

Executive Report

ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO

COUNCILLOR HENRY WORMSTRUP – PORTFOLIO HOLDER

FERGUS McMORROW – LEAD OFFICER

1. KEY ISSUES – PROGRESS REPORT

1.1 Coalfields

Members will have already received an update for May 2005 and a further report will be issued shortly. The National Coalfield Communities Campaign held its national meeting at Copeland on 22nd April 2005.

The North West Coalfield Programme has now entered year 2 of its programme period and projects that have been identified for funding in this year 2005/06 are:

Enterprising Communities Theme:

Inbiz Enterprise Support – This project will provide outreach services to encourage new business growth within mining communities.

Social Enterprise in North Copeland – This project commenced in 2004/05 and is continuing into 2005/06 to provide social enterprise growth within mining communities by providing basic skills development and by utilising social enterprises within the Employment Support project to encourage unemployed individuals to engage in skills development.

Haig Colliery Mining Museum – Supporting the development of this enterprise to enable future growth and development.

Attractive Communities Theme:

A range of environmental projects are identified within this theme of which 2 are already in progress these being the Whitehaven Gateway Scheme to enhance the main access corridors into the town, the Hensingham Community Park completion, Birks Road Gateway and Parton Car Park.

The chair of the Coalfield Programme and supporting officers have been notified of the issues currently being experienced and our actions to seek alternative delivery mechanisms.

Competitive Communities Theme:

This project is now fully manned and work is in progress to undertake projects in Whitehaven and its surrounding areas.

Healthy Communities Theme:

An application for the Cumbria Academy of Sport has been made to the Coalfield Programme but unfortunately did not meet the specified threshold for approval. This is not unusual as appraised schemes normally need to revise their applications for resubmitting. A revised application is currently being developed to be submitted shortly and will be considered under written procedures for the programme.

1.2 Transport

A Lake District Transport meeting was held on 14th April 2005 and the papers for this are in the Member's Room.

A595 Detrunking Inquiry: The Inquiry was formally closed on 25th May with a day of site visits taking place on the 26th May. The Inspector's report is expected in about two months time.

A595 Parton-Lillyhall Improvement: Consultation on the design and associated draft orders for the scheme was completed last month and the Council submitted a statement of support. A meeting of the Liaison Group, which I chair, is scheduled for 20th June and I will provide a verbal update as regards the need for a public inquiry, funding etc.

1.3 Cumbria Economic Summit

I attended the Summit on behalf of the Council on 16th May 2005 and the report from this is in the Member's Room.

2. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

None

3. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Subject Provisions of Amenities on Highways

Date of Decision: 5 April 2005 **Decision Reference:** EXE/04/0194

Context: To consider how applications under the Highways Act 1980 for "pavement licences" should be dealt with

Decision

That the matter be referred to the Taxi & General Licensing Panel and that the Panel be asked to formulate a protocol on dealing with applications, including appropriate delegations, and that further reports be submitted to the Executive and/or Full Council

Subject : A595 Parton To Lillyhall Highway Improvements

Date of Decision: 28 April 2005

Decision Reference: EXE/04/0210

Context:

This report advises Members of draft Orders issued by the Department for Transport ('DFT') in connection with the above highway improvements and considers whether any objection should be made to those Orders

Decision

That

- (a) the report be noted;**
- (b) the draft compulsory purchase order be strongly supported, in respect of land owned by the Council; and**
- (c) no objection be raised to the draft orders in respect of creating a new trunk road, de-trunking the old road or dealing with side road issues.**

