

## West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership

### Update

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Councillor E Woodburn  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Fergus McMorrow

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Fergus McMorrow

#### **WHAT BENEFITS WILL THESE PROPOSALS BRING TO COPELAND RESIDENTS**

The process is one which seeks to be very transparent and engaging and seeks to involve as many people in West Cumbria as possible. This update aims to keep the democratic representatives of the community informed of progress. The note also includes reference to other work going on to ensure the Copeland community are involved and, with their input, ensure that the best possible decisions are taken on their behalf

#### **WHY HAS THIS REPORT COME TO THE NUCLEAR WORKING GROUP?**

To keep members informed of progress in the decision making process regarding the siting of a national Geological Disposal Facility.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**The Working Group note the information contained in the report.**

1. The work programme was paused while confirmation of DECC funding for this financial year awaited. Copeland as accountable body takes the risk with work moving ahead in advance of the budget being confirmed. To allow for the late confirmation a number of work streams had been held in abeyance.

2. Confirmation of funding was received in early October. The amount of funding was reduced by £100K on the bid amount. (1.355m to £1.255m). The Steering Group agreed to accept this offer on the basis that it would not cause any further disruption to the work programme and the shortfall was covered by the delays already caused and underspends.
3. As a result of the delays it is now projected that a report will be prepared to the decision making bodies on whether or not to move to the next step in January 2012 rather than November 2011
4. One of the consequences of the delay is that progress is set back at least one month and this includes the publication of the British Geological Survey desk top survey which applies the governments' first filter. This filter only looks seeks to identify rock formations that hold valuable mineral or water deposits that it may be useful to extract in the future. This will now be made available at the Partnership meeting at the end of September.
5. The second Public and Stakeholder Engagement Programme will begin next month. This is a significant programme of work to communicate with and involve local people. This will include newsletters sent to all homes across Copeland and Allerdale, community events across Cumbria and a discussion pack and DVD that people can use to discuss the issues with friends and colleagues. (A list of meetings is attached)
6. Work is going onto to develop a Memorandum of Agreement which could be signed with government before any decision to go to the next stage could be made. This would set out a joint understanding of principles that would govern the provision of community benefits. How these principles could be framed is being explored. They may include principles on broad scale of value, timing and in particular staged payments, nature of any legal agreements, commitment from treasury, local distribution; etc. A piece of research work looking at how these issues have been dealt with in other countries is underway.
7. A further piece of research investigating the potential impacts of GDF is also being considered. This will include the effect of negative perceptions of radioactive wastes on hosting communities.

8. The government are proposing to set up a national board chaired by the Energy Minister Charles Hendry with the objective of providing ministerial oversight of the GDF implementation programme as well as enabling local communities have direct input. The Board will also include consignors, environmental interests, CoRWM and representatives of Community Partnerships that have made the decision to participate.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

The following meetings are available for your viewing:

There are a total of 15 meetings  
1-10 | 11-15

Date	Meeting/Event	
28/10/2010	Partnership meeting, Greenhill Hotel, Wigton	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
19/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, The Network Centre, Millom	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
20/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, The Forum, Barrow	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
22/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Old Town Hall, Carlisle	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
23/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Civic Hall, Whitehaven	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
24/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Crosthwaite Church Hall, Keswick	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
25/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Market Hall, Wigton	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
26/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Village Hall, Calderbridge	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
29/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Methodist Church Hall, Penrith	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
30/11/2010	Community Drop-In Event, Town Hall, Kendal	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>

1-10 | 11-15

### Next meetings & events

- > 28/10/2010: Partnership meeting, Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
- > 19/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, The Network Centre, Millom
- > 20/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, The Forum, Barrow
- > 22/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, Old Town Hall, Carlisle
- [View full list](#)
- [View past meeting reports](#)

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

The following meetings are available for your viewing:

There are a total of 15 meetings  
1-10 | 11-15

Date	Meeting/Event	
03/12/2010	Community Drop-In Event, St Michael's Church, Workington	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
10/12/2010	Partnership meeting, The Copeland Centre, Whitehaven	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
19/01/2011	Partnership meeting, The Hundith Hill Hotel, Cockermouth	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
03/03/2011	Partnership meeting, venue tbc	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>
14/04/2011	Partnership meeting, venue tbc	<a href="#">read &gt;&gt;</a>

1-10 | 11-15

## Next meetings & events

- > 28/10/2010: Partnership meeting, Greenhill Hotel, Wigton
  - > 19/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, The Network Centre, Millom
  - > 20/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, The Forum, Barrow
  - > 22/11/2010: Community Drop-In Event, Old Town Hall, Carlisle
- [View full list](#)  
[View past meeting reports](#)