

7 March 2023

**To: The Chair and Members of the County  
Council Local Committee for Copeland**

# Agenda

## COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND

A meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Copeland will be held as follows:

**Date: Wednesday 15 March 2023**  
**Time: 10.15 am**  
**Place: Cleator Moor Civic Hall, Cleator Moor**

**Simon Higgins**  
**Assistant Director - Customer & Community Services**

### Group Meetings:

Labour: 9.30 am  
Conservative: Tuesday 14 March at 5 pm via Teams

Enquiries and requests for supporting papers to: Lorraine Davis  
Direct Line: 07929164805  
Email: [lorraine.davis@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:lorraine.davis@cumbria.gov.uk)

*This agenda is available on request in alternative formats*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Labour (4)**

Mr M Hawkins  
Mr FI Morgan  
Mr DE Southward  
Mrs EL Williamson

### **Conservative (8)**

Mr MS Barbour  
Mr K Hitchen (Chair)  
Mr GRPM Roberts  
Mr CP Turner  
Mr CJ Whiteside  
Mr D Wilson (Vice-Chair)  
Mr AW Wonnacott  
(vacancy)

## **ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

### **Agenda and Reports**

Copies of the agenda and Part I reports are available for members of the public to inspect prior to the meeting. Copies will also be available at the meeting.

The agenda and Part I reports are also available on the County Council's website – [www.cumbria.gov.uk](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk)

### **Background Papers**

Requests for the background papers to the Part I reports, excluding those papers that contain exempt information, can be made to Legal and Democratic Services at the address overleaf between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday.

# **A G E N D A**

## **PART 1: ITEMS LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are invited to disclose any disclosable pecuniary interest they have in any item on the agenda which comprises:-

- 1 Details of any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- 2 Details of any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. (This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
- 3 Details of any contract which is made between you (or a body in which you have a beneficial interest) and the authority
  - (a) Under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - (b) Which has not been fully discharged.
- 4 Details of any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the authority.
- 5 Details of any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the authority for a month or longer.
- 6 Details of any tenancy where (to your knowledge)
  - (a) The landlord is the authority; and
  - (b) The tenant is a body in which you have a beneficial interest.
- 7 Details of any beneficial interest in securities of a body where
  - (a) That body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the authority; and
  - (b) Either –

- (i) The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
- (ii) If that share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

In addition, you must also disclose other non-pecuniary interests set out in the Code of Conduct where these have not already been registered.

#### **Note**

**A “disclosable pecuniary interest” is an interest of a councillor or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they are civil partners).**

### **3 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda

### **4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There are no public questions, statements or petitions to be considered at this meeting.

### **5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Local Committee held on 16 January 2023 (copy enclosed).

**(Pages 7 - 12)**

### **6 COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP - UPDATE FROM 15 FEBRUARY 2023**

***[Electoral Divisions: All Copeland]***

To consider a report by the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure (copy enclosed).

*This report provides details of the meeting of the Highways Working Group held on 15 February 2023 and presents recommendations for the Local Committee to consider.*

**(Pages 13 - 20)**

## **7 AREA MANAGER REPORT**

### ***[Electoral Divisions: All Copeland]***

To consider a report by the Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services (copy enclosed).

**(Pages 21 - 32)**

## **8 INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

To consider a report by the Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services (copy enclosed).

**(Pages 33 - 50)**

## **9 COPELAND LOCAL COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT**

To consider a report by the Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services (copy enclosed).

**(Pages 51 - 66)**

## **10 COPELAND CHAMPIONS UPDATE**

To receive updates from the following Copeland Champions:-

Armed Forces Champion

Autism Champion

Children's Champion

Dementia Champion

Fire Champion

Health Champion

## **11 VERBAL UPDATE FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES/EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

To receive a verbal update from members serving on any outside bodies/external committees they attend on behalf of Copeland Local Committee.

## **12 NUCLEAR ISSUES**

To discuss any relevant nuclear issues.

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## COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND

Minutes of a Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Copeland held on Monday, 16 January 2023 at Cleator Moor Civic Hall, Cleator Moor at 10.15 am

### PRESENT:

Mr K Hitchen (Chair)

Mr MS Barbour

Mr M Hawkins

Mr FI Morgan

Mr GRPM Roberts

Mr DE Southward

Mr CJ Whiteside

Mr AW Wonnacott

Also in Attendance:-

- |                   |   |                                            |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------------|
| Ms V Ayre         | - | Public Health Locality Manager (Allerdale) |
| Mr D Barton       | - | Assistant Director - Education and Skills  |
| Mr B Carter       | - | Traffic Management Officer                 |
| Mrs L Davis       | - | Democratic Services Officer                |
| Ms E Routledge    | - | Adult Learning Manager, Copeland           |
| Ms L Sanczuk      | - | Senior Manager                             |
| Ms L Shaw         | - | Area Manager - Allerdale/Copeland          |
| Ms P Stanyon-Carr | - | Senior Manager - Children and Young People |
| Mr M Taylor       | - | Local Area Network Manager (Copeland)      |
| Ms L Thorburn     | - | Area Planning Manager - Allerdale/Copeland |

### **PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

#### **59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Lamb, Mr P Turner, Ms E Williamson and Mr D Wilson.

#### **60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr M Hawkins declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item No 9 – Invest in Our Communities – as a member of Beckbottom Community Garden Group.

Mr G Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest – as a member of Whitehaven Town Council.

## **61 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED**, that the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

## **62 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation received for this meeting.

## **63 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2022 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

## **64 CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE**

Members received a report that set out how the work of the People Directorate impacted in the Copeland area. The report appraised the Committee of the work undertaken and developments within Children and families, including early help, education and children's social care.

The Senior Manager went through the first section of the report highlighting early help, part of complex arrangements to ensure children, young people and their families receive the right help by the right people at the right time. It was noted, that with funding provided by the Committee, the Pause Programme had been a great success, supporting women who have had, or at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care. Members noted designated safeguarding leads and that Cumbria had been part of a national research project which had seen social workers based in schools. The Holiday and Food Activity programme had been very successful which had resulted in Copeland receiving £201,201 to provide a wide range of activities for children and young people receiving free school meals during the holiday periods. The Local Committee's influence and direct benefit to children and young people was noted and commended.

The Assistant Director - Education & Skills continued by giving an education update and advised members that all the education systems worked closely together in Cumbria. Listed in the report were the results across all age ranges in education. Members were informed that early indications were that headline GCSE results in Cumbria were up from 2019 for all pupils, and in some cases have increased more significantly for disadvantaged pupils. However, the Early Years results remained below the national average. The impact of the pandemic was explained with the actual impact on academic outcomes and wellbeing expected to be crystallised over time. The officer highlighted the Council's good relationships with schools, wraparound support offered to schools and outlined the SEND green paper and the Schools White Paper – Opportunities for all (now being rewritten) and the impact of these. The officer touched upon Elective Home Education, the risks associated with this and the hope that monitoring powers through legislation would materialise for this in future.



Members questioned the good Ofsted ratings against the disappointing academic results. The Assistant Director explained that Ofsted ratings were not solely determined by results. The discussion centred around SEN needs, specifically autism, and the enormous challenges faced both nationally and in Cumbria for services. It was recognised that demand for places outstripped supply. Apprenticeship participation versus continued education was commented on. The infrastructure and the work done for LGR to ensure minimal disruption to the system was discussed.

To conclude the report, the Senior Manager - Children and Young People (Allerdale and Copeland) gave a short presentation on their services and who they were responsible for. The officer highlighted open cases and the changes in trends in Copeland, as well as highlighting some recent developments that were taking place. Members noted the developments included the setting up of a pilot scheme for domestic abuse, child exploitation intervention workers, increased numbers of family resilience workers and a reunification project. The rise in domestic abuse and the impacts of the Cost of Living crisis were discussed. The officers and the Area Manager outlined measures that were being taken to provide support for residents with the cost of living. Members were assured that the support being given to households was not duplicating other work on this issue.

The officers were thanked for their attendance and very informative report.

**RESOLVED**, that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the report be shared with members of the Cumberland Shadow Authority to raise awareness what had been achieved across the Copeland district as part of the new Cumberland footprint.

## **65 COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP**

Members received a report detailing the discussions and recommendations from the meeting of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on 16 December. The minutes from the meeting were appended to the report.

The Local Area Network Manager gave an update on the start date of the Moresby Embankment work and informed members that collaborative work was taking place with National Highways to prepare for this. The Local Member for Howgate reiterated his serious concerns raised at the Working Group for pedestrian safety around Howgate/Gallows Lonning and, that this would be exacerbated with the planned weekend closures of the A595 and the increase in traffic using the route.

The Local Member for Egremont North and St Bees thanked officers for their hard work dealing with district flooding. The Local Member for Egremont thanked the team for the reopening of Beckermeth Bridge following refurbishment and requested assistance on localised flooding in Egremont. An update on the timescale for the Whitehaven TRO was given.

In answer to a member's question, the Local Area Network Manager reported that investigations were ongoing to the placement of traffic tubes in the Bransty area to ascertain if the correct procedure/approval had been followed.

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the meeting of the meeting of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on 16 December 2022 be noted.

## **66 AREA PLANNING REPORT**

Members received a report that provided an update on the activity undertaken by the Community Development Team since the last meeting of the Committee.

The Area Manager reported on the Borderlands Place Programme in Egremont and members noted that a report on prioritisations would be submitted to the Local Committee in March. The Area Manager agreed to provide the costings of the prioritisation work to the Local Member for Mirehouse. Members were informed of the celebratory launch of the Millom Community Hub that took place on Saturday 3 December to mark the official opening of the redesigned Hub. The event was attended by over 120 people and showcased the new hub which brings together public and community services in a fit for purpose setting.

The Area Manager gave a Library service update which included book loan boxes delivered to settings throughout the area and the 'Treasure Packs' initiative focusing on the distribution of books to children under 4 years old. The Public Health Locality Manager advised on the latest covid/flu figures, the stretched health services, funding that had been secured for more pop up vaccine clinics and encouraged the take up of the vaccines. The public health update also included work being undertaken to support mental health, suicide prevention, alcohol abuse and activities in Warm Hubs. Members noted the update from Adult Learning. It was noted that a mental health conference would take place on 2 February and details would be emailed to members following the meeting.

To conclude, the Area Manager informed members of Copeland wide issues. It was noted that additional funding had been secured to assist with the Cost of Living Crisis and that the team had been working with partner organisations on distribution. The funds were being used to support food pantries/warm hubs, vouchers to support those in financial crisis and the purchase of practical items such as hot water bottles and blankets.

**RESOLVED**, that the report be noted.

## **67 INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

Members received a report that presented grant applications in excess of £5,000 for consideration and approval from the 2022-23 budget and were also asked to note grant applications under £5,000 where funding had previously been awarded to the applying organisation which took the full amount applied for over £5,000. The report also presented any proposals from the Environment Fund, regardless of the amount and contained the current budget position as of 30 November 2022 at Appendix 1.

The Local Member for Mirehouse welcomed and gave thanks for the grant awarded to Beck Bottom Community Garden Group.

**RESOLVED, that**

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) a grant of £8,000 from General Provision (£1,500 from Virtual Dementia Tour Bus, £6,426 from Dementia Enabling and £74 from Dementia Education Workshops) to Age UK West Cumbria to provide funding to local organisations to support dementia enabling events and activities be approved;
- (3) a grant of up to £15,000 to Farm Life West Cumbria CIC from the 0-19 Universal Services budget to support a new venture to set up facilities to offer farm education experience based at Moresby farm be approved;
- (4) a grant of up to £15,000 from 0–19 Universal Services to Howgill Family Centre to carry out necessary works to the former Kells Library building to enable them to relocate the Kabin Nursery into the building be approved;
- (5) the reallocation of £4,810 (the remaining balance of the 0-19 Universal budget allocation for the Youth Consultation to support using these as enabling funds) towards additional Youth Health Champion Training be approved;
- (6) from the Environment Fund allocation, the following projects be agreed:-
  - Up to £15,000 to Egremont and Area Regeneration Partnership for garden improvements, pathway and access improvements at Florence Arts Centre;
  - £5,000 to Beck Bottom Community Garden, Hensingham for provision of garden equipment storage with “living roof” and additional planting;
  - Up to £19,350 to Adams Recreation Ground Trust, St Bees to facilitate an access pathway and install interpretation boards and benches at the Adams Recreation Ground, St Bees
  - £5,000 additional funds to the Planting to Pollinators Scheme operated by the Cumbria Wildlife Trust for delivery of the scheme at nominated Copeland Sites.

## **68 COPELAND CHAMPIONS UPDATE**

### **Autism Champion**

The Autism Champion expressed the hope that Champion Roles continue in the new Cumberland Authority.

### **Health Champion**

The Health Champion outlined work being undertaken for mental health support, warm hubs and bereavement.

### **Dementia Champion**

The Dementia Champion reported on the transition of dementia work to Age UK and supported the Autism Champion's hope on the continuation of the roles.

## **69 VERBAL UPDATE FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES/EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

There were no verbal updates given at the meeting.

## **70 NUCLEAR ISSUES**

Mr D Southward, the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property updated the Committee on nuclear issues. The Cabinet Member expressed disappointment that Cumbria not been chosen for the siting of the production of small modular reactors (SMRs) or the STEP project.

## **71 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Local Committee was scheduled for 15 March 2023 at 10.15 am at Cleator Moor Civic Hall, Cleator Moor.

The meeting ended at 12.20 pm

<b>COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND</b>
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Meeting date: 15 March 2023
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From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure
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**COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP – UPDATE  
REPORT FROM 15 FEBRUARY 2023**

**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1** *This report details the discussions and recommendations of the Highways Working Group (HWG) for the Copeland Area which met on the 15 February 2023. It recommends that the Local Committee for Copeland notes the minutes of the HWG which are attached as Appendix 1.*

**2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

**2.1** *The recommendations within this report relate to budgets and programmes that are devolved to this Local Committee for determination and delivery.*

**2.2** *The policy position, links to corporate strategy, and the budgetary implications are set out in the individual HWG reports previously circulated to Members.*

**3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**3.1** *It is recommended that the Copeland Local Committee note the minutes of the meeting of the Copeland HWG which met on the 15 February 2023, which are attached as Appendix 1.*

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

4.1 The minutes of the HWG held on the 15 February 2023 are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## **5.0 OPTIONS**

5.1 That Local Committee note the discussions during the Copeland HWG held on the 15 February 2023 as detailed in this report.

## **6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from the recommendation to note the minutes of the HWG of 15 February 2023 which are attached as Appendix 1.

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation to note the minutes of the HWG of 15 February 2023 which are attached as Appendix 1. (KB – 3.3.2023)

## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

8.1 This report details the discussions and recommendations of the meeting of the HWG on the 15 February 2023 and recommends that the Local Committee note the Minutes of the HWG which is attached as Appendix 1.

**Angela Jones**  
**Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure**

*March 2023*

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*Please ensure that every part of this section where there is an asterisk\* is completed in accordance with the instructions before sending the report to Democratic Services, following which please delete this sentence.*

## **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 - Minutes of the Copeland HWG 15 February 2023**

Electoral Division(s): All Copeland

*\* Please remove whichever option is not applicable*

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

**N.B.** *If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.*

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
*[including Local Committees]*

*No previous relevant decisions.*

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

*Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.*

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*No background papers*

**REPORT AUTHOR**

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## COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on Wednesday, 15 February 2023 at 10.00 am on Teams

### PRESENT:

Mr K Hitchen (Chair)

Mr MS Barbour  
Mr M Hawkins  
Mr FI Morgan

Mr CP Turner  
Mr CJ Whiteside

Also in Attendance:-

Mrs L Davis	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr M Reeves	-	Traffic Management Team Leader
Mr M Taylor	-	Local Area Network Manager (Copeland)
Mr P Telford	-	Development Management Officer

### 21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received for the meeting.

### 22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2022 be agreed as a true record of the meeting.

### 23 LOCAL AREA NETWORK MANAGER REPORT

Members received a report from the Local Area Network Manager giving an update on Highway Network matters following the last group meeting in December.

Members noted that the next meeting of the A595 Liaison Group was due to take place on 16 February 2023 where a further update from National Highways on the upcoming Moresby Embankment project would be given. It was reported that National Highways had allocated £100,000 for the improvement of the County Council's road network ahead of the work to make improvements to mitigate the expected influx of traffic onto the network. Cumbria Highways had carried out surveys of the network and were working with National Highways to develop these works and aim to deliver them before the first closures of the A595 on 12 May 2023.

Members discussed the upcoming work. Concerns were raised on the influx of traffic on the planned diversion routes and the remedial work that would be necessary before work commenced. The Local Member for Cleator Moor West had

and continued to stress the importance of pre planning and asked if National Highways had programmed in the temporary car parks on the A5086 to house displaced HGVs. In answer to safety concerns around the Moresby Park area, the Local Member for Howgate confirmed that he had raised these at numerous meetings in order for them to be addressed. Members agreed to invite Shadow Authority Copeland members to future meetings of the A595 Liaison Group as the work was due to commence after the new Authority's vesting day.

The Local Area Network Manager informed the Group that as part of the Energy Coast Resilient Routes bid made by the County Council in July of 2022, the Government had granted Cumbria the sum of £18,000,000 for the repair and upgrade of 30km of the highway network. It was noted that Copeland had been allocated £12,850,000 of the amount to be spent on the A595 between Duddon Bridge and Calder Bridge and A5086 between Egremont and Lamplugh. The money would be used for surfacing and improving sections of carriageway and the improvement of 21 bridges in the area. The Local Area Network Manager agreed to circulate details on the use of the allocation, when known, to members.

To conclude the Traffic Management Team Leader – Copeland updated members on the Copeland TROs. Members noted that the work from the Copeland Remainder TRO would be implemented by the end of March. Members were asked to raise items for the Whitehaven TRO review with the Team. A list of items already submitted to the Team would be circulated to members in due course.

**RESOLVED**, that the report be noted.

## **24 CRASH GROUP**

Members received a CRASH Update from the Traffic Management Team Leader. It was noted that a meeting of the CRASH group had taken place the day before where eight Copeland issues had been discussed. The officer made special mention of two actions agreed:- a new speed camera van site on Frizington Road and increased van visits and another potential site on the A5086, Cleator.

The officer agreed to provide the results from data surveys carried out on Gallows Lonning/Rosehill area to the Local Member for Howgate. Members were informed that Zoe Martin had been appointed to the position of Parking Services Team Leader (West).

Requests were made for action at the junction of Sneckyeat and Holmwood Road following a number of accidents. The officer confirmed that this had been discussed at the Crash meeting and it had been agreed that the Police Collision Officer undertakes a "deep dive" of the accident reports to look at causing factors.

To conclude, the Development Management Officer advised of the improvement work implemented at the Keekle Meadows junction and agreed to investigate whether tactile paving had been installed on the pedestrian crossing.

**RESOLVED**, that the report be noted.

**25 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the meeting was the last one in the life of Cumbria County Council.

The meeting ended at 10.50 am

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<b>COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND</b>
--------------------------------------------------------

<b>Meeting date: 15 March 2023</b>
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<b>From: Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services</b>
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## **AREA MANAGER REPORT**

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *The purpose of this report is to bring Members up to date with the activity across Copeland and any recent developments.*
- 1.2 *Area planning activity continues in the form of key projects and area working activity including development of projects and schemes associated with additional internal and external funding.*

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 *The Copeland Local Committee has both executive and non-executive duties as set out in the County Council's constitution.*
- 2.2 *Copeland local committee is committed to the following priorities:*
- *Improving outcomes for Young People*
  - *Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive*
  - *Improved accessibility to services and opportunities*
- 2.3 *Copeland Local Committee has adopted the key theme proposed by the Children and Young People's Partnership which is:*
- *Improving outcomes for Young People*
- 2.4 *The work of the local committee contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2018-2022 vision which is to be*
- *A Council that works with residents, businesses and communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.*

2.5 ***The outcomes of this vision are:***

- ***People in Cumbria are healthy and safe***
- ***Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving***
- ***The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone***

2.6 ***There are no negative equality implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.***

3.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 ***Members note the contents of the report.***

4.0 **BACKGROUND**

**Community Development Team Update**

4.1 **Egremont Borderlands** - 4 Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) were submitted for consideration for the Borderlands fund. The PIDs were reviewed by an external consultant and dialogue is ongoing with Project Leads. A meeting of the Town Team has been arranged to discuss the advice of the consultants.

4.2 The Borderlands programme will move across to the new Cumberland Council. The next steps will be for the consultants' recommendations to be presented for approval to submit to the Borderlands Partnership Board and to facilitate the process for schemes to move to the next stage of developing project level business cases.

4.3 **Social Media update** –Throughout December and January the team posted 103 posts to the Copeland Community Development Facebook page reaching over 9,000 people. The most popular posts included advertising mental health and food and financial support available over the Christmas period, school admissions information and warm spot locations.

4.4 **West Cumbria Cost of Living and Better Health Expo events** – were held at Millom Guide Hall, 28 February 2023, and Cleator Moor Civic Hall, 8 March 2023. The focus of the West Cumbria Cost of Living and Better Health Expo events was to help to better inform professionals and the public around the wide range of support and advice that is currently available in our area in relation to cost of living and health related matters

**Library Update**

4.5 Libraries across Copeland continue to look to extend its existing range of free activities offered within them, to appeal to a range of ages and interests. This includes regular sessions and special events.

- 4.6 New to Whitehaven Library is a weekly Story Tots session for pre-school children (Thursdays, 10am) and a Cuppa and Chat group, hosted by a Cumbria County Council Health and Wellbeing Officer (Mondays 11am), followed by a walk.
- 4.7 Millom Library now offers a monthly Photography Group (last Tuesday of the month, 10.30am), and will soon be starting a weekly social/ chat group.
- 4.8 With assistance from Copeland Local Committee, staff are soon to launch regular gaming sessions, initially in Whitehaven Library. These will range from traditional board games to interactive digital technology. Gaming now accounts for a significant proportion of the UK entertainment industry and as part of the cultural landscape are a natural part of the library community offer. The new sessions will offer social connections and enjoyment, as well as skills building, and free access to interactive resources that can be expensive, therefore making them accessible to those who would not be able to afford them.
- 4.9 Following from the pilot programme the library outreach team ran at The Gables (reported to Local Committee in October 2022), VR headset sessions will soon be offered to service users of Hensingham Day Centre. These will be dedicated sessions delivered in the Library followed by a tour of the library,
- 4.10 The outreach team in particular look to organise one-off events in libraries. During February half term they organised a Costume Swap in Whitehaven Library to help families with rising costs and to be kinder to the environment by recycling costumes ready for World Book Day.
- 4.11 The outreach team are also working with Little Inventors to provide an offer for local schools to visit Millom Library for some STEM related creator sessions along a literacy theme, tying in with British Science Week.
- 4.12 As a backdrop to welcoming local residents into our libraries, during the winter of 2022 all libraries registered as Warm Spots with the County Council, ensuring people needing access to premises for warmth could be signposted to these community buildings. Unfortunately, recurring building problems left Frizington Library with no heating during December and Whitehaven Library for significant periods from December to early February.
- 4.13 At the core of every library service are the resources available for customers to use. Staff continue to work on a project to stock check book items held on shelves. Eradicating errors and identifying that a proportion of items remain on loan or lost after lockdown enables the service to improve its catalogue of holdings. Now Cumbria Libraries offers a free request service, there is increased demand from customers to be able to ask for items to be transferred between locations to meet their reading needs and this work assists with the quality of this service.
- 4.14 The local library team also look to develop new elements of our stock offer. They are currently updating the Autism book collection and will extend this to include new Autism Resource loan bags. Tactile resources have proven popular in the in-library sensory sessions, currently offered weekly in Millom

Library and to restart on a regular basis soon in Whitehaven Library. It is hoped these elements of the autism offer will be available for World Autism Acceptance Week (27 March - 2 April 2023).

### **Public Health Update**

- 4.15 Public Health and communities have worked with Copeland local committee since February 2016 following the appointment of the Public Health Locality Manager for Copeland in December 2015.
- 4.16 Awareness, understanding, knowledge and relevance of public health in communities has grown and become an integral part of local committee, woven into thinking, planning and decision making.
- 4.17 Members approach has created a legacy which will carry forward into the new Cumberland Council which appreciates that Public Health in communities is fundamental to health and wellbeing and creating and sustaining thriving communities.
- 4.18 Copeland Health and Wellbeing Forum formed in 2016 and agreed its priorities as healthy weight, alcohol awareness, mental health, older people, ageing well, addressing health inequalities and the nuclear new build health impact assessment aligning with the vision from council's Health & Wellbeing Strategy that everyone in Cumbria will have improved health and wellbeing and inequalities in health and wellbeing across the county will be reduced
- 4.19 Public Health priorities for Copeland were reducing alcohol misuse, reducing childhood obesity, and reducing smoking.
- 4.20 Since that time there have been 30 meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Forum which raised awareness of public health priorities, the wider, social determinates of health and health inequalities. Projects were championed and supported including Phunky Foods, Curriculum based Healthy Lifestyles programme targeting childhood obesity, the Copeland Hoarding Project, and the Copeland Alcohol Project.
- 4.21 Most interventions take time to show outcomes. In the case of the Phunky Foods programme, it was initially funded by public health and Copeland Local committee, then Copeland Local Committee and Sellafield so this programme has continued for more than 5 years. This means that it is possible to compare the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) data which weighs and measures children when they start primary school and again when they leave.
- 4.22 Data from 2016/17 shows that 27.6% of reception age children in Copeland were overweight/obese and 41.7% of YR6 children. 2021/22 data shows 27.4% of reception age children in Copeland were overweight/obese and 40% of YR6 children. Whilst this is only a small improvement and cannot be attributed solely to the schools' programme, it must be considered in the context of the COVID-19 Pandemic, schools being closed and then having significant restrictions as well as the wider impacts on children, families, and the community.



- 4.23 Smoking rates have fallen but there are still more than 17%, equating to around 12,000 adults in Copeland smoking. They are at significant risk of premature mortality from the three main causes of smoking – lung cancer, COPD and cardiovascular disease.
- 4.24 The use of e-cigarettes/vaping has grown, and Public Health recognises that vaping poses less risks to health than smoking tobacco-based products. Vaping, when adults use it as a quitting aid, is showing good success rates but it is not recommended for any other purpose. Advice is if you don't smoke, don't start vaping and do not buy or provide vaping devices etc for a child (under 18) as it is illegal to do so.
- 4.25 The Nuclear New Build did not progress but there are significant developments and major infrastructure projects in the pipeline meaning the experience of carrying out a thoroughly comprehensive Health Impact/Health Needs assessment including community engagement, serves as an example of both good practice and learning going forward.
- 4.26 There remains a lack of access to NHS dental provision in Copeland. This worsened when at the end of 2016, the Cleator Moor service closed and there was a short fall in dental places allocated to accommodate patients in practices in West Cumbria.
- 4.27 Since that time work has continued with partners and stakeholders to initially find someone to take up the Cleator Moor opportunity and then to find an alternative solution. Plans are now in place working in partnership with NHS England and UCLAN National Centre for Remote and Rural Medicine, West Lake Campus. It is envisaged that there will be provision in place later in 2023.
- 4.28 COVID-19 changed lives. Not only for Public Health but for all aspects of everyday life. Its legacy continues and combined with the cost of living crisis, the gap in the health inequalities has grown and is now one of the focuses for public health going forward.
- 4.29 The work in Copeland to date gives both experience and understanding plus a depth of knowledge that provides great foundations to continue working to improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

### **Adult Learning Update**

- 4.30 Copeland Adult Learning's recruitment to Term 2 provision has gone well. This academic year has seen 290 learners enrol onto skills provision which includes GCSE and Functional Skills English and Maths, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Essential Digital Skills and Volunteering courses. In addition, 598 have enrolled onto non-accredited digital, languages, arts and craft and health and wellbeing workshops and courses.
- 4.31 Courses enable learners to acquire new skills and prepare for training, employment, self-employment.

- 4.32 The majority of learners live in the Copeland area and access learning on face to face courses. A small minority that live elsewhere in the County access courses online.
- 4.33 Planning for term 3, April until July is now complete. This will be released on CCC Adult Learning website 23 April 2023. There is an extensive range of accredited provision, including English, Maths and Digital which forms part of the local and national priorities.
- 4.34 A priority for our new term is the Art for Wellbeing curriculum. Working with a number of partner organisations and ESOL residents of Copeland to build confidence and self-esteem, avoid social isolation and encourage participants to engage in their local community.
- 4.35 Collaborative ways of working between Adult Learning and the NHS continue to be successful. The NHS signpost clients to 'Healthy Living' and 'Cooking on a Budget' courses. These courses are designed to offer learners a hands on experience in preparing and creating healthy dishes at low cost and include information and demonstrations on nutrition.
- 4.36 The English Café in Whitehaven Library continues its success. Adult Learning visit weekly to meet participants and discuss courses that are available to them.
- 4.37 Currently there are a number of new learners enrolling on to courses where English is their second language. These are not solely ESOL courses but also to English, digital skills courses, maths and art courses.
- 4.38 Adult Learning provision is focused on enabling inclusive and accessible learning opportunities delivered within local communities and through online learning platforms. This continues to be one of the values during the planning provision for the next academic year, from January to April. Adult Learning is committed to ensuring a wide ranging and varied offer meets the needs of the residents of Copeland.

### **Active Cumbria Update**

- 4.39 Together Fund Award - The Together Fund closes 31 March 2023, with the deadline for applications the second week in March. There is a limited amount of funding unallocated. The recent grants awarded are:
- Groundwork North East and Cumbria - £6,800 to enable activity sessions to take place, to engage and improve physical and mental health for people seeking asylum residing in the Waverly Hotel in Whitehaven.
  - Age UK West Cumbria – £6,210 to support people aged 65+ who have comorbidity or a level of frailty that places them in limbo between hospital discharge and regaining fuller independence in their homes. Funding will provide transitional support in the home to aid independent recovery post discharge from hospital. (This project has also been funded for an additional 6 months through the reconditioning fund – See below).

- 4.40 **Live, Longer, Better in Cumbria** – The Re-conditioning Fund has supported the Age UK Together Fund project for an additional 6 months meaning it will be a year long project to look at helping the organisation secure longer term investment to continue the service beyond the initial year delivery.
- 4.41 **Street Tag** - At the beginning of 2022 Active Cumbria launched a county wide Street Tag programme, which had three aims:
- Incentivise school communities to be more physically active and boost mental wellbeing
  - Enable children, young people, and families to develop a positive relationship with movement
  - Support schools and parents to adopt active travel approaches as the preferred mode of transport for children to get to and from school
- 4.42 Year one of the programme has finished and Active Cumbria are able to provide a review of the impact the programme has had in the first 12 months at Appendix 1.
- 4.43 Active Cumbria will continue to build on the success of Street Tag. The financial contribution that came from all six local committees to the support the programme has ensured the success outlined in the report

#### **Copeland-Wide**

- 4.44 **Cost-of-Living Reserve** - The allocation of funds to Copeland was £45,700 comprising of £18,400 for community support and £27,300 for food to help with the challenges some families are facing with the cost-of-living increases.
- 4.45 The team worked with partner organisations to distribute the funding this included:
- Financial support to food pantries to purchase additional food and essential items
  - Financial support to verified warm spot venues to provide food and refreshments
  - Funding to third sector and community organisations for the purchase of vouchers to enable them to support those in financial crisis
  - Purchase of items such as hot water bottles and blankets to be distributed via partner organisations.
- 4.46 **NDA Cost of Living fund** – The team have been allocated funding from NDA to provide support with the cost-of living crisis. The team have been working with partner organisations on the following grant funding streams:

- Financial support to food pantries to purchase additional food and essential items
  - Financial support to verified warm spot venues for refreshment and utilities
  - Direct financial support to individual households for utilities, food and essential household items
  - Financial support to organisations to purchase energy saving items to distribute to their customers
  - Financial support to organisations to purchase and allocate vouchers to support customers
- 4.47 **Copeland Citizens Advice** – have produced their money advice report for the period April 22 - March 23. They report that the cost of living and fuel crisis is now seeing a wider group of people accessing support. This includes an increase in the number of people helped for the first time with crisis support such as food banks and emergency charitable support.
- 4.48 At the end of December 2023 more people were unable to afford to top up their prepayment meter than for the entirety of the previous 10 years combined.
- 4.49 Energy continues to be the top debt issue for Copeland residents, people applying for or appealing PIP decisions is the biggest benefit enquiry area and people seeking support to access accommodation is the biggest housing issue.
- 4.50 Money Advice data April 2022 - January 2023 illustrates that 347 clients were supported, 1,895 issues were dealt with including debt, benefits, housing and employment, 62% of clients were female and 37% male. 59% of clients had a long term health condition and 15% were disabled. 866 debts were dealt with, income gains of £308,720 were secured and £436,018 worth of debt was written off. £38,292 of repayments were rescheduled, £90,362 of debts were repaid, and clients better able to manage debts totalled £307,985.
- 4.51 **Cumbria County Council's Refugee Resettlement Team** - continue to hold weekly drop-in sessions for refugees who arrived on either the UKRS, ARAP, ACRS programmes or who arrived on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, to offer support and assistance. It is also an opportunity for refugees to meet caseworkers and other refugees in Copeland.
- 4.52 The first drop-in was held 8 February 2023 at the United Reformed Church in Whitehaven and every Wednesday thereafter.

## 5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 The report is to note only so there are no options to consider

## 6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report sets out the activities that are progressing across Copeland across all themes and size of project. Working with partners is a key part of community development activity.

**Simon Higgins**  
**Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services**  
*March 2023*

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## APPENDICES

### ***Appendix 1 – Street Tag stats***

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision

	No
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Key Decision

	No*
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A*
--	--	------

Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	No*
--	-----

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A*
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?  
If so, give details below.

	No*
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken? 

		N/A*
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken? 

		N/A*
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***N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.***

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
***[including Local Committees]***

***No previous relevant decisions.***

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

***Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.***

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

***No background papers.***

**REPORT AUTHOR**

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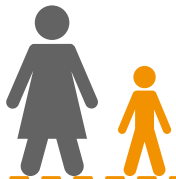
# Street Tag 2022

## Headline Statistics



### Demographics

61% females  
39% males



15% of players have long term health conditions, of which 50% say it affects everyday life



84% of survey respondents do not take part in any sport, fitness, or dance activities



### Days of the Week

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are when players engage the most with the app



### Time of Day

Peak periods are 7.00am to 9.00am and 2.00pm to 4.00pm

There is activity on Street Tag 24 hours a day



### Activity Levels

Players who meet Fairly Active and Active criteria increased by 22% to 84% in total



### Walking Behaviour Change

8% increase in people walking 30 minutes or more a day to 82% in total



9% increase in people completing walks that increase their breathing rate to 83% in total

### Cycling Behaviour Change

Number of people who cycle as a means of active travel increased by 9% to 19% in total

Increase of 13% in people who cycle for 30 minutes or more a day to 73% in total

Increase of 7% in people completing rides that increase their breathing rate to 95% in total



Data Source: Street Tag Active Lives Survey, 437 total respondents

Data Source: Street Tag Active Lives Survey, 437 total respondents

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<b>COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND</b>
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<b>Meeting date: 15 March 2023</b>
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<b>From: Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services</b>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------

## **INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *The report presents grant applications in excess of £5,000 for consideration and approval from the 2022-23 budget. Note that grant applications under £5,000 are also included for information and where funding has previously been awarded to the applying organisation which would take the full amount applied for over £5,000.*
- 1.2 *The report presents any proposals from the Environment Fund, regardless of the amount.*
- 1.3 *The report also presents the current budget position as of 22 February 2023.*

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 *The Copeland Local Committee has both executive and non-executive duties as set out in the County Council's constitution.*
- 2.2 *Copeland Local Committee is committed to the following priorities:*
  - *Improving outcomes for young people*
  - *Encourage individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive*
  - *Improved accessibility to services and opportunities*

2.3 ***The following Public Health priorities have also been adopted for 2022-23:***

- ***Healthy lifestyles and behaviours***
- ***Mental wellbeing***
- ***Impacts of covid-19***
- ***Health inequalities***

2.4 ***Copeland Local Committee has one overarching key theme proposed by the Children and Young People's Partnership which is:***

- ***Improving outcomes for young people***

2.5 ***The work of the local committee contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2018-2022 vision which is to be***

- ***A Council that works with residents, businesses and communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.***

2.6 ***The outcomes of this vision are:***

- ***People in Cumbria are healthy and safe***
- ***Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving***
- ***The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone***

2.7 ***There are no negative equality implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.***

### **3.0 *RECOMMENDATIONS***

3.1 ***Members note the contents of the report.***

3.2 ***Members approve and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5,000.***

3.3 ***Members agree that an amount of £3,209 allocated to Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre during financial year 2022/23 from the Environment Fund be decommitted and returned to the Environment Fund budget to be allocated to other schemes. This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £25,000 not being fully spent.***

3.4 ***Members agree that an amount of £4,000 allocated to Cumbria Adult Learning during financial year 2018/19 from the 0-19 Universal Services***

***be decommitted and returned to the 0.19 Universal Services budget. This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £27,801 not being fully spent.***

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 This report sets out the detail of grant applications received, under the relevant budget headings, that exceed £5,000 for approval by local committee. In some cases, the proposed allocation is for less than £5,000 but has been included as these are additional grants which take the total to an organisation over £5,000.
- 4.2 The Copeland Grants Panels, held in January and February, considered a number of applications. Members are asked to note allocations previously agreed and ratify those that exceed £5,000.
- 4.3 Appendix 1 details the grants awarded throughout 2022-23.
- 4.4 For information, the current financial statement as of 22 February is attached for reference at Appendix 2.

### **GENERAL PROVISION**

- 4.5 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,774 from General Provision (£1,334 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund with the remaining £1,440 from General Provision) to Age UK for the Muncaster Shed Project for the purchase of tools and equipment to enable Social Prescribing activities at the venue.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving accessibility to services and opportunities
- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive

- 4.6 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,850 from General Provision (£2,850 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund ) to West Cumbria River's Trust Walkmill Green Gym to enable volunteers to work on site in the outdoors with both physical and mental health benefits as part of a Social Prescribing project.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.7 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £3,366 from General Provision (£3,366 from the ring-fenced Social Prescribing Enabling Fund) for Phoenix Art Group to enable the group to attract new members from a diverse range of backgrounds and encouraging engagement through free taster sessions and heavily subsidised membership fees.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.8 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £357 from General Provision to Copeland Primary Care Network for Copeland Stroke Prevention Group. The group wish to purchase a portable printer and consumables to take to community events where they can print off screening results to give to members of the public.

The project meets the following priorities:

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.9 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,000 from General Provision to Active Cumbria to purchase Activate Bags to facilitate physical activity at venues in Copeland such as the Warm Spot venues.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.10 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £1,968 from General Provision to Together We to develop a Cognitive Behaviour Therapy programme to help people manage physical conditions such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

- 4.11 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £10,000 to Egremont Area Regeneration Partnership (Florence Arts Centre) to purchase energy

efficient infra-red heaters to enable greater usage of the building and to heat the space more efficiently.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

### **0-19 UNIVERSAL SERVICES**

4.12 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £3,911 to Shackles Off Youth Project from 0-19 Universal Services towards the purchase of laptops headphones and laptop bags to assist young people as part of a Reconnect Project supporting those applying for training, college or employment.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving outcomes for young people.

4.13 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of up to £3,914 to South Whitehaven Youth Partnership from the 0-19 Universal Services budget to support a new pilot 'healthy eating and cooking' project to be delivered in Woodhouse to two Youth Clubs.

The project meets the following priorities: -

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.14 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,937 from 0–19 Universal Services to Overend Childrens Home to purchase a range of entertainment, sport and fitness equipment.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.15 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,928 from 0–19 Universal Services to North Allerdale Development Trust to create and run a pilot scheme for young people aged between 8-16 who have been misplaced from their own country due to conflict,

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.16 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £2,000 to Lowca Parish Council from 0-19 Universal Services budget to replace outdated play equipment at East Road play area.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

4.17 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,000 to Phoenix Youth Project from 0-19 Universal Services budget to purchase new laptops.

The project meets the following priority:-

- Improving outcomes for young people

### **COST OF LIVING BUDGET**

4.18 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £1,000 from Cost of Living Community Support to Howgill Family Centre on behalf of Baby Basics to purchase vouchers to support families in need.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

4.19 At Grants Panel, Members recommended a grant of £4,500 from Cost of Living Community Support to Howgill Family Centre to purchase vouchers which can be issued to families to support those in need during the cost of living crisis.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

### **COMMUNITY WASTE PREVENTION**

4.20 At Grants Panel Members recommended a grant of £705 from the Community Waste Management to Millom Network Centre towards the purchase of composting equipment to facilitate a community composting project and allow sustainability of the community growing spaces.

The project meets the following priorities:-

- Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive
- Improved accessibility to services and opportunities

### **ENVIRONMENT FUND**

4.21 A budget of £200,000 was agreed at full Council on 10 February 2022 to be distributed for schemes which fit within the scope set out below:

- enhanced verge maintenance
- tree maintenance / replacement
- footpath maintenance
- nature recovery
- biodiversity improvements
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.22 Working with the Community Development Team, projects proposed by Members have been developed with the relevant partners and organisations. The following projects have been agreed informally with Members and now requires formal ratification of Local Committee.

- £9,000 to West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Longlands for interactive interpretation and tree management on site at Longlands Cleator.
- £9,870 to West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Walkmill for conservation management and wildlife habitats including setting up plant nursery planting and tree management at Walkmill Community Woodland Moresby.
- £9,054 to Millom Town Council for Sensory Garden planting and benches in Millom Park.
- Up to £1,959 for memorial benches in towns in Copeland to mark the Cumbria County Council Copeland Local Committee.

#### **GRANT AMENDMENTS - ENVIRONMENT FUND**

4.23 In 2022/2023 financial year Copeland Local Committee 22 November 2022 listed at paragraph 4.12 recommended a grant of up to £25,000 to the County Council's Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre for pathway and access improvement.

4.24 Members are advised the full allocation has not been spent and the underspend of £3,209 be decommitted and be returned the Environment Fund budget to be allocated towards other schemes.

#### **GRANT AMENDMENTS - 0-19 UNIVERSAL SERVICES**

4.25 In 2018/19 financial year Copeland Local Committee recommended a grant allocation of £27,801 to Cumbria Adult Learning from 0-19 Universal Services for the Young People into Employment scheme.

4.26 Members are advised the full allocation has not been spent and the underspend of £4,000 will be decommitted and returned to the 0-19 Universal Services Fund to be allocated towards other schemes.

## **5.0 OPTIONS**

5.1 In respect of the recommendations 3.2 to 3.4, Members have the option to:

- Agree the recommendations or not

As this is the last meeting of Copeland Local Committee, it will not be possible to defer the decision to a later meeting. Any decisions of £5,000 or less can still be made by the Chair in consultation with the Area Manager before 27 March 2023.

## **6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 All grants detailed in the report have been included in the financial statement at Appendix 2, as they have either been to the Grants Panel or are below the £5000 threshold for Local Committee approval, so should Members choose to approve them, the funds available to spend will remain as on the financial statement. (TC 27/02/2023)

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Members have decision making power under the Constitution to agree and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5000. During the financial year 2022/3 a grant allocation of £25000 was allocated to Hensingham Day Centre and Grassroots Garden Centre. By inference Members have power to agree that an amount of £3,209 so allocated be decommitted and returned to the Environment Fund budget to be allocated to other schemes (Recommendation 3.3). This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £25,000 not being fully spent.

7.2 Members have decision making power under the Constitution to agree and ratify grant recommendations that exceed £5000. During the financial year 2018/19 a grant allocation of £27801 was allocated to Cumbria Adult Learning. By inference Members have power to agree that an amount of £4000 so allocated be decommitted and returned to the 0.19 Universal Services budget (Recommendation 3.4). This is a result of the full grant allocation of up to £27,801 not being fully spent.

## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

8.1 This report presents the current budget allocated to local committee for 2022-23 as at 22 February 2023 together with the grant applications received that are over the threshold requiring local committee approval.



March 2023

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**APPENDICES**

***Appendix 1 – Grant Summary***

***Appendix 2 - Local Committee Budget 2022-23***

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision

Yes*	
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Key Decision

	No*
--	-----

If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A*
--	--	------

Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	No*
--	-----

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A*
--	--	------

Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?  
If so, give details below.

	No*
--	-----

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A*
--	--	------

Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A*
--	--	------

***N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.***

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
***[including Local Committees]***

***No previous relevant decisions.***

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

***Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.***

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*No background papers.*

## **REPORT AUTHOR**

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## Copeland Local Committee funded projects 2022-23

### General Provisions

Organisation	Project	Funding
Public Health	Sensory Impairment Awareness	£2,000.00
Active Cumbria	Physical activity sessions for community groups	£3,000.00
Libraries	Interactive Equipment & Fab Labs	£3,205.00
Community Development Team	Activities for Millom Hub opening event	£895.53
Crosslacon Team Council	Living Room Social Prescribing project	£2,450.00
West Cumbria Rivers Trust	Green Gym Walkmill	£300.00
Age UK West Cumbria	Dementia enabling activities	£8,000.00
Mid Copeland Dementia Friendly Community	Dementia education workshops, Dementia Action Week activities	£1,620.30
Seascale Parish Council	Building improvement plans for Seascale Library	£1,000.00
Dementia Action Alliance - various	Dementia Action week activities	£1,573.50
Phoenix Art Club	Equipment to run subsidised art sessions	£3,366.00
Age UK West Cumbria	Muncaster Shed project	£2,774.00
Cumbria Action for Sustainability	Equipment to implement recycling in schools	£2,500.00
West Cumbria Domestic Violence Support	United Together project	£5,000.00
AWAZ Cumbria	Unity Festival	£2,000.00
Citizens Advice Copeland	Financial Inclusion project	£35,263.00
Phoenix Enterprise Centre	Thrift Hub	£17,000.00
Crosslacon Parish Jubilee event	Jubilee activities	£594.00
Adult Learning	Cookery equipment	£1,000.00
Citizens Advice Copeland	WONDE evouchers	£2,500.00
Phoenix Enterprise Centre	WONDE evouchers	£2,000.00
Family Action	WONDE evouchers	£2,000.00
Millom Network Centre	WONDE evouchers	£1,000.00
CAAS	WONDE evouchers	£750.00
Howgill Family Centre	WONDE evouchers	£750.00
Bootle First Responders	Kit Bag & Defib	£1,492.00
Pause	Peripatetic Practitioner	£11,040.00
Adamedia	Social Prescribing Video	£3,500.00
Sticky Bits	Start-up costs LGBTQ+ awards	£1,266.00
Adams Recreation Ground	Outdoor gym equipment	£3,600.00
Egremont Amenity Group (Town Council)	Winter event	£1,000.00
Age UK West Cumbria	Catch 22 Project	£9,787.00

Copeland Canoe Club	Specialist waterproof handheld defib	£1,743.00
Florence Arts Centre	Infra-red heaters	£10,000.00
Together We	Training to create new CBT programme	£1,968.00
Copeland Stroke Prevention	Printer and accessories	£357.00
Active Cumbria	Activate Bags for community venues	£2,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£150,294.33</b>

## 0-19 and Universal Youth

Organisation	Project	Funding
Library Service	Interactive Equipment & Fab Labs	£2,795.00
Community Development Team	Big Conversation event	£3,200.00
Public Health	Youth Health Champions project - part funded by Well Whitehaven and Public Health	£18,608.20
Barnardos	Summit 22	£5,000.00
Handpicked Productions	Art Gym	£12,390.00
School Library Service	Chatterbooks subscription for 40 schools	£4,000.00
Rosehill Arts Trust	Copeland Collective project	£12,000.00
Circus Starr	Tickets for Copeland families	£1,520.00
Rosehill Youth Theatre	Half term provision in June and October	£3,992.00
Howgill Family Centre	PhunkyFoods subscriptions	£21,600.00
Orian	School crossing patrols	£15,000.00
South Whitehaven Youth Partnership	HAF places and senior youth club places	£4,185.00
ICAN	Fitness programme in schools	£4,800.00
Millom Parent & Carers Disability Group	Towards Summer 2022 activity programme	£3,000.00
Greenbank Community Centre	Summer activity programme	£1,000.00
Overend Children's Residential Home	Short break to Centre Parcs	£3,018.00
Anti-Racist Cumbria	Education Officer to work in 9 Copeland Schools	£9,000.00
CYA - Dreamscheme	Dreamscheme social action project	£5,000.00
Farm Life West Cumbria	Towards the setup of an education facility on a Farm	£15,000.00
Howgill Family Centre	Building improvement	£15,000.00
PEC - No Questions Asked	No Questions Asked project	£5,000.00
EARP- Florence Arts Centre	Furniture for youth area	£4,000.00
SWYP	Cooking and healthy eating for youth club/after school club	£3,914.00
Shackles Off	Laptops & accessories	£3,911.00

Overend Children's Residential Home	Entertainment, sports and fitness equipment	£4,937.00
NADT	Pilot scheme for refugee young people	£4,928.00
Lowca Parish Council	Replacing outdated play equipment	£2,000.00
Library Service	Gaming and interactive equipment	£6,410.00
Phoenix Youth Project	Laptops	£4,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£199,208.20</b>

### Community Waste Prevention

Organisation	Project	Funding
Millom Network Centre	Community Composting	£705.00
Hoarding Hub	Hoarding projects	£5,000.00
Something Different	Waste prevention products	£1,800.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£7,505.00</b>

### Environment Fund

Organisation	Project	Funding
Highways	Silecroft footpath	£12,374.00
Highways/Countryside Access	Middlecut & Sandham	£28,802.00
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Pollinator Schemes	£40,000.00
Millom Town Council	Church Walk	£12,200.00
St Pauls, Frizington	Community wildlife project	£5,600.00
Beck Bottom Community Gardening Group	Garden improvements	£10,000.00
Adams Ground	Pathway improvements	£19,350.00
Hensingham Day Centre/Grassroots Garden Centre to LC Nov 22	Footpath improvements	£21,791.00
Beck Bottom Community Gardening Store	Store and living roof	£5,000.00
EARP - Florence Arts Centre Garden & Paths	Garden & access paths	£15,000.00
West Cumbria Rivers Trust	Conservation, tree nursery & planting Green Gym at Moresby	£9,000.00
West Cumbria Rivers Trust	Interpretation and tree maintenance at Longlands	£9,870.00
Community Development Team	Commemorative benches	£1,959.00
Millom Town Council	Millom Park Sensory planting & benches	£9,054.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£200,000.00</b>

## Cost-of-Living – Community Support

Organisation	Project	Funding
Millom Network Centre	Vouchers to support customers	£1,000.00
Age UK	Catch 22 Project	£4,500.00
PEC	Vouchers to support customers	£1,000.00
Pelleymounters	Vouchers - energy saving lightbulbs	£833.00
PAUSE	Vouchers to support customers	£500.00
Howgill	Vouchers to support customers	£4,500.00
WEDCU (Whitehaven & Egremont District Credit Union)	Vouchers to support customers	£1,000.00
Whitehaven Community Trust	Vouchers to support customers	£1,000.00
Baby Basics	Essential items	£1,000.00
Time to Change -Women Out West/Calderwood House	Vouchers to support customers	£1,000.00
Home to Work	Warm Hub utilities support	£500.00
Rosehill Youth Theatre (Solway Hall)	Warm Hub utilities support	£500.00
Cumbria County Council	Holiday Activity & Food Programme	£1,066.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£18,399.00</b>

## Cost-of-Living – Food Support

Organisation	Project	Funding
Millom Network Centre	Food support	£3,500.00
PEC	Food support	£3,000.00
Egremont Methodist Church	Warm spot support	£500.00
Distington Club for Young People	Warm spot support	£500.00
EARP Florence Arts Centre	Warm spot support	£500.00
Home to Work	Warm spot support	£2,000.00
Solway Hall (Rosehill Youth Theatre)	Warm spot support	£1,000.00
Rosehill Arts Trust £2K	Warm spot support	£2,000.00
Family Action	Vouchers to support customers	£4,500.00
Children's Services	Vouchers to support customers	£4,500.00
Citizens Advice Copeland	Vouchers to support customers	£4,500.00
Cumbria County Council	Holiday Activity & Food Programme	£800.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£27,300.00</b>

## Household Support Fund

Organisation	Project	Funding
Whitehaven Community Trust	Refurbish & white goods for supported living accommodation	£4,808.00
Cumbria County Council	Holiday Activity & Food Programme	£3,000.00
Distington Club for Young People	After school activity sessions	£4,400.00
		<b>£12,208.00</b>

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COPELAND LOCAL COMMITTEE												
FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/23												
SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT: 22 February 2023												
Appendix	Budget Sector	2022/23 Original Budget	Balance B/Fwd	Virement In	Virement Out	Revised Budget	Other Contrib'n	2022/23 Spending Limit	Remaining Commitments	Actual Expenditure to Date	Actual & Committed	Unallocated Resources or Variance
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	<b>Revenue Budgets:</b>											
	<b>Discretionary Budgets</b>											
B	General Provision	54,785	64,210			118,995	0	118,995	26,087	83,445	109,531	9,464
C	Community Grants	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	School Crossing Patrols	20,873	3,182	15,000		39,055	0	39,055	6,300	25,942	32,242	6,813
E	0-19 Services	80,137	99,529		15,000	164,666	0	164,666	44,863	117,514	162,377	2,289
F	0-19 Forums	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G	Local Revenue Schemes	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		<b>155,795</b>	<b>166,921</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>322,716</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>322,716</b>	<b>77,249</b>	<b>226,901</b>	<b>304,151</b>	<b>18,565</b>
	Other Revenue Budgets											
	Neighbourhood Development Team	86,308	0	0	0	86,308	0	86,308	0	86,307	86,307	1
	Money Advice Contract - CAB	57,060	0	0	0	57,060	0	57,060	0	57,060	57,060	0
	Community Waste Prevention Fund	0	10,100	0	0	10,100	0	10,100	2,505	7,500	10,005	95
	Environment Fund	200,000	-78,792	0	0	121,208	0	121,208	84,883	36,325	121,208	0
	COMF - Events	0	17,576	0	0	17,576	0	17,576	0	17,576	17,576	0
	COMF - Hardship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	COMF - Environment	0	-12,374	0	0	-12,374	12,374	0	0	0	0	0
	Cost of Living Support 22/23 Community	18,400	0	0	0	18,400	0	18,400	5,567	12,833	18,400	-0
	Cost of Living Support 22/23 Food	27,300	0	0	0	27,300	0	27,300	6,300	21,000	27,300	0
		<b>361,768</b>	<b>-63,490</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>298,278</b>	<b>12,374</b>	<b>310,652</b>	<b>92,955</b>	<b>217,601</b>	<b>310,556</b>	<b>96</b>
	<b>REVENUE TOTAL</b>	<b>517,563</b>	<b>103,431</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>620,994</b>	<b>12,374</b>	<b>633,368</b>	<b>170,204</b>	<b>444,502</b>	<b>614,707</b>	<b>18,661</b>
J	Local Member Capital Schemes											
	<b>CAPITAL TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>LOCAL COMMITTEE TOTAL</b>	<b>517,563</b>	<b>103,431</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>620,994</b>	<b>12,374</b>	<b>633,368</b>	<b>170,204</b>	<b>444,502</b>	<b>614,707</b>	<b>18,661</b>

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<b>COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND</b>
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<b>Meeting date: 15 March 2023</b>
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<b>From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services</b>
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## **COPELAND LOCAL COMMITTEE - FINAL REPORT**

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1 *The purpose of this report is to celebrate the achievements of Copeland Local Committee at its' final meeting. As the County Council will cease to exist with effect from 31 March 2023, it is appropriate that this local committee, as the local voice of the County Council, looks back on what it has experienced and achieved in its last 5 years under the current administration.***

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

**2.1 *The Copeland Local Committee has both executive and non-executive duties as set out in the County Council's constitution.***

**2.2 *At its meeting on 6 May 2022, the local committee reviewed and stated its priorities for delivery in its final 12 months as:***

- *Improving outcomes for Young People***
- *Encouraging individuals, households and communities to live well and thrive***
- *Supporting individuals, households and communities to engage, and to feel enabled and empowered.***

**2.3 *The Children and Young People's Partnership as part of the local committee has adopted the priority outcome of Improving Outcomes for Young People.***

**2.4 *The work of the local committee contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2018-2022 vision which is to be***

- *A Council that works with residents, businesses and communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.***

**2.5 *The outcomes of this vision are:***

- ***People in Cumbria are healthy and safe***
- ***Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving***
- ***The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone***

**2.6 *There are no negative equality implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.***

**3.0 *RECOMMENDATIONS***

**3.1 *Members note the contents of the report.***

**4.0 *BACKGROUND***

Copeland Local Committee has been in existence since April 2001 with a purpose at that time described as “optimising the use of Council assets and resources in their area; to influence Council policies and strategies affecting their area; and through the "whole area approach", to work with communities and partner organisations to enable public services to be shaped locally, to achieve the best possible outcomes within available resources.” It is made up of 12 County Councillors who represent the 12 divisional areas across Copeland. The relevant chapter from the Constitution is attached at Appendix 1.

Local committees perform three main functions:

- Make decisions
- Influence decisions made by others
- Receive and disseminate information.

All of this is performed with the local area of Copeland at the centre and with on the ground knowledge and experience brought by those locally elected Members.

**4.1 Elected Members of Copeland Local Committee have an integral role in supporting their communities and ensuring the best possible outcomes. In recognition of their achievements, Members have offered the following contributions to demonstrate the variety of work they have undertaken in their respective divisions.**

**4.2 *Councillor Martin Steven Barbour - Howgate***

In December 2020, Walkmill Community Woodland at Moresby was subject to a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) and responsibility for managing and developing the site, under a 99-year lease transferred to Moresby Parish Council.

The Parish Council alongside partners Walkmill Community Activity Group and West Cumbria Rivers Trust worked together to manage and build on the

success of the site. The whole site can be accessed by the public and all of the footpaths are protected for use by the public.

Environment funding of £11,300 was awarded in 2021 to enable West Cumbria Rivers Trust to continue to hold green gyms on the site and set up wildflower areas. Another application from West Cumbria Rivers Trust to the Environment Fund for £9,870 is currently being processed. This funding will enable them to set up their own nursery to grow trees and wildflowers along with footpath improvements.

Cllr Barbour said” It was an unexpected shock to me and a significant number of residents from both within and out with the Howgate community to learn that it had been agreed back in 2017 to dispose of the Walkmill Community Woodland.

The decision to market the site in 2019 created concern regarding the future of and public accessibility to the extensive area of land. A core group of concerned individuals were prepared to motivate and dedicate themselves in identifying and pursuing options to ensure the area remained accessible for public recreation.

It was a privilege for me to be able to facilitate the option of the resulting Community Asset Transfer of the extensive area of land to the custodianship of the Walkmill Community Woodland Activity Group, which I declare only became a possibility due to the sheer hard work and dogged determination of those founder, hardworking members of Walkmill Community Action Group with the professional support from the whole team of Copeland local area officers and local committee who have continued their support to enable WCWAG and their associates to further develop the area and activities available via allocation of further grants as stated.”

#### 4.3 **Councillor Michael (Mike) Hawkins - Mirehouse**

Beck Bottom Community Garden, Hensingham is run by a small group of local volunteers from all age ranges and backgrounds who share a passion for gardening and take great pride in the upkeep of the area.

They have helped transform a derelict area of former parkland into a cared for and attractive green space accessible to all. They aim to maintain and enhance Beck Bottom for the local community while promoting horticultural education and physical and mental health through gardening.

The group were initially awarded £10,000 in July 2021 to start the project with a further £10,000 being awarded in July 2022 to continue with the improvements. They have recently been awarded £5,000 in February 2023 to install a garden store with a living roof.

Cllr Hawkins said “the project has really grown and is beneficial to people’s mental health with Social Prescribers now referring into the project. It’s fabulous to see people working outdoors together on Saturday mornings, enjoying a chat whilst gardening”.

#### **4.4 Councillor Keith Haigh Hitchen (Chair) - Millom Without**

Members of the Copeland Local Committee have played an important role working with a variety of partners, acting as Champions, Members of Cabinet or on boards of other organisations such as Copeland Community Foundation, they have been able to influence decisions involving not only Copeland communities but countywide too.

As the Dementia Champion, Cllr Hitchen has been fundamental in influencing training and support for Dementia Care over many years, facilitating several projects with grant funding from Copeland Local Committee. Age UK recently recruited a new worker who will manage the remaining Dementia Enabling Fund of £8,000 allocated by Copeland Members, to assist in activities for those living with Dementia and their carers going forward for the future.

The modernisation of the building for the Millom Community Hub has been a major investment for both Cumbria County Council and Sellafield Ltd with its official opening in November 2022 after several years in development.

Cllr Hitchen proudly announced, “This has brought together a number of partners, beneficial for the long term working of services in Millom in a modern, bright, fit for purpose building”. He added “This will be a one stop facility for the future which is up and running for the Cumberland Authority”.

The Contain Outbreak Mitigation Fund (COMF) Outdoor Spaces was utilised to provide a safe footpath along the highway to Silecroft providing safe access from the village to the beach with an investment of £212K in 2021-2022. Cllr Hitchen has been delighted with this work along with the Environment Funding which has created improved access and pathway upgrades.

“This has been an overwhelming success from North to South of Copeland, supporting a range of communities including rural areas, with partnership working and local residents’ enthusiasm”

#### **4.5 Councillor Arthur Lamb - Cleator Moor East and Frizington**

The Members of Local Committee were extremely saddened to hear of the loss of their colleague and friend in January. On his behalf, Officers would like to acknowledge the care and commitment that Councillor Lamb gave to his appointment on the Copeland Children and Young People’s Partnership. Over the course of this term, the Partnership awarded funding to a number of significant projects that offered positive opportunities to children and young people, which Councillor Lamb was happy to support.

The Partnership supported continued funding of the PhunkyFoods programme, totalling £32,340. PhunkyFoods has now been working in Copeland primary schools since 2017 and continue to make an impact on the healthy lifestyle choices of local children.

More recently, the Partnership supported the introduction of Youth Health Champions training to secondary schools with a grant of £12,000. By the end of the academic year, 80 Youth Health Champions will be trained to run peer to peer health campaigns, gaining an extra qualification in Health Improvement.

Councillor Lamb also supported the Partnership to seek out projects that met local need. Following a programme of youth consultation by the University of Cumbria, a number of projects were identified that met the requests of young people. This included a grant of £12,000 for a Copeland Creative programme, developing skills and confidence in arts and culture for 16 – 24 year olds, culminating in a youth led festival. £7,000 was awarded for creating media pieces that showcase the various activities and opportunities available to young people in Copeland, and £3,800 enabled Moore Arts Millom to run a film club.

Other projects that Councillor Lamb was keen to fund include an Art Gym in Cleator Moor, renovation funding for Frizington Youth Centre and new equipment for Phoenix Youth Project.

It was a pleasure to work with Cllr Lamb in support of our communities, and our condolences remain with his family and friends.

#### **4.6 Councillor Frank Irving Morgan - Cleator Moor West**

Councillor Morgan says “I feel that one of the most impactful things which has been achieved for the Copeland area through Local Committee support has been the establishment of Fare Share food pantries and collection points around the area. It is now accessed and delivered to communities by a number of different organisations and is helping many individuals and families who are facing financial hardship, especially now with the impacts of the rising cost of living being felt by all”.

Councillor Morgan added “I am pleased that Phoenix Enterprise Centre have become one of the Fair Share distribution organisations and as well as delivering support to the community in this way, Phoenix Enterprise Centre has also benefitted from Local Committee funds to continue delivering a wide range of support, including digital skills and unemployment support and advice. I am proud that Cleator Moor has such a professional organisation in the town who are always there to help those who are most in need in Cleator Moor and the surrounding areas.

Councillor Morgan praised the works undertaken at Longlands saying “the work done to ensure that the lake will remain accessible to the public in the future is a huge benefit to the community. Having the assurance that this green space will remain accessible to all in the future has left a very positive and long-term legacy which benefits many people who utilise and enjoy the space. I have enjoyed seeing many improvements in the area happen due to Local Committee funds at different times, including the improvements to the seating areas and I am very pleased that legal rights are in place for the anglers club to continue fishing there and the right for the public to access the area will allow the lake to stay in a state of perpetuity, leaving a positive legacy for future generations of access to a place that gives people who go there a strong sense of wellbeing, through accessing nature”.

#### **4.7 Councillor Graham Robert Phillip Melville Roberts - Bransty**

The eight libraires across Copeland continue to be a valuable service to the community, ensuring they are accessible to all and providing a range of services, support and information.

Councillor Roberts says “I have played an active part in the Task and Finish groups to address improvements in the libraries within Copeland and I am encouraged to see that many of the agreed actions from the group have been addressed and implemented. I feel very positive about the wide range of services now available from Copeland libraries to meet the needs of the community. Opening hours have now been reviewed, so all libraries are open at lunch times and nobody is inconvenienced. Public uptake of talking books via the Borrow Box service has increased significantly and the library have invested in many more talking books, which has made the service more useful to those who have visual impairments. Our libraries are being utilised much more frequently by community groups and the ‘English Café’ which is held weekly is very well attended by those whose first language is not English and wish to practice their English Language skills”.

Councillor Roberts added “the response to the concerns raised around the traffic congestion and road layout issues at the bottom of Bransty Row were listened to, fully understood and addressed by the right people. This has not only vastly improved traffic flow in the area and the congestion issues, but has made the area look much more presentable and it makes a much better first impression of Whitehaven when people drive into the town from that direction”.

#### **4.8 Councillor David Edward Southward - Egremont**

As Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property a highlight for Cllr Southward was the development of the new Campus at Whitehaven which required a £30 million investment to fund. Investment came from a range of partners including the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, Sellafield Ltd, Copeland Borough Council, Copeland Community Fund and Cumbria County Council.

The Campus included state of the art facilities for St Benedicts Catholic High School and Mayfield Special School and brought them together on the St Benedicts site replacing the buildings, radically improving the teaching, and learning environment and creating potential for boosting pupils’ aspirations and attainment.

The Campus opened in January 2019 and aimed to improve the health and well-being of the whole community as well as education and included community accessible, sports provision on the site.

Overall the project was about investing in the future of West Cumbria, ensuring that there is knowledge, skills and good health in the community to get the most from the opportunities presented by the anticipated growth of the nuclear and renewables industry.

Cllr Southward said, “It was a remarkable project with the incredible potential to transform the education of young people in Whitehaven and improve the health and well-being of the whole community.”



#### 4.9 **Councillor Paul Turner - Gosforth**

The Shackles Off Youth Project is an organisation based in Seascale which offers youth provision and support to the young people within the Mid Copeland area and more recently, with the funding from Copeland Area Local Committee, in South Copeland.

In March 2021 a grant was awarded for £17,178 which enabled them to begin a pilot project in Millom with a specialist Youth Worker. Cllr Turner said, "This has led to some fantastic work by this organisation who manage the difficult challenges faced by some children, assisting them to grow in confidence and improve their opportunities for the future".

After a real team effort, Cllr Turner working with the Schools Service and School Transport, have established that families living in and around the villages of Eskdale, Gosforth and Seascale will benefit from having dual catchment areas for secondary schools in both Egremont and Millom. "This will have a big impact on the financial outlay for these families in school transport costs from 2023".

In Seascale, approval for plans for a Traffic Light Scheme has received "an agreement in principle" which will allow safe passage on the narrow highway as it passes under the Railway Arch. Cllr Turner said, "This has been granted after 3 years of persistent work with Highways and Traffic Management teams and will address the conflict between pedestrian and vehicles on the highway and improve safety for everyone".

#### 4.10 **Councillor Chris Whiteside - Egremont North and St Bees**

Cllr Whiteside has been involved in the A595 liaison group and Copeland Highways Working group to address ongoing traffic issues in the area.

In 2021 road safety measures were implemented in St Bees through funding of £45,000 from the environment fund with a contribution of £5,000 from the Parish Council. A section of footpath was extended leading from Outrigg to St Bees village school, this improved safety for pedestrians and the narrowing of the road acted as a natural form of traffic calming.

The Adams Recreation Ground Trust received environment funding of £19,350 in February 2023. This was used to improve pathways and install benches and interpretation boards. Verge planting was also undertaken through the planting for pollinators scheme operated by Cumbria Wildlife Trust. They also received £3,600 general provision funding towards purchasing outdoor gym equipment for the area to encourage people of all ages to maintain health and fitness.

The achievement Councillor Whiteside is most proud of during his time as a Copeland County Councillor is the retention of consultant-led maternity services at West Cumberland Hospital. Both he and all the other members of Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee, worked on a cross party basis with NHS North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group, staff and the community, to emphasise the need for this to continue. This led to Dr Bill Kirkup's Independent Review Group recommending the retention of consultant-led

maternity services in West Cumbria, which was agreed, protecting the future of mothers and babies in West Cumbria.

Councillor Whiteside said, “From Mirehouse to Moor Row and from Bigrigg to Saint Bees we have seen efforts to improve roads and road safety in the division. In relation to maternity services, every family in Copeland will benefit from a better future because we have successfully campaigned to secure consultant led maternity provision at West Cumberland Hospital.”

#### **4.11 Councillor Emma Louise Williamson - Kells and Sandwith**

Councillor Emma Williamson played an integral role in the development of the ‘Positive Role Models’ programme which was funded through Local Committee grants. The support programme which was led by Cumbria Youth Alliance was designed to engage with young people aged between 13 and 16 years of age with the purpose of engaging young people, to build positive relationships, support their personal and social development, to raise their aspirations and to help build resilience.

Councillor Williamson says “The programme has demonstrated that positive role model support can have a positive impact on the outcomes and life chances for young people”.

She added “I am committed to ensuring that organisations have the capacity to support the most vulnerable members of our communities particularly extending funding through Covid-19 which included linking local organisations to the Community Development team to gain support with funding applications and engaging with those in need to ensure they knew how to access the support available. This has resulted in a positive legacy of better networks within communities, which are now able to meet other growing needs – such as creating warm hubs to help people with the cost of living”.

#### **4.12 Councillor Doug Wilson (Vice Chair) - Millom**

The Copeland Local Committee, Environment Fund grant funding has been an investment which has had a significant impact for the Millom community and the surrounding area. It has allowed delivery of pathway improvements where there has been a real need. Cllr Wilson remarked, “With relatively small sums of money targeted at certain areas, this has ensured that projects have been completed and made significant improvements to footpath accessibility beneficial to the whole community”.

Millom Town Council were awarded Environment Fund grants £37,000 to carry out surface improvements to Church Walk, a popular short cut in town. This resurfacing work now provides safe, easy access for both pedestrian users and cyclists.

Other pathway projects in Millom and in the surrounding areas of Haverigg, include Sandham Lane, Poolside and Middle Cut which included local partnership working with Ghyll Scaur Quarry Group and financial investment. This together with Copeland Local Committee’s contribution of an additional £121,000 from the Environment fund, enabled Cumbria County Council

Highways Department to deliver these much appreciated footpath improvements.

#### **4.13 Councillor Andrew William Wonnacott - Hillcrest and Hensingham**

The Gables Residential Care Home opened in 2019 replacing four care homes across Copeland. Cumbria County Council invested £6 million in the project to deliver a state of the art residence.

Councillor Wonnacott stated “I was pleased to see the land, formerly the Sekers site, brought back in to use to create a modern 60 bedded residential home for older adults. It provides a wonderful home for residents and includes a spacious central hub, with café area, hairdressing salon, and on-site shop. This modern high spec facility offers en-suite bedrooms and lounges that have their own access to a secure garden and patio areas. Copeland local committee funded a giant touch screen activity tablet that residents can use for recreation. This is a real asset for residents of The Gables providing access to a variety of stimulating and engaging content, from accessing the internet, to games, puzzles and other activities they can enjoy in a group, or on their own. Introducing care homes to technology such as this can help residents to connect with their family and friends, helping them to become more interactive and maintain a sense of connection with the wider world. The Gables is a fantastic facility for the community”.

#### **Response to Major Incidents**

- 4.14 Copeland Local Committee has been committed to supporting the team in its direct response to Covid from 2020 -2022 and the current Cost of Living Crisis. In direct response to Covid, the team were involved in establishing the ‘West Coast Welfare Hub’ where team members supported and liaised with formal and informal third sector organisations to provide direct support to vulnerable households and organisations for a period of 10 weeks.
- 4.15 Members of Local Committee have been given additional funding over 3 years to support the most vulnerable in our communities and were able to distribute funds such as the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) and Cost of Living Grants demonstrated below:

#### **Cost of Living Reserve**

- 4.16 The allocation of funds to Copeland was £45,700. This comprised of £18,400 for community support and £27,300 for food to help with the challenges some families are facing with the cost of living increases.

The team has worked with partner organisations to distribute the funding which includes:

- Financial support to food pantries to purchase additional food and essential items
- Financial support to verified warm spot venues to provide food and refreshments

- Funding to third sector and community organisations for the purchase of vouchers to enable them to support those in financial crisis
- Purchase of items such as hot water bottles and blankets to be distributed via warm spot locations and by Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

## **COMF**

- 4.17 This funding was provided to local authorities to support the ongoing public health and outbreak management costs associated with tackling COVID-19. The team promoted the three elements of the fund, working with partners and community groups to award grants.
- 4.18 In 2021-22, allocations were made to Copeland Local Committee as set out:
- £100,000 Hardship
  - £200,000 Environmental Infrastructure and Improvements
  - £50,000 Events and activities
- 4.19 In relation to the Hardship element, funding was allocated to successful applicants. These included Phoenix Enterprise Centre, Millom Network Centre, CADAS, Together We and Copeland Citizens Advice.
- 4.20 The environmental infrastructure and improvements element of the fund encouraged residents to enjoy their local area and attract new visitors away from the popular tourist areas and encourage them to try something outside of their usual experiences. Funds were allocated to build a footpath from Silecroft allowing access the beach and ensuring a safe route for people to walk along the highway.
- 4.21 The events and activities element of the fund sponsored events and activities to encourage participation from the local community and attract visitors away from the usual honeypot areas. Officers worked with partners and organisations to provide funding towards a range of events and initiatives.

## **Commemorative Benches**

- 4.22 In recognition of the work done by Cumbria County Council's Copeland Local Committee, commemorative benches will be sited in Whitehaven, Egremont, Cleator Moor, Millom and St Bees.
- 4.23 A plaque will be included on each bench with an inscription:

*Presented by Elected Members of Cumbria County Council's Local Committee for Copeland 31 March 2023*

## 5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 The report is to note only so there are no options to consider.

## 6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications from the recommendation in this report.

## 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications in Members noting their positive contributions to Copeland over recent years.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report sets out some of the activities and projects that the Elected Members of Copeland Local Committee have developed, overseen, supported and funded in this current term. It does not by any means cover all the activities but at this last meeting of Copeland Local Committee, it seemed fitting to give Elected Members the opportunity to document, what for them have been highlights.

**Simon Higgins**

**Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services**

*March 2023*

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## APPENDICES

### ***Local Committees Constitution – Appendix 1***

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision

	No
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Key Decision

	No*
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A*
--	--	------

Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	No*
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If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A*
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?  
If so, give details below.

	No*
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken? 

		N/A*
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken? 

		N/A*
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***N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.***

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
***[including Local Committees]***

***No previous relevant decisions.***

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

***Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.***

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

***No background papers.***

**REPORT AUTHOR**

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## Part 2 – Guide to Decision Making Part 2D - Local Committees

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Council has six Local Committees, one for each of the following areas:

- Allerdale
- Barrow
- Carlisle
- Copeland
- Eden
- South Lakeland

1.2 Each covers the area defined by the area boundary of one of Cumbria's district councils and exercises its functions in relation to that area.

### 2. Membership

2.1 The membership of the Local Committees is set out in the table below.

2.2 Local Committees may co-opt an additional member from the relevant District Council, who shall be a non-voting member of the committee.

County Council Local Committee for Allerdale	<b>Membership:</b> The 16 County Councillors elected for the Allerdale area
County Council Local Committee for Barrow in Furness	<b>Membership:</b> The 11 County Councillors elected for the Barrow in Furness area
County Council Local Committee for Carlisle	<b>Membership:</b> The 18 County Councillors elected for the Carlisle area
County Council Local Committee for Copeland	<b>Membership:</b> The 12 County Councillors elected for the Copeland area
County Council Local Committee for Eden	<b>Membership:</b> The 9 County Councillors elected for the Eden area
County Council Local Committee for South Lakeland	<b>Membership:</b> The 18 County Councillors elected for the South Lakeland area

N.B. for Local Committee Budget Transfers see [part 5G Financial Standing Orders FR2](#) 'Control of Resources' paragraph 10 "Local Committee Budget Transfers".

### 3. Working Groups

Local committees may establish working groups or sub-groups to progress key areas of work between meetings of the local committee. Working groups and sub-groups do not have decision making powers.

#### **4. Purpose of Local Committees**

- 4.1 The main purpose of Local Committees is to optimise the use of Council assets and resources in their area; to influence Council policies and strategies affecting their area; and through the "whole area approach", to work with communities and partner organisations to enable public services to be shaped locally, to achieve the best possible outcomes within available resources. ([Glossary of Terms \(PDF 153kb\)](#))
- 4.2 Local Committees, in exercising their functions (both executive and non-executive), must comply with the [Council's Budget and Policy Framework](#) and the [policies of the Council](#) as adopted and endorsed by the Council or Cabinet.
- 4.3 In carrying out their functions, Local Committees must comply with the Council's budget and policy framework and the policies of the Council as adopted by full Council or the Cabinet.

#### **5. Functions of Local Committees**

5.1 The functions of a Local Committee are to:

##### **5.1.1 Area Planning Functions**

- (a) Review regularly the planned Council activities operating within the area covered by the committee, to understand and make use of local knowledge to support the development of natural communities; and to report annually to Local Committee Chairs and Leadership on progress and future plans.
- (b) Liaise with other bodies delivering services in the area, to seek to co-ordinate planned activities, and to improve services for the residents of the area by working together as effectively as possible.
- (c) Consider, and where requested provide a response, to reports following external inspections, including by OFSTED, CQC and HMICFRS.
- (d) Make representations to the relevant decision maker on:
- i.matters requiring formal school organisation proposals;
  - ii.community regeneration and infrastructure development;
  - iii.service provision within the Local Committee's area;
  - iv.proposed community asset transfers in the Local Committee's area
  - v.any other matter affecting the Local Committee's area.
- (e) Agree, monitor and review the Local Committee's budget, subject to any ring-fencing directions issued by Cabinet.

##### **5.1.2 Decision Making Functions**

###### **Town Fund, Levelling-Up Fund and Future High Street Fund**

Determine the Council's position in respect of any proposal or business plan submitted by any other body under the Town Fund, Levelling-Up Fund (other than a bid submitted by the Council under its power to submit a transport bid under the Levelling-Up Fund), Future High Street Fund or any other similar government programme that provides funding for local schemes which relates entirely to the Local Committee's area, as determined in writing by the Leader



### **Business Improvement Districts**

- (a) Determine the Council's position in respect of a proposal to establish a Business Improvement District in the Local Committee's area.
- (b) Authorise an officer to exercise the Council's vote in accordance with the approved position, in the ballot relating to the proposal.

### **Community Investment Grants**

- (c) Adopt and keep under review a policy for the award of grants from the Local Committee's budget, in line with any guidance issued by Cabinet or the s151 Officer.
- (d) Approve applications for grants from the Local Committee's budgets for amounts exceeding £5,000 in line with the policy.
- (e) Review and evaluate grants awarded from the Local Committee's budget.

### **Highways Transport and Parking**

- (f) Agree and keep under review the implementation of, the highways revenue budget and capital programme for the local committee's area to support the Council to carry out its statutory duty to maintain the highway in a safe condition as far as reasonably practicable.
- (g) Approve the making of traffic regulation orders in accordance with powers under Parts I, II and IV of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, **except** for the making of Traffic Regulation Orders which involve the introduction of charging for on-street residents permits, which are delegated to the Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure subject to a decision of the appropriate member body to introduce such charges.

### **Miscellaneous**

- (h) Commission technical assessments to ascertain the need for school crossing patrols in the Local Committee area, and establish or disestablish patrols in accordance with Council Policy.
- (i) Appoint members to outside bodies where the power to appoint to the body has been delegated to the Local Committee.
- (j) Exercise the Council's functions as trustee where the Council is the sole trustee of a trust based in the Local Committee's area.

## **5.2 Referrals to Cabinet**

Local Committees may refer to Cabinet specific issues that the committee considers to be of significant concern in their area, which fall within the remit of the Cabinet.

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