

EXECUTIVE REPORT

FULL 21 06 05

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO**COUNCILLOR ELAINE WOODBURN - PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

1 Key Issues – Progress Report

1.1 **Nuclear Issues**

I have been asked to give a presentation to the North West Environment Agency on what we expect of the agency and should they be considering the wider issues in West Cumbria. I do feel this gives us the opportunity to feed directly into those who are making the decisions and would appreciate any comment from Members specifically on anything they would like me to include in my presentation.

It is also worth noting that the EA are about to carry out a consultation on the future of the Low Level Waste Site at Drigg. Once this information has been made available we will ensure it is fed through to the Nuclear Working Group.

We are already engaged in the DEFRA national policy review of LLW

The Nuclear Working Group have also agreed in principle the response to the latest round of the CORWM consultation which is currently being drafted and will be submitted by the end of June

1.2 **Nirex**

Nirex have received a request under the Freedom of Information act to release the list of historic sites that were considered for their proposals back in the 80's.

The Council has been engaged with Nirex on the appropriateness of this release. Only Copeland and Dounreay will not be surprised to be on the list! We have urged Nirex to release the information in the interests of openness and transparency and I order that the blighting effect on Copeland is diluted.

The release of this information will no doubt raise, again, the issue of radioactive waste and its long term storage, but we need to remember that this list is based on historic sites and that it is in no way relevant to any current process, which as we know is being carried out by COWRM. However, the publication is likely to result in a growth in interest in the CORWM process from a greater range of communities who will have the same kind of concerns that we do.

The councils stand on this, as we all know, is that no decision should be made about the long term storage until the outcome of the work COWRM are doing is reported back to Government in 2006.

1.3 **Revenues and Benefits**

There has been a successful joint bid for DWP Performance Standards Funding of £187,700, to recruit a Bespoke Take-Up Officer & Clerical Support for Cumbria. The authorities involved as well as Copeland, are Carlisle, Eden, Allerdale and South Lakeland. This will give us the opportunity to establish hard to reach customers and to identify the need to recruit a Welfare and Debt advisor next year.

1.4 **Local Strategic Partnership**

The Partnership recently met with senior representatives from Government Office North West and ODPM Neighbourhood Renewal Unit to discuss how the partnership can improve, including a review of its present structure. As a partnership we are performing relatively well but need to move into a new phase of delivery, or rather ensuring all partners are delivering. It will mean making a transformation and looking at the role of the Well Being groups, which I know we have Copeland Members on. We can as a LSP have a real influence on the movers and shakers within West Cumbria therefore I feel that over the next 12 months we will hear and see a lot more of what the LSP is doing all aiming towards achieving their goal of narrowing the gap between the most deprived areas.

2 **EXECUTIVE DECISIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL**

Subject: Internal Audit Report On Compliance With The Code Of Corporate Governance In 2004/05

Date of Decision: 24 May 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/05/007

Context: This report evaluates compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance in 2004/05, summarises progress with arrangements since the previous year and details the action plan for outstanding actions

Decision

That a) the report be noted; and

b) Council be recommended to approve the action plan.

3 **EXECUTIVE DECISIONS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Subject: Urgent Action – Copeland Centre – Change in PFI Grant

Date of Decision: 5 April 2005 **Decision Reference:** EXE/04/0196

Context: Reports action taken under Executive Procedure Rules to agree changes in payment of PFI Grants

Decision

That the urgent action taken under Executive Procedure Rules be noted and the saving of £70,000 in 2004/2005 be set aside to fund any potential costs arising from job evaluation.

Subject: 5-13 Jacktrees Road, Former Cleator Moor Co-Op Building

Date of Decision: 28 April 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/04/0211

Context: This report provides details on the funding arrangements and financial implications for the Council in implementing the conversion and refurbishment scheme for the former Cleator Moor Co-op building

Decision

That

1. the funding required for the scheme to proceed be noted
2. the total project costs as outlined in paragraph 2.1 be incorporated into the Council's Capital Programme

Subject Complaint under the Council's Dignity at Work Policy

Date of Decision: 24 May 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/05/013

Context: To report on financing following a complaint under the Council's Dignity at Work Policy.

Decision

That the recommended financing be approved

Subject Urgent Action

Date of Decision: 24 May 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/05/014

Context:

To note actions taken on ground of urgency under Executive procedure

Decision

That Action taken by the Head of Customer Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder in extending a contract to complete the implementation of Anite and Academy Systems be noted.