COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR COPELAND

Minutes of a Meeting of the County Council Local Committee for Copeland held on Friday 25 January 2013 at 10.15 am at Cleator Moor Civic Hall & Masonic Centre

PRESENT:

Mr FI Morgan (Chair)
Mrs W Skillicorn (Vice-Chair) Mr J Woolley
Mr M Hawkins Mr A Wonnacott
Mr GRPM Roberts

Also in Attendance:-
Ms H Askew - Copeland Community Fund
Mr P Brodie - Solicitor
Mr K Cosgrove - Traffic Engineer
Ms J Cowan - Democratic Services Officer
Mrs C Cowperthwaite - Locality Transport Team Leader
Mr P Little - Interim Area Highways and Transport Manager
Mr T Thwaites - Area Support Manager

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

91 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs SE Brown, Mr N Clarkson, Mr RS Cole, Mr TJ Knowles, Mr DE Southward, the Trading Standards Service Manager and the Finance Manager.

It was with deep regret that Members heard of the sad loss of Cllr Ross. He was an excellent Member for his community, a dedicated politician; and would be a great loss to Local Committee and the people he represented.

The Chair requested one minute’s silence.

92 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest in any items on the agenda today.
93 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

94 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

95 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions or petitions received under the public participation scheme for this meeting.

96 PRESENTATION - PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

The presentation on the transition of Public Health from the NHS to the County Council was deferred to the March meeting of Local Committee.

97 PRESENTATION - COPELAND COMMUNITY FUND

Members received a presentation from the Community Development Team Leader on the Copeland Community Fund, which provided a sustainable source of funding for the local community in Copeland.

A £10 million endowment was allocated in an investment policy set out by the Fund Board, which would ensure sustainability of the grants scheme. Funding of £1.5 million per year was available for large and small grant schemes.

The Fund Board made decisions on all large grants; a Panel had delegated power to award small grants. The minimum grant available was £3,000, and large and small grants required match funding. A number of criteria were used to assess applications for grants. Projects must be located in Copeland, improve community life for a significant number of people, and address a specific community issue or need.

The Community Development Team were available to help applicants with the required documentation; a Project/Business Plan, Project Budget, Evidence of Consultation, Realistic Outputs, Policy Documents and Plans for Sustainability.

Further information was available at www.copelandcommunityfund.co.uk.

The Chair thanked the Community Development Team Leader for her useful presentation.
LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVOLVED BUDGET 2012/13: PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT - COMMUNITIES BUDGET

Members considered a report by the Corporate Director – Resources which presented the provisional actual expenditure and commitments recorded against the Local Committee’s Communities Budget as at 31 December 2012.

Members were reminded that all funding commitments should be made prior to the March Local Committee meeting.

RESOLVED, that:

1. the budget allocations for 2012-13, and the commitments and expenditure recorded to date, be noted
2. the unallocated resources in the Communities Revenue Budget of £218,351 be noted
3. the balanced budget projected for the Local Member Capital Schemes be noted.

LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVOLVED BUDGET 2012/13: PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT - HIGHWAYS BUDGET

The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director – Resources which presented the provisional actual expenditure and commitments recorded against the Local Committee’s Highways Revenue and Capital Budgets as at 31 December 2012.

The Highways budget had been adversely affected by flooding events; and efforts continued to expedite any opportunities to obtain additional resources.

Members were reminded that any monies to be directed to Highways schemes should be committed prior to the March Local Committee meeting.

RESOLVED, that:

1. the budget allocations for 2012-13, and the commitments and expenditure recorded to date, be noted
2. the Highways Revenue budget, projecting an overspend of £124,398 at this stage of the financial year, be noted
3. the Highways Capital budget, projecting an underspend of £108,450 at this stage of the financial year, be noted.
**100 UNSPENT BALANCES**

Members considered a report from the Chief Executive which examined the remaining funds within the Community budget lines for 2012-13, and made recommendations regarding the disposal of remaining funds.

The Committee had made a number of commitments over the past year, but some budget remained unspent. Officers had considered a range of potential funding opportunities and suggested several commitments.

Members were reminded to ensure that funds were committed before the end of the financial year.

**RESOLVED,** that:

1. £1,000 previously allocated to Thwaiteville Community Group in July 2008 be de-committed and re-allocated to Cumbria CVS, to support the delivery of their funding fairs during 2013.
2. £4,200 be allocated from the General Provision budget to Cleator Moor and District Credit Union to support the delivery of improvements to the three Copeland Credit Unions’ services, including improved websites.
3. £2,000 previously allocated to Thwaiteville Community Action in February 2009 be de-committed and re-allocated to Lakes Alive.
4. £10,000 be committed from the 0-19 Years budget to Allerdale and Copeland Children in Care Council.
5. The following sums be de-committed: £5,000 from the General Provision budget previously allocated to the Pass Plus + Scheme in 2012; and the following sums from the 0-19 Services Budget: £751 from “Projects with Child Minders” in 2009, £100 from “Two Headed Sheep” in 2011, and £14,104 from Development of School/Youth Council in 2011. These sums then be re-committed, together with £45 from the 0-19 Years budget, to the initiation of an Apprenticeship scheme in Copeland during 2013-14.

**101 MEMBERS’ DIVISIONAL ALLOWANCES**

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Executive which sought to commit elements of the Electoral Divisions local capital and revenue schemes’ budgets, and included Members’ proposals that had been sufficiently worked up to enable Local Committee to consider spending decisions.

Members were encouraged to commit all funds, where possible, before the end of the financial year.
With regard to the proposed boundary changes, the Area Support Manager confirmed that, where funding which was uncommitted was carried forward into the next financial year, and where boundaries had changed, the principle would be that funding would be carried forward on a pro rata basis of the population of the new division.

RESOLVED, that:

1. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Mirehouse, £900 be allocated to Mirehouse Residents Group for an intergenerational IT project and a laptop to support an apprenticeship.

2. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Millom, £5,000 be allocated for a programme of dropped kerbs in Millom and a speed sign in Haverigg.

3. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Cleator Moor South and Egremont, £1,600 be allocated for a dropped kerb scheme in Egremont.

4. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Gosforth and Ennerdale, £4,000 be allocated to Thornhill Social Club towards roof restructuring.

5. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Bransty, £4,157 be allocated to Bransty Primary School for I Pad technology.

6. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Bransty, £5,324 be allocated to St James Infant School for Audio Visual Equipment.

7. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for St Bees and Egremont, £5,580 be allocated to Moor Row Primary School for fencing around the school play area.

8. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for St Bees and Egremont, £7,700 be allocated to St Bees Parish Council/Traffic Calming Committee to enhance the signing at Fairladies, St Bees.

9. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local capital scheme budget for Hillcrest, £1,435 be de-committed from a previously committed balance, and £8,500 be allocated to St Begh’s Catholic Junior School to create a Multimedia Room. Capital £1,435 and Revenue £7,065 split.

10. In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Seascale and Whicham, £1,500 be allocated to Eskdale Parish Council to renovate the War Memorial at Dalegarth.
(11) In respect of the Electoral Divisions local capital scheme budget for Seascale and Whicham, £2,397 be de-committed from a previously committed balance that has not been fully utilised, and £8,000 be allocated to Millom School for a new pool blanket and maintenance at Millom Swimming Pool. Capital £2,397 and Revenue £5,603 split.

(12) In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Seascale and Whicham, £1,500 be allocated for repairs to windows and doors at St Michael’s and All Angels Church, Bootle.

(13) In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Seascale and Whicham, £2,149 be allocated to replace the felt roof with slate on Bootle Village Hall.

(14) In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Seascale and Whicham, £2,148 be allocated to Whicham Parish Council for repairs to the car park next to Whicham Parish Church.

(15) In respect of the Electoral Divisions local revenue scheme for Distington and Moresby, £2,481 be allocated to Groundwork North East towards the cost of the Distington Area Environmental Improvements Project.

102 LOCAL COMMITTEE GRANTS PANEL

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Executive which set out the deliberations of the Combined Grants Panel held on 12 December 2012, for endorsement by Local Committee; which gave an opportunity for Members to approve a range of grants which would benefit wide areas of Copeland.

RESOLVED, that:

(1) £1,500 be allocated from General Provision to the Joseph & Eleanor Gunson Almshouse Trust towards the cost of essential work to the surface and foul water drainage system.

(2) £1,600 be allocated from the 0-19 fund to ICAAN (Independent Community Autism Activity Network) towards the cost of the 2013 activity programme.

(3) £2,400 be allocated from the 0-19 fund to Copeland Canoe Club towards the cost of new equipment.

(4) £3,500 be allocated from the 0-19 fund to Copeland Rugby League Development Foundation towards the cost of school festivals during 2013.
(5) £3,456 be allocated from the 0-19 fund to Cumbria-Rungwe Community Link towards the cost of training and team building activities.

(6) £4,308 be allocated from the 0-19 fund to Young Cumbria to cover the cost of activities at static youth clubs in Copeland.

103 PERFORMANCE REPORT AND SCORECARD FOR COPELAND

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Executive which introduced the Local Committee Performance Scorecard. This was designed to systematically embed performance measurement, reporting, monitoring and management across the Council, leading to continuous performance improvement.

Appendix 1 of the report contained a Scorecard which listed a number of key quality of life measures under each of the four priorities in the Copeland Area Plan. The scorecard set out a statistical quality of life comparison across each of the six Local Committee areas, as well as statistics for Cumbria and all England.

Appendix 2 contained a Scorecard for the Copeland area, showing variations in quality of life measures across all wards.

The Area Support Manager would arrange a Workshop at which Members could discuss how the information in the report would be used to address the priorities set out in the Copeland Area Plan, focusing on areas of poverty. Members would advise the Area Support Manager of areas of concern prior to the Workshop.

RESOLVED, that a quarterly performance report containing a scorecard on the ‘local activities and priorities’ set out in the Copeland Area Plan, and a scorecard containing broader ‘quality of life’ measures for Copeland, be received by Members.

104 COPELAND HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP

The Committee considered the minutes of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on 13 December 2012.

Minute 7 – Whitehaven Town Heritage

The Copeland Highways Working Group supported, in principle, a bid for lottery funding by Copeland Borough Council.

Copeland Borough Council were applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funds towards a Townscape Heritage Initiative of around £1.4m, which would run from 2013 to 2018. Most funds would be used for grants to historic buildings to bring them back into economic use and to repair historic architecture.
£100,000 was allocated towards public realm improvements - the highest priority was the Queen Street, James Street, Market Place junction. This work needed to be match funded by £50,000.

The building materials used in the improvements would be readily available.

RESOLVED, that the investigation of match funding in the sum of £50,000 for public realm works be agreed, as part of the Whitehaven Townscape Initiative.

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Copeland Highways Working Group held on 13 December 2012 be noted.

105 ENGINEERING SAFETY STUDIES - COPELAND 2012/2013

Members considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment, on behalf of the Traffic Management Engineer, which provided an update regarding 2012/2013 Engineering Safety Studies.

One of the County Council's key transport priorities was to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Cumbria’s roads.

Each year, a programme of Engineering Safety Studies was carried out where clusters of accidents have occurred. The programme was developed, using the accident database, by a sub-group of the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership, which included Cumbria Police. Cumbria Highways carried out studies at single sites, whole route lengths and in urban areas.

The accidents were analysed to establish any patterns and, where possible, to identify engineering measures which were likely to reduce future collisions. The measures were then costed and prioritised on the basis of the number of accidents likely to be avoided.

The Schemes originally identified in Copeland for Engineering Improvements were:-

- B5295 Wath Brow to Hensingham
- Millom Area Study
- Bransty Row Whitehaven.

Local officers, following further investigation, identified a number of issues with the proposed improvements originally planned.
B5295 Wath Brow to Hensingham

£15,000 of measures had been identified. Most of the improvements noted in the study had already been introduced. Following discussion at Copeland Highways Working Group, it was agreed that officers would investigate the route to establish if the introduction of the guardrail referred to in the report could be installed.

Millom Area Study

£5,000 of measures had been identified. The work involved a build out to the junction of Horn Hill and Moor Road. The build out would need to be combined with the extension to the waiting restrictions to have maximum effect. Subsequently the Traffic Management Engineer had agreed to meet the local Member to discuss the scheme, with a view of finding a resolution.

Bransty Row, Whitehaven

A sum of £20,000 was allocated to install a mini roundabout where Bransty Row met George Street and Tangier Street. The study was carried out in 2005 and, given the possible redevelopment in Whitehaven Town Centre, local officers were reluctant to introduce such a drastic change to the site. The scheme had now been revoked.

Following the recent draft report to Highways Working Group, the safety team centrally had also allocated funding for improvements between Egremont and Parkside; and some of these improvements had already been made.

Local officers were currently in the process of undertaking Engineering Safety Studies of Lowther Street, Whitehaven; Moresby Parks Road; and Cleator Moor Route. The reports and suggested remedial measures would be put to Members at a future Local Committee meeting.

RESOLVED, that the contents of the report be noted.

106 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ENGINEER’S REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment which updated Members regarding traffic related matters in Copeland.

Updates were provided for the following schemes:

- Hensingham Neighbourhood Forum
- Traffic Counts A595, Calderbridge
- Bus Stop Infrastructure Copeland
- Tomlin Avenue, Mirehouse
• Road Safety Week
• Lamplugh Area – Rural Speed Management

RESOLVED, that the contents of the report be noted.

107  20MPH LIMITS - GOSFORTH AND HAVERIGG

The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment which advised Members of the outcome of the formal consultation exercise carried out by local officers regarding the suggested introduction of a 20mph speed limit through the villages of Gosforth and Haverigg.

The general consultation for both the proposed Haverigg 20mph speed limit and Gosforth 20mph limit ran for a period of 4 weeks and concluded on 21 September 2012.

• 37 responses were received in relation to Gosforth, 29 of which were in support of the scheme. The primary concerns raised were doubts over the enforcement of the restriction, as well as observations that other matters should be addressed first. Slight modifications to the extent of the proposal were made after considering all of the responses received.

• 22 responses were received concerning the Haverigg speed limit, 16 of which were positive. Concerns were raised over enforcement of the restriction, while others commented that the funding could be better spent elsewhere. No modifications were deemed necessary after reviewing the responses.

Given the responses received as part of the general consultation exercise, local officers, with approval from elected Members, agreed to proceed to formal statutory advertisement. This took place on the 22 November 2012, with the period for objections expiring on the 13 December 2012.

Two responses were received in relation to Haverigg, and one with reference to Gosforth. Details of the formal objections were included as part of Appendix 1 of the report.

RESOLVED, that following on from the formal consultation exercise, and taking into account the formal objections received to the proposed introduction of a 20mph speed limit through the villages of Gosforth and Haverigg, the introduction of The County of Cumbria (Various Roads in the Borough of Copeland) (Consolidation and Provision of Speed Limits) (Order 2011) Variation Order (No. 2) 2012 be agreed, as advertised, having taken into consideration the matters contained in Section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which are specifically referred to at paragraph 7.2 of the Report.
The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment, on behalf of the Traffic Management Engineer, which provided Members with an update regarding the introduction of Permanent Prohibition of Pedestrians restriction, following the formal consultation exercise.

Cumbria County Council introduced a Temporary Prohibition of Pedestrians Order on the entire length of Footpath No. 431043 Saltom Pit, in the Parish of Whitehaven, in mid 2011. A plan detailing the extent of the footpath affected was attached as part of Appendix 2 of the report.

The Order became necessary due to the unstable cliffs and subsidence over where the footpath runs. Originally it was hoped that there would be a diversion of the footpath. However, after further investigation, it became apparent that this would not be possible until the half million tonnes of spoil causing the subsidence and instability had reached the sea. This was expected to take in the region of 15 years.

The Council therefore had to make a permanent Traffic Regulation Order to ensure the safety of the public. Copeland Borough Council had agreed to fund the suggested permanent Traffic Regulation Order.

As no formal objections were received, it was recommended that the existing Whitehaven Consolidation Order was amended to incorporate the suggested advertised changes.

RESOLVED, that having noted that no formal objections were received to the statutory advertisement, and, having taken into consideration the matters contained in Section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which are more specifically referred to at paragraph 7.2 of this Report, the suggested changes attached in Appendix 1 of the report and the bringing into force of THE COUNTY OF CUMBRIA (VARIOUS ROADS, WHITEHAVEN) (CONSOLIDATION OF TRAFFIC REGULATIONS) (ORDER 2009) VARIATION ORDER (NO.4) 20>< be agreed.

Members considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment which provided Members with an update on highways maintenance issues using the Better Highways approach. It contained the new measures, as well as a profile of the work done.

The Right First Time figure reported was down at 52%; the End to End time was constant at around 6 days.
Flooding events had put considerable strain on the remaining Better Highways budget. There was a significant risk that the highway budget for 2012/13 would be overspent if the expected level of service was to remain, unless additional funding could be sourced.

Staff shortages in the Copeland Better Highways teams were beginning to have an impact, with End to End times increasing and the number of Demands Open starting to suffer. If staffing levels remained at the present level, or were reduced further, the Better Highways service would continue to decline in 2013.

Concerns had been expressed at the recent Local Committee Chairs and Leadership meeting regarding the Highways restructure proposals. A further meeting would be held to look again at the proposals.

**RESOLVED,** that the monitoring information for the Better Highways works from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 for reactive maintenance work, as detailed in the report, be noted.

### 110 TRAVEL STRATEGY

The Committee considered a report by the Corporate Director – Environment which advised Members of the work taking place to prepare the Travel Strategy and, in particular, the local priorities that had been provided by individual Members which, once agreed, would then inform the potential direction to be taken and provide a local focus for the Strategy.

The Travel Strategy would set out the County Council’s approach to addressing travel needs within Cumbria, and the related issues and opportunities now and in the future. The Travel Strategy provided a link between Central Government’s travel aspirations and other strategies and plans, including the Local Transport Plan, the Transport Management Plan and County Council’s Integrated Transport Team’s own Business Plan.

There was currently no single document which set out the County Council’s approach and policies on travel, and explained the role the County Council had in the provision of transport services. The current Local Transport Plan was a high level document which described the existing network and the future investment in that network. The Travel Strategy would build on that foundation and focus on how people used the networks, how the transport services could be improved and how local travel behaviour could be influenced to achieve a number of high level outcomes, including supporting the economy and reducing carbon emissions.

The Travel Strategy would set out the Council’s priority tasks, some of which would be immediate, whilst other activities would need to be applied consistently over a longer period to change travel behaviour. Travel behaviour was ultimately down to individuals making decisions based on their knowledge of the transport services available. This meant that the Travel Strategy would need to set out the approach the Council took to make this information available. It also needed to recognise the priority projects and programmes to reflect the differing needs of parts of Cumbria, whilst providing core, countywide services as well.
In addition to procuring specific services, the Integrated Transport Team also aimed to maximise the awareness of all transport services and encourage people to travel as independently as possible. This included reducing unnecessary car journeys, and promoting walking and cycling for home to school journeys.

The Member for Hensingham and Arlecdon raised a specific issue for adults with special needs who attended Hensingham Day Centre. Clients of the Day Centre wanted to be independent and use the local bus service, but the nearest bus stop was too far away. Negotiations with Stagecoach to re-route the service to stop outside the Day Centre at 9 am and 3 pm each day had failed.

The Locality Transport Team Leader agreed to add the issue to the agenda of the next liaison meeting with Stagecoach for further discussion. **Action: CC**

The priorities at Appendix 1 of the report reflected the concerns reported by Members and town councils. The requirements of people for access to health services could alter with changes in health services at Hensingham and Cleator Moor.

Members would continue to advise the Locality Transport Team Leader of any issues of concern.

**RESOLVED,** that the priorities set out in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed for inclusion in the Travel Strategy.

**111 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER FOR MALCOLM BARR PLAYING FIELDS, EGREMONT**

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Executive which presented a request from Egremont Rangers Rugby League Football Club who sought the approval of Members to proceed with the Community Asset transfer process. The Club sought to proceed with the transfer of ownership of the former Wyndham school playing fields, known as Malcolm Barr playing fields, in Egremont, in order to support and enhance the work of the Club.

The Community Asset Transfer process allowed the County Council to transfer properties for community benefit without seeking a market price for purchase, subject to certain conditions being met. The assets the County Council owned in local communities played an important part in enabling voluntary groups to come together and offer communities a range of activities and services which would benefit the social and economic wellbeing of the area.

The playing fields formed part of the former Wyndham School, but for many years had been little used. The significant exception to this was that Egremont Anglers had enjoyed fishing rights from the river bank at the edge of the site for decades.
The Club currently played its games on a shared site owned by a third party. Transfer of ownership of the land would provide a secure base for the Club’s rugby teams, and enable the Club to provide further investment in the land, whilst maintaining access for the local fishermen. Discussions with both parties showed that there was a common willingness to ensure that both sports thrived.

The value of the land was based in part on the rent that might be payable to the County Council and also the demand for land in the area. A sale value was highly dependent on the circumstances of the individual property. The location outside the boundaries of the built up area within the town, the proximity of the river and consequent flood risk, meant that alternative uses for the playing fields were restricted. It would be possible to transfer the property subject to a restriction on its use, which would help prevent it being used for anything other than community use without the consent of the County Council.

The Area Support team would work with officers from across the County Council to support the Asset Transfer process. The group would keep Members up to date on any significant issues arising from the process.

RESOLVED, that the request from Egremont Rangers Rugby League Football Club to consider a Community Asset Transfer of the Malcolm Barr playing fields in Egremont be agreed.

112 APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS OF NURSERY, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Committee received a schedule of proposed recommendations for appointments of Governors to Nursery, Primary and Secondary Schools.

RESOLVED, that subject to their agreement, the following be appointed:

Community, Nursery and Primary

St Begh’s Catholic Junior School Mr David Siddle
36 Esk Avenue Whitehaven CA28 8AW

Thornhill Primary School Mr Martin Parlett
149 Ennerdale Road Cleator Moor CA25 5LG

Frizington Community Primary School Ms Helen Cassidy
15 Springfield Road Bigrigg, Egremont CA22 2TN
Members considered a report from the Chief Executive which provided information on the delivery of the Money Advice Contract in the Copeland area. The County Council had supported a money advice service provided by the Citizens Advice Bureau since 1990, although the provision of money advice, directly or through external agencies, was not a statutory duty of the County Council.

A money advice service had been in place since 2007, with the contract meeting performance outputs and requirements year on year, often exceeding them. Approximately 9,000 people across the County had received the help, advice and support they needed to deal with millions of pounds of debt.

The original 2007 service specification of the contract was developed and consulted upon openly with a range of key stakeholder groups, including Legal Services Commission, The Big Lottery, and the County Council’s Scrutiny Management Board. This was to ensure that the service would not duplicate what was already being delivered and to ensure alignment with County Council policy and future direction. The contract was reviewed and re-procured in 2010 and awarded to the existing provider.

The contract was delivered by Citizens Advice Cumbria. Citizens Advice Cumbria was a consortium of the six Citizens Advice Bureaux in Cumbria – Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Eden, Copeland, Cumbria Rural and South Lakeland. The total value of the contract countywide was £317,000. The Copeland Local Committee budget allocation was £57,060.

Citizens Advice Cumbria relied on highly skilled, trained volunteers who were committed to giving their time to help others. Volunteers were always supported by fully qualified staff, and the bureaux had to meet stringent quality standards in both performance and practice to be continually accredited and recognized by Citizens Advice nationally.

Regular reports had been provided to Copeland Local Committee which gave a breakdown of the service provided and case studies illustrating some of the issues clients had faced and how they had been helped.

Following a procurement exercise, Cabinet had approved the award of the contract to the existing provider, Citizens Advice Cumbria, for a period of two years starting in April 2013.

RESOLVED, that the contents of the report be noted.
114 COPELAND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S WORKING GROUP

Members had received an excellent presentation by Young People from Copeland Youth Council, and hoped to continue working with them in the future.

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Copeland Children and Young People’s Working Group meeting held on 6 December 2012 be noted.

115 LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LEADERSHIP

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Local Committee Chairs and Leadership Meeting held on 28 November 2012 be noted.

116 NUCLEAR ISSUES

Members noted the significant decision to be made by Cabinet on 30 January 2013 regarding the siting of a nuclear waste repository in Cumbria; and that Government had confirmed that proceeding to Stage 4 did not commit Cumbria to going ahead with the proposals.

RESOLVED; that Cabinet be supported in making the decision to move to Stage 4, a desk top geological survey, of the Nuclear Waste Repository proposals.

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm