

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Miss E Woodburn, Leader; M Ashbrook; G Blackwell; G Clements; J Hewitson; A Holliday; N Williams; H Wormstrup

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr J Stanforth, Chief Executive; T Chilcott, Corporate Director Quality of Life; F McMorrow, Corporate Director, Economic Prosperity & Sustainability; S Borwick, Head of Finance and Business Development; M Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; H Mitchell, Head of Policy & Performance; J Salt, Head of Customer Services; M Tichford, Head of Regeneration (Items 1-22) T Capper, Democratic Services Manager; C A Lloyd, Business Development Manager (Items 1-10); T Magean, Parks & Open Spaces Manager; C A Ponting, Policy & Performance Officer (Items 1-13); I Curwen Communications Officer (Items 1-13); T Millar, South Whitehaven Partnership (Items 1-8); Sherrie Lewthwaite, Regeneration Projects Officer (Item 9); M Toomey, Land Charges Officer (Item 27).

Note: Before the commencement of the business all present stood in memory of the late former Councillors Ann Bennett, John Henney, Jimmy Johnston and Jack Roberts.

START TIME: 2.00 PM CLOSE TIME: 4.40 PM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive of Copeland Borough Council dated 21 February 2006

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Executive Decisions	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/143	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

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

Decision
That the Statements of decisions made at the meeting held on the 2 February 2006 be agreed as a correct record.

Explanation
N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March	Contact Officer; T Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 5	
Subject: Forward Plan	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/145	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: To consider the forward plan of key decisions for February-May 2006
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Key Decision Status: N/A

Decision
That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions be noted, with the addition noted of one item relating to the Pay and Workforce Strategy.

Explanation N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: T Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Recommendation from Joint Consultative and Safety Panel	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/146	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: Recommendations from JCSP on changing car parking arrangements for staff at the Copeland Centre to resolve a funding deficit of £5,503 in a full year.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision

That the report be deferred to the meeting on 14 March and resubmitted taking account of the views of the Enforcement Unit.

Explanation

The JCSP considered options for changing arrangements for staff car parking at the Copeland Centre as the current arrangements result in a funding deficit of £5,503 in a full year, due to changes in patterns of usage. JCSP had recommended maintaining the status quo for 6 months with a further review taking account of other changes, e.g. remote working, and meanwhile funding the deficit from other sources.

Alternative Options Considered:

To increase all current charges by a flat rate; to charge for current free spaces; status quo for 6 months with further review.

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: C Lloyd	

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Cleaner Safer Stronger Fund	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/147	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Holliday

Context: This report presents the Cleaner Safer Stronger (CSGF) 'application' to be sent to Government Office North West in relation to South Whitehaven.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision
That the application for funding be approved

Explanation
<p>The Council has been allocated £2.1 million funding from the Safer Stronger Communities Fund which is available to authorities with resident urban populations in the 3% most deprived nationally, represented in Copeland by South Whitehaven. The funding (split between 2006/07 and 2007/8) is intended for improvements to the physical environment, enhancing safety and quality of life, removing abandoned cars, litter and graffiti and provision of basic leisure facilities. The draft application has been submitted to the West Cumbria LSP.</p>

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: K Parker
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: Car Parking – Seascale and St Bees Station	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/148	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Holliday

Context: This report presents the outcome of recent negotiations with representatives of Seascale and St Bees Parish Councils in relation to the car parks at Seascale foreshore and St Bees Station

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

That:

- a) St Bees Parish Council's offer of £2,000 for a twelve month period be accepted and the St Bees Station car park charges be removed for the same period, and**
- b) Seascale Parish Council's Offer of £3,000 for a twelve month period be accepted and the Seascale Foreshore car park charges be removed for the same period,**
- c) Millom Town Council's request to make Lancashire Road Car Park free is declined and,**
- d) future agreement on an annual basis is delegated to the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and subject to the parish contributions being adjusted for inflation.**

Explanation

Further to the Council's decision to accept an offer from St Bees parish council to make a payment to the Borough Council to subsidise car parking, Executive considered approaches from St Bees and Seascale Parish Council to enter similar partnerships for 2006/07. Payments of £2000 and £3000 respectively are envisaged. A similar approach has been received from Millom Town Council for charges to be removed from the car park at Lancashire Road, but no compensatory payment for loss of charges had been offered.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: K Parker

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9

Subject: Western Lake District Tourism Partnership - SLA
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Date of Decision: 21 February 2006

Decision Reference: EXE/05/149

Decision made by: Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context:

This report asks the Executive to approve Service Level Agreements with the Western Lake District Tourism Partnership.
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision

That the Service Level Agreement for 2006-2009 be approved.
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Explanation

Executive considered a draft Service Level Agreement between Copeland and Allerdale Borough Councils and the Western Lake District Tourism Partnership for 3 years. The SLA sets out the services to be provided by the organisation in return for local authority funding received.
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Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: S Lewthwaite

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 10

Subject: Open Cell Ceiling To The Copeland Centre Atruim
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Date of Decision: 21 February 2006

Decision made by:

Decision Reference: EXE/05/150

Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report advises Executive of a proposal to install a ceiling in the atrium to enhance the appearance and working conditions.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

That Executive approve improvements to the building up to a value of £10,000 from the Public Building Fund revenue contingency 2005/6 with details to be agreed by the Head of Finance and Business Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

Explanation

Executive considered proposals for installation of an open cell ceiling to the atrium area in the Copeland Centre to enhance working conditions (specifically reducing airborne sound and glare) at a cost of approximately £10,000 to be funded from the Public Buildings fund contingency for 2005/06.
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Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: C Lloyd

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11

Subject: Remote Working

Date of Decision: 21 February 2006

Decision made by:

Decision Reference: EXE/05/151	Full Executive
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Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report informs Members of the proposal to trial remote working at Copeland Borough Council, and to seek member approval for implementing a six-month trial.

Key Decision Status:

Decision

- | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the following is noted:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The possible benefits of implementing a remote working policy▪ The risk assessment associated with carrying out a remote working policy trial2. That members support in principle the implementation of a limited six-month trial of remote working as outlined in Option 1, subject to further consultation with the Portfolio-Holder on details3. That members agree to the costs of the pilot being taken from the Major Projects Fund. The current balance on the Major Projects Fund is £517,248.4. That a further report describing management arrangements be brought to Executive |
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Explanation

Executive considered a proposal for introduction of a 6 month remote working trial as a form of flexible working. The report summarised the expected benefits of introducing remote working from other organisations, specifically around diversity, efficiencies, and service and strategic benefits. Objectives of the trial would be to test the robustness of the technology enabling remote working, quantify costs, measure benefits and identify other material issues arising.
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Alternative Options Considered:

Option 1 involving 10 individuals including 2 Members; Option 2 involving 13 individuals.

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: H Mitchell
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Quarterly Performance Report to Executive	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/152	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: This report in a new format gives an update of progress in the Corporate Plan targets for the period between September to December 2005.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision
1) That Executive notes progress against the targets in the Corporate Plan 2005/7 and
2) That Executive notes the BVPI data

Explanation
Executive considered the quarterly performance monitoring report highlighting progress on all corporate objectives in the current quarter and projected into the next, and progress on targets set for Best Value Performance Indicators.

Alternative Options Considered:
None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J Stanforth
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 13	
Subject: Corporate Plan 2005/07	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/153	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: This report presents the Council's draft Corporate Plan for consideration and recommendation to the Council

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

- (a) That the Plan be recommended to Council in June before publication of the Best Value Performance Plan**
(b) That the Members agree the recommendations from the OSC in Appendix C

Explanation

Executive considered a draft Corporate Plan for 2005/2007, together with comments from OSC PR on certain issues.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: H Mitchell
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 14	
Subject: Capital Programme Monitoring	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/154	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context: This is a progress report that advises Members of expenditure to the end of December 2005, and any amendments needed to the Capital Programme for 2005/06.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

- a) That Members note the spend to date and project managers comments as at Appendix A;**
- b) That members note and approve the amendments to the Capital Programme totalling;**
- c) That Members note the approved programme as at Appendix B.**

Explanation

Monthly monitoring reports of expenditure on capital schemes against profile. Spending to end December is £2,242,760, 40% of the total programme. The report notes amendments to schemes including those previously agreed.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: S Tickner
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 15	
Subject: Monitoring Of Revenue Expenditure For The 9 Month Period To 31 December 2006 – Exception Report	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/155	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context: This report informs Members in detail of the variations in actual and expected revenue based expenditure and income over £10,000, or more than 10% of budget, for the 9 month period 1st April to 31st December 2005

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

1. The report be noted,
2. approve the return of £30,000 to Contingencies and £37,000 of the £55,000 to MPF for funding previously requested and approved as an Urgent Action at 8th November 2005 Executive not now required,
3. approve the use of the £18,000 balance to resource the delivery of the recovery plan for the backlog of benefits cases, and
4. approval be given to vire £3,700 from Civic and Mayoral Members Allowances to Electoral Registration Postages, and, £5,104 from Members Allowances to Civic and Mayoral Transport Running Costs.

Explanation

Monthly monitoring reports track spending on revenue budgets against profile. This report identifies major variations as at 31 December and recommends any corrective action needed.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: S Borwick

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 16	
Subject: Approval Of Revenue Budget, Capital Programme And Council Tax 2006/07	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/156	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn

Context: To approve and recommend to Council the 2006/07 Final Revenue Budget and to approve the Council Tax to be levied for the financial year 2006/07

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

That Executive recommends to Council that:

1. To approve the budget pages issued under separate cover
2. To approve the revised base budget of £10,510,189 including Recurring and Non-recurring revenue bids. (£10,317,605 in previous report).
3. To agree to the Car Parking Fees and Charges as detailed in Appendix A.

To recommend the formal resolution as per Appendix B.

4. To note the recommendations already approved by Council referred to in paragraph 3.1, and agree the revised recommendations.
5. To note the details of the reserves available (one-off funding) as detailed in Appendix C
6. To note the movement in base budget from 2005/06 to 2006/07 in Appendix D.
7. To note the revised medium term financial plan attached at Appendix E.
8. To note the confirmation of the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves detailed in paragraphs

Explanation

Further to Executive and Council's decision in January approving a Draft Budget for 2006/2007, Executive considered proposals for recommending a final Budget and Council Tax levy to full Council. There are changes in the final Revenue Support Grant Settlement (£15,468 increase), minor changes to the Council Tax base, a further non-recurring revenue provision of £3,000 for scrutiny support and changes to fees and charges (previously deferred).
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Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: S Borwick

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 17	
Subject: Confidential Reporting Code	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/157	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report recommends revisions to the Confidential Reporting Code
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision Executive Recommend to Council:- 1.The revised amended Code together with any other amendments Executive wish to make; 2. The revised Code be placed on the Council's external website and further work be carried in bringing it to public attention.

Explanation The Confidential Reporting Code provides a vehicle for Members, Officers and the public to express concerns about the workings of the council and those responses to be dealt with professionally and sensitively. This revised version takes account of similar codes in operation in other organisations and comments made by members of OSC PR in a recent consultation.
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Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: M Jepson
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 18	
Subject: Equality and Diversity	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/158	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor G Blackwell

Context: This report recommends a Comprehensive Equality Policy and asks the Council to take certain actions to help promote Equality and Diversity.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

Council be recommended to:

- (i). Approve the attached Comprehensive Equality Policy;**
- (ii). Commit itself to developing a Corporate Equality Plan indicating how the Comprehensive Equality Policy will be implemented;**
- (iii). Commit itself to carrying out a process of equality impact and needs/requirements assessments including those assessments of organisational and individual requirements required for compliance with Disability Discrimination Act;**
- (iv). Commit itself to a fair employment and equal pay policy and that the commitment appears in the Corporate Plan;**
- (v). Commit itself to earmarking specific resources for improving equality practice;**
- (vi). Commit itself to consulting with designated community, staff and stakeholder groups on all aspects of equality policy;**
- (vii). Commit itself to equality self-assessment, scrutiny and audit;**
- (viii). Commit itself to consulting departments and service areas on equality objectives.**
- (ix). Commit itself to establishing mechanisms for responding to discrimination and harassment on the grounds of race, disability and gender;**
- (x). Commit itself to an employment equality assessment of the local labour market area, workforce profiling and equal pay review;**
- (xi). Commit itself to adopting procedures to ensure that publicity for vacancies does not unfairly restrict the range of applicants;**
- (xii). Commit itself to reviewing the personal information system for monitoring suitability including underpinning the Council's statutory ethnic monitoring duties;**
- (xiii). Commit itself to making procedures consistent with Employment Codes of Practice.**

Explanation

The Corporate Plan commits the Council to promoting equality and Diversity and as part of obtaining Level 1 of the Equality Standard in Local government the Council needs to commit itself to certain actions by March 2006 and to agree a Comprehensive Equality Policy.
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Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006

Publication Date: 24 February 2006

Recorded by: T Capper

Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: M Jepson

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 19	
Subject: Customer Service Strategy and Commitments	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/159	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: To consider introducing a customer service strategy and commitments as part of becoming a customer focused organisation.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision

The Council adopt the Customer Service Strategy and commence measurement against the Customer Service Commitments.

Explanation

Following the recommendations of the Audit Commission that the Council should adopt a customer services strategy, and systems for monitoring standards, Executive considered a draft Customer Service Strategy designed to help achieve the Corporate Plan objective of putting the customer at the heart of everything we do, and standards against which progress will be monitored.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 20	
Subject: Authorisation Of Officers To Represent The Council At Court	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/160	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context: To update the authorisation of officers to represent the Council at Magistrates Court and to seek approval for Customer Services staff to attend County Court in respect of non contested cases
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision That Council be recommended that the list of postholders in Appendix A to the report be authorised to represent the Council
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Explanation The report updates the list of Council employees authorised by the Council to appear in court.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Subject: Exclusion of Press and Public	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/161	

Portfolio Holder:

Context: Excludes Press and Public from meeting for exempt items 21 -28

Key Decision Status:

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 1,7 & 8 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

Explanation
N/A

Alternative Options Considered:
N/A

Interests Declared: N/A

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: N/A
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 21	
Subject: Web Master\Graphic Designer Post	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/162	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: Presents a report on the creation of a composite Web Master\Graphic Designer post
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. that a new post of Graphics Technician\Webmaster is created; and2. that the attached composite Job Profile is agreed; and3. that the grade of the post be agreed by the Personnel Panel4. Funding of £23,965 for 2006/07 be from contingencies and the contingency provision be re-imbursed from compensatory savings in the salaries budget in future years

Explanation
The report addresses the position with one of the posts remaining outstanding from approval of the corporate restructure report in March 2005. it proposes replacement of a post in the old structure with a post on the same scale in the new structure to provide a combined graphics and web master service.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: Hilary Mitchell
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 22	
Subject: Pow Beck Sports Facility Relocation Feasibility	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/163	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Allan Holliday

Context:

This report seeks Member approval to proceed with a detailed feasibility study into the potential to relocate the Council's Sports Centre and Swimming Pool to a new site at Pow Beck.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision That the feasibility study be approved (subject to addition of Whitehaven Civic Hall and options for a 50 metre pool), to be managed by the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services and the Council's £10,250 contribution towards overall costs of £25,250 be financed by virement from core Regeneration and Leisure and Environment Budgets; and the Head of Leisure & Environmental Services in consultation with the Portfolio-Holder be authorised to agree the final brief and any increase in costs, subject to budgetary provision being available.

Explanation

Following the options appraisal in 2005 in conjunction with West Lakes Renaissance, the detailed study was intended to establish the economic viability of relocating the existing sports hall and pool to a new centre as a project in the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme. Members expressed a preference for the Whitehaven Civic Hall and an option for a 50m swimming pool to be included in the study brief.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006
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Contact Officers: Keith Parker

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 23	
Subject: Guidelines for the award of Discretionary Rate Relief for Charities and Other Bodies	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/164	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context: To consider new applications and review the existing arrangements for the award of discretionary rate relief.
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) granting of discretionary rate relief and hardship relief in accordance with Appendix A2) review of all existing discretionary rate relief cases to inform a further report to decide whether to change the criteria for eligibility to discretionary rate relief3) once criteria agreed, that future applications where the criteria are met authorisation to grant relief be delegated to the Head of Customer Services

Explanation
Recommends granting of discretionary rate relief to charities under existing policy and undertaking a review of existing policy to ensure guidelines reflect current Council objectives and priorities.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J. Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 24	
Subject: Non Domestic Rate Write Offs Over £1000	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/165	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context: To approve the writing off of various Non Domestic Rate debts over £1000.
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision The Executive approve the writing off of the debts shown in Appendix 1 totalling £41,744.44.
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Explanation Recommends writing off of non domestic rate debts over £1000 in accordance with limits set out in Financial Regulations
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Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J. Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 25	
Subject: Council Tax Write Offs Over £1000	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/166	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context: The Executive approve the writing off of various Council Tax debts over £1000.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision That Executive approve the writing off of the debts shown in Appendix 1, and 1 additional case.

Explanation Recommends writing off of Council Tax debts over £1000 in accordance with limits set out in Financial Regulations.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J. Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 26	
Subject: Sundry Debtor Write Offs Over £1000	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/167	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ms E Woodburn
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Context: This report asks Executive to consider the writing off of various Sundry Debts over £1000.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision That Executive approve the writing off of the debts shown in Appendix 1.
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Explanation Recommends writing off of sundry debts over £1000 in accordance with limits in Financial Regulations. (Note: the final item on page 36 of the report was withdrawn).

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: J Salt
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 27	
Subject: Local Land Charges	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/168	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: This report recommends use of the New Initiatives Fund to provide further support in the Local Land Charges Section.

Key Decision Status: None

Decision That the report be deferred until the meeting on 14 March and a further report submitted on how IEG funding has been utilised on staffing costs on MVM implementation in Local Land Charges to date.

Explanation The report requests funding for the next year from the New Initiatives Fund for employment of an additional employee in local Land Charges for work on MVM implementation; and virement of further £2000 from Licensing fee income to Wages and Salaries, release of £11,500 allocated from contingencies by Executive on 18 October 2005. Members asked for more information at the next meeting on how IEG funding has been utilised to date on MVM implementation in Local Land Charges before agreeing to the recommendations in the report.
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Alternative Options Considered: As decision; agreement to the recommendations in the report.

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: M. Jepson
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 28	
Subject: Possible Claim Against The Council	
Date of Decision: 21 February 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/05/169	

Portfolio Holder: Councillors G Clements/ N Williams
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Context: This report advises Members of a possible claim against the Council
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Key Decision Status: None

Decision
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Note the current position;2. Officers to report back when the position is clearer and in the meantime a full briefing on the background be arranged for the portfolio-holders.

Explanation
Outlines the background to a possible claim against the Council.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared:

Implementation Date: 2 March 2006	Publication Date: 24 February 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 2 March 2006	Contact Officers: Martin Jepson
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