

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT DEFINED BOUNDARY**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Cllrs G Clements & A Holliday

**LEAD OFFICER:** Mike Tichford

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Brian Kirkbride

**Summary:** To present to members confirmation of the proposed Neighbourhood Management boundary for investment of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund.

**Recommendation:** That Members agree the following:

1. To approve the defined boundary for targeting of the Neighbourhood Management Element of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund, which includes the communities of Sandwith/Greenbank /Woodhouse/Mirehouse/Kells/Hensingham and a portion of Harbour.

**Impact on delivering the Corporate Plan:**

Neighbourhood Management is an Initiative supported by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to target investment and public services to address neighbourhoods that experience the greatest disadvantage. The Initiative will help deliver against a number of the councils key objectives.

**Impact on other statutory objectives (e.g. crime & disorder, LA21):**

The Neighbourhood Management Initiative will have a direct impact on addressing Crime, Health and Housing standards within the targeted neighbourhoods and helping the Council achieve its statutory objectives.

**Financial and human resource implications:**

Approval has been agreed through the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to support Copeland Neighbourhood Management as follows:

2006/07	£412,800
2007/08	£516,000
2008/09	£412,800*
2009/10	£258,000 *

\*Subject to spending review

Cumbria County Council are the Accountable body for the Initiative, the allocation of £413,000 for 2006/07 has been agreed and offer confirmed to Copeland Borough Council.

**Project & Risk Management:**

The funding is specifically revenue based and will be managed in line with Copeland's financial regulations. The greatest risk in delivering the Initiative is ensuring that the appropriate and skilled Manager is in post to drive forward the programme of the next 4 years, the post has been advertised the closing date is the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2006. Risk Management of elements of the project will be undertaken by the Neighbourhood Manager once in post.

## Key Decision Status

- Financial: Yes
- Ward: N/A

**Other Ward Implications:** None

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A report was presented to the Executive on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006, which sought agreement to appoint a Neighbourhood Manager and to endorse the geographical boundary for investment of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund. It was agreed at the Executive that the appointment of the Neighbourhood Manager could proceed, the post has been advertised and the closing date for applications is the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2006.
- 1.2 The Geographical boundary for investment was not approved at the Executive meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006, the Executive requested further detailed discussions be held with members and officers to clarify the boundary for investment. A meeting of Officers and Borough and County members was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006 in order to discuss the proposed Boundary. Following this meeting a paper and Map was circulated to representatives of the relevant wards, including Harbour, that detailed Government methodology for identifying the boundary and seeking views.
- 1.3 The paper identifying the methodology for identification for the Boundary is attached at Appendix A and the Map is attached at Appendix B.

## 2. BOUNDARY IDENTIFICATION

- 2.1 The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund has been designed by Government to specifically target improving the quality of life in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. People living in disadvantaged neighbourhoods experience worse living conditions and poorer public services than those living in other areas. One of the core outcomes is *"to improve the quality of life for people in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods and ensure service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs and improve their delivery"*
- 2.2 A summary of the Paper in Appendix A is that the following neighbourhoods exhibit the highest demand for improvement in localised service delivery and enhancement of the neighbourhood environment and are therefore recommended for direct investment of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund:
  - Sandwith (part of ward)
  - Kells
  - Greenbank
  - Woodhouse
  - Mirehouse
  - Hensingham (part of ward)
  - Harbour (part of ward, Corkickle area)

- 2.3 The majority of the Harbour area does not experience the same neighbourhood issues as the ones identified in item 2.2 as significant services are already located and directed into the town centre and public investment into the built and physical environmental conditions are already targeted into the Harbour area. In addition the Housing Market Renewal Programme has identified the Town Centre for investment, which will aid the development of the neighbourhood.
- 2.4 However in light of the fact that the Harbour ward does experience issues which are linked to physical environment and crime it is proposed that part of the Harbour ward is included as it has a logical link to the Mirehouse Communities and that the Neighbourhood Manager has a direct management role over the Harbour ward area to aid and direct the significant services and public funding already directed into the town to be managed in a more strategic manner to maximise overall impact.

### **3 CONCLUSIONS**

- 3.1 The proposed common boundary for investment of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund including the “Safer, Cleaaner and Greener Fund and the Neighbourhood Element, represents the neighbourhoods experiencing the greatest lack of public services at a neighbourhood level and would benefit most from the direct investment.

#### **List of Appendices**

[Appendix A – Methodology for Boundary](#)

[Appendix B – Map of Boundary](#)

#### **List of Background Documents:**

Executive Report 21<sup>st</sup> February 2006 – Cleaner Safer Stronger Fund

Executive Report 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006 – Neighbourhood Management Proposals

#### **List of Consultees:**

Corporate Team, Catherine Nicholson, Paul Robson, Hillary Mitchell, Relevant ward members