



# Service Review 2008/09 – Economic Development

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## 1.0 Service Description

The Council's vision statement is:

**Copeland Borough Council – leading the transformation of West Cumbria to a prosperous future.**

To support the delivery of this vision, the aims of this Service are to:

- Develop the local economy by supporting the growth of local businesses and the attraction of inward investment.
- Promote the borough as a location for visitors as a key player within the Western Lake District Tourism Partnership.
- Play a leading role in taking the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme forward in fulfilment of the Council's obligations under the delivery framework document.
- Deliver key elements of the West Cumbria Spatial Masterplan (2026)
- Support community renewal and regeneration through locally based strategic engagement vehicles and local area fora.
- Work with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to manage the downsizing of the industry and the consequent socio-economic consequences
- Support business diversification and new commercialisation opportunities within the nuclear cluster

## 1.1 Our customers and strategic partners are:

- Internal – Corporate Team, Members , Other departments within the Council
- External – Copeland business community, potential inward investors, tourism operators and intermediaries, developers, partner organisations – West Lakes Renaissance, West Cumbria Development Agency, NWDA , Cumbria Vision, NDA , English Partnerships ( Land Reclamation Trust) , Heritage Lottery, Market Town Management Boards , West Cumbria LSP and Cumbria LAA co-signatories , Coalfield Programme , ERDF ,etc.

## 2.0 Staff and Roles:

Head of /Regeneration – Mike Tichford

Economic /Development Manager – Peter Meadows

Senior Regeneration Projects Officer ( Community /Renewal) – Chris Pickles

Regeneration Projects Officers – Sherrie Lewthwaite  
Diane Ward

Regeneration Technical Officer – Carol Robertson

MTI Managers – Simon Walker  
Nash Thakker

MTI Support Staff

## 2.1 Inter-departmental dependencies

The following are an approximate ordering of the importance of other CBC functions to the operation of the Economic Development Service

Supplier Services	% interactions
Local Plans / Sustainability Strategies	15
Development Control inc Bldg Control	10
Beacon – Cultural Svcs	10
Finance, Business Devlpt and IT	20
Audit	5
Performance	5
Communications / PR	5
Legal	15
Leisure Services	5
MTIs	10

## 3.0 Annual Budget 2008/9( non-staff costs)

See budget build exercise

#### **4.0 Options for Increasing Income**

- 1) Charge a premium mark-up , above and beyond recovery costs , for providing accountable body / bankrolling facilities to regeneration project managers . collection of full recovery costs in itself would be an improvement across all the projects deriving these benefits.
- 2) Charge management fees to external organisations and funders for projects managed on their behalf within the Borough
- 3) Request to NDA socio Economic Fund for additional resources which build into a common plan with the Borough to address major socio-economic impacts of the restructuring of the nuclear industry
- 4) Increase rentals at Phoenix Ctr (Ph 3) to generate increased surplus, or change terms of lease at next review to augment CBC return

#### **5.0 Savings Potential**

- 1) Reduce contribution to WLDTP by 20% p.a. = £5k p.a .Difficulty arises re existing SLA , but if project underperforming we can argue case for reduction
- 2) Review contribution to Invest in Cumbria ( earmarked from Reserves)
- 3) Temporary redeployment ( at no cost) of qualified Sellafield staff undergoing decommissioning impacts and able to transfer on short term contracts for bespoke pieces of work
- 4) Reduce grants to external bodies by set percentage. Not really feasible in view of pressures on service and need to accommodate community renewal priorities