PORTFOLIO:

PROMOTING CARLISLE

Report of Portfolio Holder:

COUNCILLOR MITCHELSON

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP FOR CUMBRIA

As previously reported the creation of a Local Enterprise Partnership for Cumbria was given the green light by the Government in the first tranche of applications.

The Cumbria Leaders Board have at their recent meetings discussed the makeup of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership Board and it has been decided that it will consist of 12 members, 6 from the Private Sector and 6 from the Public Sector. As per the Government guidelines the Chairman will be from the Private Sector.

The Public Sector representation will be 1 representative from the County Council, 3 from the District Councils, 1 from the Lake District National Park, and a representative from Skills / Education which will be filled by a FE nomination. As the District Representation will be 3 members covering 6 Districts it has been agreed by the Districts that they will be paired together for representation. Barrow and South Lakes, Allerdale and Copeland, Carlisle and Eden are paired together and each pairing will share a representative.

The Private Sector are finalising their selection of Board Members early in the New Year.

Until the full formation of the LEP an interim Chairman has been appointed, George Beveridge who is Deputy Managing Director at Sellafield. A Steering Group is also in place which, will carry out the necessary work regarding bids to the Regional Growth Fund which for the first round of bidding have to be in by January 21st.2011.

CARLISLE PARTNERSHIP

The Carlisle Partnership continues to enjoy support from all sectors (public, private, voluntary and community) and we are grateful for the time and efforts of all individuals and partners involved.

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In recent weeks work towards developing a new Sustainable Community Strategy has advanced significantly. An agreed draft was approved by the Carlisle Partnership Executive at their meeting on 15th November where the decision was made to recommend the draft to Carlisle City Council for adoption onto the policy framework. This draft has subsequently been seen by both Carlisle City Council's Executive and the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Both made valuable comments on the proposed documents and their suggested amendments and alterations have all been implemented into the final draft document.

This final draft is now scheduled to appear before full council on 11th January 2011.

All the priority working groups of the partnership are now actively involved in designing specific delivery actions and plans aimed at achieving the aims of the proposed community strategy. As these develop they will also be presented to the City Council's Executive and to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel for their consideration.

At its last Executive meeting the Carlisle Partnership also received the recommendations of a Local Improvement Advisor on how the partnership can become more efficient and effective. All the recommendations have been accepted and the Conveners Group is working on implementing them. These include more focussed performance reporting; merging the partnership Children and Young People's Group with the Locality Planning Group of the Children's Trust, and ensuring all working groups are more focussed on SMART actions.

Finally in the coming months (February and March) the Partnership is arranging significant activity around no-smoking day. This will include events around the district to help and inform residents about available service and an information sharing and awareness raising event about illicit tobacco in the district. This second event will be aimed at Public Sector Officers and Members and further details will be forwarded to all elected members.

Councillor M Mitchelson Promoting Carlisle Portfolio Holder

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