

Overview and Scrutiny Economic Development and Enterprise Committee
13 August 2007
Item 5

Small Business Advice

LEAD OFFICER: Neil White, Scrutiny Support Officer
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Recommendation: that the presentation by the West Cumbria Development Agency be received and considered.

Background

The Committee at its last meeting in looking at its work plan considered the question of the links provided to small business and agreed that Rosie Mathisen from the Business Cluster Group be invited to update the committee on the latest information given to small business in the borough.

West Cumbria Development Agency

West Cumbria Development Agency (WCDA) was established in 1988 to help regenerate the local economy. Its central aim is to help create jobs in the Boroughs of Allerdale and Copeland. This job creation is achieved by helping new businesses start and grow, by assisting local companies to expand and by facilitating inward investment into the area.

WCDA is a local organisation, sponsored by the local, private and public sectors to carry out its mission.

WCDA Chief Executive Godfrey Holden will be coming along to the meeting to give a presentation on the work of the WCDA. He has been asked to give the Committee an introduction to what advice is available to help get small businesses started up and keep going. This could include how the agency guides new businesses, what finances are available, the links to the Council, the levers for successful economic development and how Copeland performs particularly against our neighbours.

List of Appendices

None

List of Background Documents:

None