

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

MEETING HELD ON 24 OCTOBER 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Miss E M Woodburn (Leader); G Blackwell; Mrs CA Giel; A Holliday.

Apologies for absence: Councillors M J Ashbrook; G Clements; N Williams
H Wormstrup

Also in attendance: Councillor Mrs Y R T Clarkson (Items 6 and 7).

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: L Murphy, Chief Executive; T Chilcott, Corporate Director (Quality of Life); M Jepson, Head of Legal & Democratic Services; T Capper, Democratic Services Manager; H Mitchell, Head of Policy and Performance; K Parker, Head of Leisure and Environmental Services; C Nicholson, Accountancy Services Manager; I Curwen, Communications Officer; G McWilliam, Economic and Tourism Development Manager (Items 1-9).

START TIME: 2.00PM CLOSE TIME: 2.25PM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Decisions	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00100	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context:

Decisions made at the previous meeting requiring formal approval

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the Statements of decisions made at the meeting held on 26 September 2006 be agreed as a correct record

Explanation

N/A

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: N/A	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: T Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 5	
Subject: Forward Plan	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00101	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor M Ashbrook

Context: To consider the forward plan of key decisions for October 2006 - January 2007

Key Decision Status: No

Decision That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions be noted
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Explanation N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November	Contact Officers: T Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Major Projects and Contingencies Funds – Recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00102	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Miss E Woodburn
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Context: To consider recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee Performance and Resources on changes to clarify the purpose of funds held by the Council.
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Key Decision Status: No

Decision That the Major Projects Fund be re-titled the 'Reserves' Fund and the purposes of the Reserves Fund and Contingencies funds be clarified as per paras 3.2 and 4.1 of the report.

Explanation The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the purpose and names of the Major Projects Fund and the Contingencies Fund as part of their work plan for 2006/2007, with a view to clarifying the purpose of the funds.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: J Murray
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Budget Evaluation Criteria – Recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Performance and Resources	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00103	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Miss E Woodburn
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Context: Presents a report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Performance and Resources on new budget evaluation criteria.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision That the proposed criteria be agreed and implemented in the current budget round.
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Explanation Overview and Scrutiny has considered the existing criteria for scoring budget bids which has existed since 2003. The new recommended evaluation criteria for use by Budget Working Party in scoring bids are based on a two stage process of sifting and scoring, together with a weighted multiplier for each criteria.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: J Murray
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: Car Parking, Millom and Cleator Moor	
Date of Decision: 27 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00104	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor A Holliday

Context:

Presents requests from Cleator Moor Town Council and Millom Town Council to lease pay and display car parks at Jacktrees Road and The Square Cleator Moor and Lancashire Road Millom.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision - that

- 1) Millom Town Council's offer of £1,600 pa to subsidise free parking at Lancashire Road car park is accepted, commencing from April 2007.
- 2) Cleator Moor Town Council's offer of £3,500 pa to subsidise free car parking at Jacktrees Road and the Square car parks is accepted, commencing from April 2007 as a one year agreement in line with the other car parks
- 3) In keeping with Bees and Seascale Parish Councils, all future agreements with Cleator Moor and Millom Town Council are accepted on an annual basis and delegated to the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and subject to the Town Council's contribution being adjusted for inflation.
- 4) The 2007/8 services fees and charges for L&ES are adjusted to take account of the £846 shortfall

Explanation

Formal requests to lease these car parks have been received from Millom Town Council and Cleator Moor town Council following negotiations with both councils. Principles of the lease arrangements are similar to those previously agreed by the Council for St Bees and Seascale.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: T Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: K Parker
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9	
Subject: Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00105	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs C A Giel

Context:

Seeks approval to the Local Authority Business Growth Incentives (LAGBI) scheme and projects to be supported from the funding.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

The programme as detailed in the report be approved and managed by the Corporate Director (Economic Prosperity and Sustainability) under delegated authority from the Executive, and any programme without secure funding to be held back, spending not commencing until full project funding is secured.

Explanation

LAGBI allows local authorities to retain a proportion of business rates revenue raised in their area by working with businesses to deliver economic success. The Council has been allocated £161,000 in 2006/2007, and Executive agreed a draft programme of initiatives on 13 June 2006. Schemes will comprise an Enterprise Development Programme, a joint project with St Martin's College for employment of students and graduates, Business Development Initiatives at Cleator Moor, Egremont and Millom, and a Whitehaven town centre business development programme.

Alternative Options Considered:

None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: Tim Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: G McWilliam
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 10	
Subject: Funding for Electoral Purposes	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00106	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context: Seeks approval for expenditure on electoral purposes in 2006/2007 in the sum of £25,000

Key Decision Status: No

Decision That 1. Executive approves the use of £25,000 in 2006/07 for Electoral Purposes from the Council's contingency provision in 2006/07. 2. Executive delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to manage the above funding.
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Explanation The government has included a sum of £25,000 in the Grant Settlement for 2006/2007 for use in connection with new duties under the Electoral Administration Act which require accreditation of signatures for postal voting.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: Tim Capper
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Call-in Period Expires
on: 7 November 2006

Contact Officers:
A Southward

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11	
Subject: Leisure Service Level Agreements	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00107	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Alan Holliday
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Context: Seeks approval for implementing service level agreements for Millom Recreation Centre, Egremont Town Hall, Egremont and District Swimming Pool Trust and Copeland Stadium Trust

Key Decision Status: No

Decision 1. That Members approve the payment in line with the agreements. 2. That authority is delegated to the Corporate Director, Quality of Life and Portfolio Holder for Environmental and Cultural Services to resolve this matter in future years, subject to funding being in place.

Explanation Service Level Agreements ensure a minimum level of service from organisations in return for funding by way of grant. SLA's proposed are for Millom Recreation Centre (£7,790); Copeland Stadium (£5,000); Egremont Market Hall (£12,885); Egremont and District Swimming Pool (£15,000).

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: Tim Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: K Parker
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Revised Sanctions Policy	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00108	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor E Woodburn

Context:

Sets out a revised prosecution policy for use in connection with Council Tax and Benefit fraud.

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

That the revised prosecution policy be recommended to Council for approval

Explanation

The Department of Work and Pensions issues guidance to local authorities on sanctions policy, including issuing of cautions and instituting prosecutions. The proposed policy replaces the existing prosecutions policy which does not contain sufficient policy criteria to meet current DWP requirements.

Alternative Options Considered:

N/A

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: Tim Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: M Robinson
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 13 –	
Subject: Remote Working Pilot	
Date of Decision: 24 October 2006	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/06/00109	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor N Williams

Context:

Reports findings 6 months after the start of the remote working pilot

Key Decision Status:

No

Decision

- 1) That Executive notes the findings of the Remote Working Pilot which commenced in April 2006; and**
- 2) That the Executive agrees to delegating responsibility for managing the Remote Working pilot to the Chief Executive; and**
- 3) That the existing pilot is extended for a further six months, including adding up to five more individuals to the pilot (Option 2 below); and**
- 4) Those already working remotely under the pilot continue to do so.**

Explanation

A pilot trialling remote and home working commenced during 2006 involving 5 Council employees. The report sets out the benefits and disadvantages to the Council and to employees found from the findings from the pilot, and looks at options for a way forward.

Alternative Options Considered:

- Option 1 – Extended pilot (as decision)
- Option 2 - Continue present pilot
- Option 3 – Do Nothing
- Option 4 – Close Pilot

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 7 November 2006	Publication Date: 27 October 2006	Recorded by: Tim Capper
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Call-in Period Expires on: 7 November 2006	Contact Officers: H Mitchell
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