

Executive Report**ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO****COUNCILLOR HENRY WORMSTRUP – PORTFOLIO HOLDER****FERGUS McMORROW – LEAD OFFICER****1. KEY ISSUES – PROGRESS REPORT****1.1 Cleator Moor**

The Cleator Moor THI programme has now committed and drawn down funding to the Cleator Moor Coop totalling £155,000 this is a significant element within the THI programme. The balance of funding within the programme is being discussed with the Heritage Lottery Fund and potential applicants in order to maximise the remainder of resources within the next 4 months.

1.2 NorthWest Coalfield Communities Programme

The programme is substantially committed and a number of key capital projects are currently on site these including the Moresby Back Lanes enhancements and the Copeland Stadium refurbishment/conversion. Lobbying for further Coalfield resources post 2008 are currently ongoing with the North West Development Agency which it is hoped will secure a further programme of investment.

1.3 Draft Regional Transport Strategy

We have submitted our views on the above which, as part of the consultation on Regional Spatial Planning, is now open for comments. We have objected to the strategy on a variety of grounds including the lack of infrastructure proposals to assist the regeneration of West Cumbria. We have specifically referred to the need to improve links to the M6 via the A66, improve A595 and improve the coastal railway. We have also pointed out the need to incorporate the proposals of the West Cumbria Masterplan in the final Regional Spatial Strategy. There will be a public enquiry into the Strategy in October.

2. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

None

3. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None