

Joint Districts' Meeting

Notes of the Meeting held at Frenchfield at 11am on 23 January 2009

Present:

Councillor Joe Milburn
Harry Dyke (sub)

Allerdale Borough Council
Allerdale Borough Council

Councillor Jack Richardson
Tom Campbell

Barrow Borough Council
Barrow Borough Council

Councillor John Mallinson (sub)
Jason Gooding (sub)

Carlisle City Council
Carlisle City Council

Councillor Allan Holliday (sub)
Keith Parker (sub)

Copeland Borough Council
Copeland Borough Council

Councillor Colin Nineham
Kevin Douglas

Eden District Council
Eden District Council

Councillor Brendan Jameson
Peter Ridgeway

South Lakeland District Council
South Lakeland District Council

Jo Brabbins (Minutes)

Eden District Council

Action

1/1/09 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Elaine Woodburn and Liam Murphy Copeland Borough Council, Maggie Mooney, Allerdale Borough Council/Carlisle City Council and Councillor Mike Mitchelson, Carlisle City Council

2/1/09 Notes of previous meeting held on 21 November 2008

The notes of the previous meeting, held on 21 November 2008, were agreed as a fair and accurate record.

3/1/09 Matters Arising

K Douglas confirmed that the arrangement for the allocation of income from the reduction in Council Tax on second homes had been agreed with representatives of Cumbria County Council. He had not received a draft Agreement, but had been assured that the financial implications of the proposed arrangement had been included in the County Council draft budget.

4/1/09 Refresh of the Children and Young Person's Plan 2009

The meeting received a presentation from Nicola Jackson, Cumbria

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<p>County Council, updating Members on the progress being made on the refresh of the current Children & Young People's Plan. The 'refresh' would include a review of the key priorities for 2008/9 to identify strengths and areas for development with a view to determining key priorities for 2009/10. It was noted that more area-specific information had been identified as a necessary improvement to the Plan. It was AGREED that any suggestions relating to the Children & Young People's Plan, from the Districts, should be forwarded to K Douglas by 12 February 2009.</p>	AII/KD
<p>5/1/09 Joint Districts Work Programme – Monitoring and Progress</p> <p>The meeting received an update from K Douglas on the Joint Districts Work Plan. Members agreed minor amendments to the Plan (Appendix A)</p>	KD
<p>6/1/09 Allerdale/Carlisle Collaboration - update</p> <p>The meeting considered a report of Joe Milburn updating Members on the outcome of the recent proposals before Allerdale Borough Council and Carlisle City Council for the sharing of management resources and of wider services between the two authorities. Whilst Carlisle City Council had approved the proposals, Allerdale Council had agreed an amendment that the proposals be evaluated against other options at an all-Councillor Forum and all Cumbrian authorities be reminded of their undertaking to make savings by enhanced two tier and shared services. Members confirmed their commitment to continue to investigate further opportunities for shared services throughout Cumbria. However, it was felt that the prospect of successful management sharing would be limited by the distances between administrative centres within the county and by political will. It was further noted that the concentration of effort should be directed equally to the opportunity to share resources through tiers as well as across them and to develop confidence to progress larger cross-county projects.</p> <p>It was AGREED that Councillor J Milburn would make appointments to meet with the Chief Executives from the other Districts in order to discuss suggestions further.</p> <p>Councillor J Mallinson declared a personal interest in the following item of business in that a family member of his uses a Blue Badge.</p>	JM/Ch.Ex
<p>7/1/09 Car Parking</p> <p>P Ridgway provided a verbal update following the meeting of the relevant Portfolio Holders on 3 December 2008 and circulated a report of the meeting from Councillor G Vincent, Portfolio Holder for Economic Prosperity and Transport, South Lakeland District Council. On the subject of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement, it was noted that Copeland Borough Council had withdrawn from its previous agreement, with the County Council, to deliver the service and Allerdale Borough Council had served the required 12 months notice. Other Districts were</p>	

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	<p>concerned that decision-makers at the County Council had not been made aware of the possible implications of the inequity of funding of this service across the Districts, and the delays being encountered in resolving the terms of new agreements might necessitate further withdrawals.</p> <p>It was AGREED that</p> <p>a. The Chief Executive's Group would discuss this matter further and prepare wording for a letter to the Leader and Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council from the Chairman of the Joint Districts Meeting, if necessary, in order to expedite progress on establishing agreement on Decriminalised Parking Enforcement arrangements, and</p> <p>b. An item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of Clasb (27 February) to report progress and/or further action.</p>	Ch.Ex/KD
8/1/09	<p>Cumbria Intelligence Observatory (CIO)</p> <p>The meeting received a report of P Ridgway, South Lakeland District Council updating Members on the current position of the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory.</p> <p>The Observatory had been responsible for the production of the County Comparison Tool that had proved useful for comparison of data through administrative strata. A physical base for a Cumbrian Observatory, based around the University premises in Carlisle, had been mooted. Members were asked to respond to eight enquiries relating to their authorities ability to support aspects of the Observatory's further development.</p> <p>Members considered the information gathering to be valuable for supporting work in several areas of District Council functions but most believed it unlikely that funding would be available to provide an annual commitment. It was felt that it would be preferable to be able to purchase targeted information and analysis of data for specific purposes.</p>	All Ch. Ex/PR
9/1/09	<p>Local Area Agreement</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	
10/1/09	<p>Cumbria Vision</p> <p>It was noted that a letter had been sent to S Broomhead, NWDA, requesting his attendance at the next meeting of Clasb in order to address Members concerns surrounding NWDA funding arrangements.</p>	
11/1/09	<p>Calendar of Meetings</p> <p>K Douglas circulated a suggestion for the re-arrangement of the timetable for joint meetings so that the meetings involving members would be held on one Friday every other month and the meetings involving officers only would fall on alternate months.</p> <p>The proposal was AGREED in principle for further consultation with other members and subject to the working-up of a draft Calendar</p>	KD/JB
12/1/09	<p>Suggestions for Items for Next Meeting</p> <p>a. Calendar of Meetings 2009/10</p>	
13/1/09	<p>Date for Next Meeting</p>	

Action

The next Joint Districts' Meeting will take place on Friday 27 March 2009
11am at Frenchfield, Penrith.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm

Joint District Forward Plan – 2008/2009 (Update from January meeting)

Action	Lead District/Group	Measure of Success	Progress
Complete negotiation with County Council on Second Homes Funding	EDC/SLDC	Satisfactory outcome for Districts	
Agreed accountability and reporting arrangements with Cumbria Vision to Joint Districts		Appropriate mechanism of monitoring actions and performance in place for Joint Districts	Discussions ongoing via CLASB and NWDA
Progress the development of improved joint working arrangements with County and other public agencies	TBA	Increased shared services in Cumbria across public agencies	Review of shared services strategy
Input into the CIEP to ensure co-ordination of work and representation of Joint Districts in priorities and allocation of resources	CExs	Agreed priorities and allocation of resources support District needs	All Districts have Board membership, specific District leads on themes
Ensure appropriate input into the LAA process to represent District views, including: 1) Thematic Partnerships 2) Establish an appropriate monitoring process for Joint Districts of LAA to ensure	Copeland (L Murphy)	Effective representation and reporting back on District actions and influence Target met and under performance addressed	Report to 27 March 2009
Development and delivery of shared services agenda		Agreed efficiency/cost saving targets	Shared services strategy agreed by CIEP Implementation plan
Progress the Community Empowerment White Paper on a District wide basis	SLDC	Joined up approach across all Districts	Link to CIEP/CSP work
Develop an agreed arrangement with regard to waste management	CSWP (Carlisle Council)	Agreed long term strategy for waste management	Expressed interest in Joint Waste Authority
To resolve a satisfactory Cumbria wide approach to car parking management and policy	SLDC	Agreed approach with County Council by March 2009	

Action	Lead District/Group	Measure of Success	Progress
To identify an agreed approach to the Nuclear Development (inc nuclear waste issue) within Districts	Copeland DC		
To establish appropriate strategy and delivery mechanism for affordable housing	Regional Housing Group (Eden DC)		Eden District Council act as liaison for Districts on Regional Group
To review the Better Governance document prepared in response to unitary debate	Not identified	Progress any relevant work streams from the document to benefit joint working	No progress or approach identified. No lead District identified
To monitor progress on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Children's Trust Board 2) Cumbria Intelligence Observatory 	Eden DC SLDC	Provide information to Districts on key actions/decisions Twice yearly report as a minimum!	Regular reports to Joint Districts
To agree the Joint District response to LABGI consultation to ensure effective deal for local communities	Allerdale	Appropriate funding allocation to local communities from revised scheme	Initial consultation complete by November. Second consultation by 20 February 2009
To ensure a co-ordinated and consistent response to CAA through working with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Council • Key Partners 	Eden District Council	Appropriate CAA 'score' and report for Cumbria and local area	Final guidance due February 2009 Special meeting once guidance agreed
Network Cumbria - follow up process from Calling Cumbria/Leadership Centre process	SLDC/Carlisle	Improved collaboration and service delivery	Report back on issues specific to District. Utilise opportunities on 'Focus On' and 'Deep Dive' events