunities.
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Explanation Copeland Borough Council's Accountable Body status for The Western Lake District Tourism Partnership came to an end on 31st March 2006. All final agreed bills have been paid and all final debtor income has been received. There is a balance of £9200.17 in Western Lake District Tourism Partnership account held by Copeland Borough Council. This report sets out proposals for its expenditure.

Alternative Options Considered: N/A
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Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: T Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 10	
Subject: Small Business Friendly Concordat	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/023	

Portfolio Holders: Councillor C Giel

Context:

The Small Business Friendly Concordat is part of the ODPM 5 Year Plan, which states how Government, working with local authorities, will help improve their quality of life and create communities they feel proud of.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the recommendation to sign up to the Small Business Friendly Concordat be agreed.

Explanation

The Small Business Friendly Concordat (SBFC) is a voluntary, non-statutory code of practice. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), the Local Government Association (LGA) and the Small Business Service (SBS) have strongly encouraged all local authorities in England to sign up to the Concordat. The National Procurement Strategy of Local Government (October 2003) set a target for all local authorities to have adopted the Concordat within 3 years.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Tichford
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11	
Subject: Best Value Performance Plan	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/024	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context:

Presents the council's draft Corporate Plan / Best Value Performance Plan for 2005/07 for consideration and recommendation to Council. As the Corporate Plan has recently been to Executive, Members are asked to note pages 4 – 7, Appendix B and Appendix C as these sections make up the Best Value Performance Plan

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That subject to comments made by Members Council be recommended to approve the plan.

Explanation

The attached corporate plan/best value performance plan sets out Copeland's medium term priorities and targets, and describes the actions we will take to achieve them. It also reports on past performance against the 2005/06 Best Value Performance Plan.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Tichford
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Neighbourhood Renewal Proposals	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0025	

Portfolio Holder: Councillors G Clements & A Holliday

Context:

To present to Members the Neighbourhood Renewal Proposals for South Whitehaven and Hensingham and to seek endorsement to advertise for a dedicated Manager.

During consideration of this item Members asked what criteria was used for the inclusions of the areas

Key Decision Status:

Financial – Yes
Ward - Yes

Decision

That a) approval of the draft delivery plan outlining the implementation of Neighbourhood Management in the wards of Sandwith, Mirehouse and Hensingham be deferred for further clarification on the criteria used for wards being included; and

b) approval be given for the appointment of a Neighbourhood Manager as detailed in the report.

Explanation

The Government Office for the North West announced in 2005 that Copeland would be eligible for elements of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding this was subsequently confirmed in an offer letter dated 21st July 2006. Copeland has been allocated resources from the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund specifically the Neighbourhood Element £1,599,600 and the Cleaner Safer Greener Element £2,100,000. The allocation of these resources has been on the basis of Sandwith Ward being in the top 3% of the Index of Multiple Deprivation and therefore it is expected that the significant resources would ultimately have greatest benefit to this area although it is recognised by Government Office that a wider geographical area would be more pragmatic to administer which is why the proposals include surrounding communities in South Whitehaven.

Alternative Options Considered:

As per recommendations that Members agree the following:

To approve the draft delivery plan outlining the implementation of Neighbourhood Management in the wards of Sandwith, Mirehouse and Hensingham and
To appoint a Neighbourhood Manager as detailed in the job profile detailed in Appendix 1.

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 13 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: D James
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 13	
Subject: Whitehaven Regeneration Programme – Coastal Fringe	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0026	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor m Ashbrook

Context:

To inform Members of progress of the Coastal Fringe scheme and to seek Council support to the Commissioning of a Conservation Management Plan for the Former Haig Colliery Site.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That

- a) **progress on the development of the Coastal Fringe Investment Programme be noted: and**
- b) **a contribution of towards the production of a Conservation Management Plan to a maximum value of £30,000**

Explanation

A report was presented to the Executive on the 14th March 2006 detailing the concept of the Coastal Fringe project as part of the wider Whitehaven Regeneration Programme. This report presents an update on the current progress and key milestones achieved in developing the programme

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Tichford
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 15	
Subject: Childrens And Young Peoples Board – Framework Document	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0027	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report asks Members to confirm whether they approve of the overarching Framework Document for the Children and Young Peoples Board as prepared by Cumbria County Council

Key Decision Status: No

Decision That Council be recommended to approve the Framework Document for the Children and Young Peoples Board relating to Information Sharing as supplied by Cumbria County Council.
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Explanation The relevant unit in the County Council has prepared an information sharing “toolkit” including an overarching framework document to the Children and Young Peoples Board (a statutory board set up through the County Council) with the intention that each partner organisation represented on the board (and this will include each District Council) will be asked to sign up to a framework document. The objective is to enable information to be shared between the various stakeholders in the Safe Guarding Children’s Agenda, subject to any overriding statutory or other constraints, which may apply to exchanging data.

Alternative Options Considered: None
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Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Jepson
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 16	
Subject: Benefits Staffing	
Date of Decision: 13 June 2006	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/06/0028	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context:
To seek approval to retain additional subsidy to fund two Revenues and Benefits Technical Officers

Key Decision Status:
No

Decision
Approval be given to retain Housing and Council Tax Benefits subsidy to fund the additional posts; subject to the approval, via an urgent action by the Chair of Personnel Panel, to increase the number of FTE's employed in Revenues and Benefits Services (RBS).

Explanation
The Benefits section for a long period of time, for many reasons, has been flagging which has meant that the service has never performed to the level expected by DWP and ourselves. Due to these issues the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate (BFI) made a number of recommendations following their visit in November 2004. This report seeks approval to retain Housing and Council Tax Benefits subsidy to fund the additional posts to increase performance.

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: J Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 14	
Subject: Market Town Initiative – Millom and Haverigg; Egremont Performance Plans 2006/07	
Date of Decision: 25 April 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/00/0029	

Portfolio Holder:

Context: To inform Members of the approved Market Town Initiative Performance Plans 2006-7 for: Egremont, Millom and Haverigg
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Key Decision Status: No

Decision That a) the achievements of the 2005-6 Performance Plans be noted; b) the content of the 2006-7 Performance Plans be noted; c) the bank-rolling of the Tourism Officer and Tourism Action Plan project for Millom and Haverigg be approved in retrospect; and d) the draft agreement to be entered into with local partnerships be approved.

Explanation To inform Members of the approved Market Town Initiative Performance Plans 2006-7 for, Egremont, Millom and Haverigg

Alternative Options Considered: None
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Interests Declared: Councillor Ms E Woodburn declared a prejudicial interest in this item and left the meeting during its consideration.
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Implementation Date: 22 June 2006	Publication Date: 16 June 2006	Recorded by: D James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 22 June 2006	Contact Officers: M Tichford
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