

**RESOURCE PLANNING WORKING GROUP**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22 JULY 2010**

Present: Councillors: E Woodburn (Chairman); J Bowman; A Holliday; D Moore; A Norwood; P Watson.

Apologies: Councillor J Williams

Officers: K Parker Acting Corporate Director, Quality of Life; A Clark, Accountancy Services Manager; C Dove, Project Accountant; T Capper, Democratic Services Manager; C Willoughby, Democratic Services; H Mitchell, Head of Policy and Performance.

**RP 10     Minutes**

**RESOLVED** - The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2010 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to inclusion of Councillor Bowman in the list of attendees..

**RP 11     Medium Term Financial Strategy**

The Working Group considered a report setting out the present position on the Medium Term Financial Strategy following the Emergency Budget on 22 June, as a result of which the revenue budget gap for 2013/2014 had risen to £3.8 million. There was now an increased risk that funding for Working Neighbourhoods would cease from 2011.

**RESOLVED** – that

- a. RPWG note the revised Medium Term Revenue Budget 2010/11 – 2013/14 set out in Appendix A and the assumptions underpinning the planning scenarios.
- b. RPWG agree the revised Revenue Budget Gap under Scenario 1 (Appendix A) which results in a £3.8 million funding gap by 2013/14 as a basis for the identification of options to address the funding shortfall expected.
- c. RPWG note in particular the sharp increase in the potential funding gap for 2011/12 from £1.4 to £2.1 million.
- d. RPWG request Heads of Service to identify further options to meet this funding gap, with particular emphasis on options achievable during 2010/11 and 2011/12.

**RP 12     Budget Consultation 2012**

Members considered options for consultation with the public on the Council's budget proposals for 2011/12 in the context of the uncertain financial position of local government and the likelihood of reductions in funding. There was a statutory requirement for consultation under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

**RESOLVED** – that RPWG agrees to undertake tailored public consultation on the budget through written and electronic channels such as via the website, notice in the local press, articles in Copeland Matters or leaflets delivered to every home in Copeland seeking written responses from the public.

**RP 13     Service Reviews**

Members received an update report on progress in service reviews.

**RP 14     Alison Clark**

Members passed their good wishes and thanks to Alison Clark, Accountancy Services Manager and Acting S151 Officer, who would be leaving the Council's employment shortly.

The meeting closed at 5.06 pm

Chairman.....