

EXECUTIVE REPORT

FULL 13 09 05

BUSINESS GROWTH PORTFOLIO**COUNCILLOR JIM HEWITSON - PORTFOLIO HOLDER****MIKE TICHFORD - LEAD OFFICER****1 KEY ISSUES - PROGRESS REPORT****1.1 Market Town Programme Millom/Egremont**

Both Millom and Egremont have now received formal approval for expenditure for 2005/06 to enable commencement of the programme. Projects are currently being appraised by the individual partnerships on the basis of expenditure starting from 1 September 2005. A report is to be presented to the Executive on the 27 September detailing the procedures and processes that have been agreed for administering the programmes and to reduce risks against financial clawback to the Council.

North West Development Agency have undertaken press releases with both local partnerships to announce regeneration funding for both towns.

1.2 Priority 2 European Programme West Cumbria

A programme of investment has been approved for the Priority 2 wards within West Cumbria. Within Copeland the eligible wards are Mirehouse, Sandwith, Cleator Moor North/South, Frizington, Distington and Howgate.

Specific projects that will be supported through the programme need to address the following objectives:

- Developing enterprise and employment in communities developing an inclusive information society
- Connecting communities
- Building economically sustainable communities

West Lakes Renaissance are the accountable organisation for the programme being supported by both Copeland and Allerdale Borough Council.

Enquiries regarding projects should be initially directed to West Lakes Renaissance to determine if a project is viable for support. **(Information item only to raise awareness of programme)**

2 EXECUTIVE DECISIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

None

3 EXECUTIVE DECISIONS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Subject: The Community Response Fund

Date of Decision: 26 July 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/05/0046

Context: The Community Response Fund is a scheme to support people made redundant back into employment through training that is not funded through any other avenue. The scheme is funded by West Lakes Renaissance (WLR) but requires a 'float' to make it practicable to operate.

It was noted that a similar request had been made to Allerdale Borough Council.

Decision

That a) subject to Allerdale Borough Council's funding being approved £5,000 be made available from contingencies to WLR to provide working funds for the Community Response Fund, to be repaid to the Council at the end of the scheme; or

b) should Allerdales funding be not approved then a further report be submitted back to the Executive.