

PORTFOLIO:

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR
JUDY PREST**

Portfolio

Sustainable Communities

The Cumbria Sub Regional Housing Strategy has been approved as fit for purpose by Government Office North West subject to three conditions including the need to finalise the Housing Needs Assessments for the 20 Housing Markets and the action plans stemming from these.

Government office has also clarified that there are no plans for the annual Housing Grant to be awarded at the Sub Region level, it will continue to be awarded to the City Council as the Housing Authority.

The Government consultation document is now out regarding the proposed smoke free premises and vehicle legislation. It implies that LA officers will be responsible for its' enforcement and for issuing fixed penalty notices to those who don't comply. Consultation end is 9th. October 2006. Planned implementation is summer 2007.

The Cumbria Food Liaison Group, (all 6 L.As) is currently pursuing a system of 'scores on doors' to publish food hygiene information in an electronic format. Options at present are to do it in-house or use a free software system supported by adverts or a software system paid for by all 6 L.As. It is hoped to go live during 2007/8.

Sure Start had a very successful reception to celebrate their achievement in winning the national 4Children award. The function was well attended by all groups involved with the scheme.

I would like to remind Members that there is a Members Workshop on 21st.

September concerning Phase 2 of the Action Plan on Homelessness and Hostels.