

# **Memorandum of Understanding**

## **Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009**

### **1. Parties to the Memorandum**

- 1.1 The parties to this Memorandum are Cumbria County Council, Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council

### **2. Purpose**

- 2.1 To enable and inform joint working and inform decision making by the local authorities participating in the MRWS process.

### **3. Principles**

- 3.1 The memorandum has been developed on the basis of the following principles that all parties will seek to achieve;
- A Partnership of equals aiming for consensus and co-ordinated decision making.
  - Ensure effective discussion between one another and with other stakeholders on all aspects of the MRWS process
  - An open and transparent approach to decision making insofar as is legally practicable
  - Continued support from Government for the decision making processes we adopt before proceeding.
  - Continuity of approach during any political changes locally or nationally
  - Safe geological disposal arrangement will be the top priority of all three Councils
  - Take into account the relationship of this project with other major strategic developments in the area when progressing the work
  - The distribution of benefits would be proportional to the degree people are affected by the decision.
  - Joint working between the organisations on all aspects of the work required through an agreed work programme which addresses for example; development issues, community engagement and discussions with Government on the engagement and benefits packages
  - Review of the partnership arrangements from time to time.

#### **4. Mutual Acknowledgment**

##### **4.1 The parties acknowledge that:**

- Cumbria County Council is an elected local authority (a "Principal Authority") representing the residents of Cumbria with statutory responsibilities for waste planning, strategic planning, transport planning, Economic, Social and Environmental Wellbeing and the provision of certain public infrastructure and services.
- Allerdale Borough Council and Copeland Borough Councils are elected local authorities ("Principal Authorities") representing the residents of their respective areas with statutory responsibilities for Economic, Social and Environmental Wellbeing, local planning and development control and the provision of certain public infrastructure and services.

#### **5. Informed decisions**

- 5.1 The parties will put in place arrangements to ensure that all members involved in taking decisions in their respective authorities have full information and a proper understanding of the issues associated with the decisions they make.
- 5.2 The parties will also make appropriate arrangements for members involved in taking decisions in their respective authorities to meet and discuss jointly all relevant information and issues prior to decisions being taken.
- 5.3 Decisions taken will be informed by the advice of the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership and the views of other stakeholders and where appropriate the general public.

#### **6. Termination**

- 6.1 Each party has the right to give notification of withdrawal from this Memorandum.

#### **SIGNED**

**Allerdale Borough Council**

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**Copeland Borough Council**

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**Cumbria County Council**

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**Date**

**2 October 2009**