

CUMBRIA LEADERSHIP BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Cumbria Leadership Board held on Friday, 27
May 2011 at CREA Seminar Suite at 10.00 am

PRESENT

Mr E Martin (Chair)

Ms J Holland	Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC)
Mr B Jameson	South Lakeland District Council
Mr W Jefferson	Lake District National Park Authority
Mr M Mitchelson	Carlisle City Council
Mr G Nicolson	Eden District Council
Mr M Taylor	Cumbria PCT
Mr W Williams	Cumbria Third Sector Network
Ms E Woodburn	Copeland Borough Council
Mr D Pidduck	Barrow Borough Council
Mr A Smith	Allerdale Borough Council

Also in Attendance:-

Mrs J Currie	- Cumbria County Council
Mr A Haile	- Assistant Director – Economic Development, Cumbria County Council
Mr J Macilwraith	- Assistant Director – Strategy & Commissioning, Cumbria County Council
Dr D Roberts	- Assistant Director – Policy & Performance, Cumbria County Council
Mr J Savege	- Corporate Director – Organisational Development, Cumbria County Council
Professor G Upton	- Vice Chancellor, University of Cumbria

72. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

It was noted that Mr D Pidduck had replaced Mr J Richardson and Mr T Heslop had been replaced by Mr A Smith on the Cumbria Leadership Board.

73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr R S Cole.

74. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes agreed with one amendment – page 2 Recycling Rewards Scheme – Councillor Woodburn asked that it be noted that Districts had requested that any changes to the Scheme be effective from April 2013.

Matters Arising

On Minute No 66 - Windfarms after a lengthy debate it was agreed that the Chair write to the Minister regarding compensation to communities (Action: EM)

The County Council's Assistant Director – Planning & Sustainability be asked to clarify the timescales for the completion of work by the Planning Group on windfarms (**Action:DR**)

It was **AGREED** that the CLB would ask Paul Feehily to work with colleagues in the district (and parish) councils to agree a Cumbria wide policy/strategy on windfarms (**Action PF**)

The Chair asked the CLB Secretary to ensure new members received copies of the letter he wrote to the Minister earlier this year in relation to windfarms (**Action JC**)

On Minute No 70.1 – Housing in Cumbria it was noted that this had been postponed to allow time for this to be considered by the Cumbria Chief Executives' Group first.

It was agreed to add a 'Matters Arising' item to all future agendas (**Action JC**)

75. ACCESSIBLE CUMBRIA - BROADBAND

The County Council's Corporate Director – Organisational Development presented a report which updated the Leaders on the Accessible Cumbria strategy and work programme, which was aiming to help secure the best superfast broadband infrastructure possible across Cumbria.

The previous UK government originally set out its commitment to a minimum universal service commitment of 2mb/s broadband service to all UK citizens by 2012. This had been revised by the new national Coalition Government, setting out a more ambitious commitment to deliver superfast broadband for the majority of the UK by 2015, making it the best service in Europe. Whilst there was no commonly agreed definition of what super-fast broadband actually meant, Ofcom for example currently considered it to be anything in excess of 24Mb/s.

Government expectation was that super-fast broadband would bring significant benefit for businesses, communities, and would also enable and indeed stimulate further efficiency and innovation across public sector services. Ever-changing technology, broadband, the internet, web-based services, and mobile technology/broadband were becoming the norm for many people and businesses across Cumbria and the UK.

The commercial market responded to this new Government ambition by stating that they would invest £6.5bn to deliver a superfast broadband service to 66% of citizens of the UK by 2015. The Government recognised that to achieve a universal service across all of the UK would require state intervention, stimulating demand in the third of the country where the private sector did not intend to independently invest – particularly in rural areas where the population density would not make the investment viable from a commercial provider's perspective. Government set out a vision and strategy on how it intended achieving universal coverage, identified £530M of government funding to support the strategy, and established Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) group within the Department of Culture, Media and Sport to deliver this strategy.

Cumbria had been chosen to be one of the national pilots, and was indeed currently the most advanced of the 4 in terms of progress to date. The other pilots were Herefordshire, North Yorkshire, and Highlands & Islands.

The Cumbria Context

In overall terms, Cumbria currently had a broadband infrastructure that lagged behind the majority of the UK. A number of the more populated areas could access what would be deemed to be 'average' to 'good' broadband services, yet many communities could only access a basic standard service. Indeed, a significant number of communities experienced a patchy and inconsistent service, and many could not access a broadband service of any form.

Amidst this general picture, there were a small number of communities in parts of the county that had shown significant leadership in terms of broadband, and had co-coordinated and leveraged community demand, entered into commercial arrangements with local providers on a community basis, or formed their own CIC and invested in/implemented their own broadband infrastructure.

So whilst accepting these examples of inspiring leadership, in general Cumbria had historically experienced market failure in terms of broadband infrastructure and services. This was perhaps unsurprising given the rurality of much of the County and therefore the likely private sector commercial assessment of Cumbria in market terms. During the early 2000's this led to the implementation of Project Access, designed to increase the provision and uptake of broadband by businesses across Cumbria.

Cumbria already possessed a significant resource in the form of CLEO – the publically owned network that connected and served all of our schools and libraries. CLEO was remarkable in terms of the broadband service provided – for example 100Mb/s uncontended(i.e. exclusive use service) to every secondary school in Cumbria and 10 Mb/s uncontended to every primary school – yet it had been assessed that only 15% of the available capacity in the network was being used. In addition to this, there were significant efficiency savings available through the rationalisation of the public sector networks across Cumbria.

In relation to the CLEO network leaders felt that the reason the network still had 85% capacity available was due to the cost to the schools of using it. The Corporate Director agreed to clarify the status of CLEO (**Action: JS**)

Accessible Cumbria

As previously highlighted, Cumbria had been chosen as one of four national pilots to explore how the ambition of having the best superfast broadband services in the UK would best be achieved, including what role government would need to play. In order to make the most of the opportunity of the national pilot and other parallel opportunities, a broad strategy for superfast broadband had been developed, called Accessible Cumbria.

It was important to highlight the ambition of Accessible Cumbria - to help secure the best wholesale superfast broadband infrastructure possible across Cumbria. The ambition for Cumbria was more than the 2Mb/s universal service that had been the national ambition. Cumbria would soon be left behind again if that was all we aspired to. The wholesale broadband infrastructure proposed would provide a backbone for all service providers to be able to access to provide services, creating choice for the citizen or business over the service they wished to purchase and from which company.

In terms of funding, there were a number of anticipated strands of funding that at this stage could be summarised in outline terms:-

- It is understood that the technical trials would be funded directly by BDUK
- BDUK had made an in-principle commitment of funding to support the wider pilot work on super-fast broadband across Cumbria, although the final amount was still to be confirmed. This funding would be used to invest in infrastructure in rural areas where private sector investment would otherwise not happen. The procurement process currently underway required the supplier to provide funding in proportion to our own investment
- CLEO as a network infrastructure had been included in the procurement exercise, with the desire to use the revenue/commercial value of the network and associated services to gain more through the procurement process. Similarly, a number of public sector network contracts had been included in the scope of

the procurement exercise, again in order to gain benefit from the revenue streams associated to maximize investment and/or efficiencies

- The County Council was also exploring the options for ERDF funding that was understood could be available to support Next Generation Access (NGA). Decisions on this possible funding were expected to be made in mid-June 2011. It was understood that further work was still required to help secure this potential funding – a critically important decision that the Leaders Board could usefully focus on.

Governance Issues

Cumbria's success in relation to superfast broadband was dependent on cogent and ambitious leadership across all communities, and both private and public sectors. There had already been a significant amount of community interest in relation to superfast broadband, with a number of conferences and workshops held across the County over the past year, engaging with activists and raising the profile and ambition of Cumbria. This had of course been on top of the pioneering work that a small number of communities had been carrying out of many years prior to this.

A good number of community representatives had volunteered to act as hub co-ordinators or community champions for broadband, working alongside Parish Councils, County Councillors and other community representatives and groups. CALC would play a key role in helping bring together the local Councillor(s) and these broadband-focussed champions and co-ordinators. They would be invited to meet on a number of occasions through the programme to ensure coordination overall as well as the sharing of learning, and importantly ensuring that the needs and aspirations of our communities were articulated and then met.

An Accessible Cumbria Partnership forum had been formed, bringing together the main pan-County organisations such as the County Council, Chamber of Commerce, CALC and NHS Cumbria to be able to provide further leadership at a County level. It was planned for other organisations and representatives to be invited to work with the forum at the different stages of the programme, dependent on the stage of the programme and the particular focus..

It was anticipated that in terms of the public sector agencies, the Chief Executive's Group and the Cumbria Leaders Board would be important forums in terms of leadership for this important, shared agenda, as had been set out through the paper. Political engagement at the very local level, combined with strong, pan-County leadership, were critical ingredients for success.

The district leaders agreed to take this item to the Joint Districts Forum that afternoon to agree district council representative/s on the Accessible Cumbria Partnership Forum (**Action: District Leaders**).

It was also agreed that the Chair of CALC and the County Council's Corporate Director – Organisational Development would meet to clarify the current position with regard to CLEO (**Action: JS**).

It was **AGREED** that the Board:-

- (1) Support the Accessible Cumbria strategy, with the ambition that the public sector, businesses, and communities across Cumbria work together to seek to secure the best super-fast broadband infrastructure possible for Cumbria;
- (2) Receive a further report outlining progress with the initial BDUK Technical Trials and complementary Accessible Cumbria procurement process;
- (3) Continue to explore how the Leadership Board could further assist in the delivery of Accessible Cumbria for businesses and communities of Cumbria through inclusion of reports as appropriate on the CLB agenda;
- (4) Demonstrate Cumbria's ambition through further developing Accessible Cumbria as a Digital Strategy for Cumbria, encompassing both fixed and mobile broadband/super-fast broadband technologies and their use across the county;
- (5) That the Joint Districts Forum would discuss who should be the district council representative/s on the Accessible Cumbria Partnership Forum

76. UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA UPDATE

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Cumbria provided the CLB with an update on current changes planned for within the University.

He started by explaining that in response to the Government's new funding arrangements for HE and following comprehensive research and detailed discussion, the university's Board of Directors had now agreed that the proposed fee charged to UK and EU students for full-time undergraduate courses for 2012/13 would be £8,400.

Professor Upton explained that the University had now achieved financial stability, and had a sustainable 5 year financial plan. The new Faculty Structure was up and running, and a new professional service structure was fully operational. A new Senior Management Team was now in place and the Board had been restructured, and had now developed a new vision, mission and business plan.

Looking towards the future the University had developed:-

- New partnerships with FE Colleges
- A new Estates Strategy
- New student residences
- Improved learning and teaching facilities
- Gateway Campuses
- Significant investment in IT to improve learning, teaching and student administration
- Revised research and enterprise strategy
- Further development of the academic portfolio

The Chair thanked Professor Upton for coming along to update the Leaders on progress.

77. LEP (STANDING ITEM)

a) Local Enterprise Partnership

The County Council's Assistant Director – Economic Development provided the CLB with a verbal update on the last 2 LEP meetings.

It was noted that a paper on relationship between CLB and LEP would be coming to the next meeting **(Action DR/ AH)**.

b) Local Enterprise Zones

The Assistant Director – Economic Development at the County Council explained that the Coalition Government had announced that it would establish twenty one Enterprise Zones throughout England. The first wave of eleven locations had been agreed and the second wave would be established through a competitive process led by Local Enterprise Partnerships. The Cumbria Local Enterprise partnership had submitted an expression of interest in forming an Enterprise Zone entitled Fuelling the Future. This would comprise an extension to the Lillyhall Industrial Estate in West Cumbria and the Waterfront Business Park in Barrow in Furness. A writing team was now preparing the detailed bid which needed to be submitted by the end of June 2011.

The Government believed that Enterprise Zones were about allowing areas with real potential to create the new business and jobs that they needed, with positive benefits across the wider economic area. At the heart of these new Enterprise Zones was a desire to remove barriers to private sector growth through reduced burdens for businesses, particularly in terms of lower tax levels, planning and other regulatory and administrative burdens. All Enterprise Zones would benefit from:-

- § A business rate discount worth up to £275,000 per business over a five year period

- § All business rates growth within the zone for a period of at least 25 years will be retained by the local area, to support the Partnership's economic priorities and ensure that Enterprise Zone growth is reinvested locally
- § Government help to develop radically simplified planning approaches for the zone using, for example, existing Local Development Order powers
- § Government support to ensure that superfast broadband is rolled out throughout the zone, achieved through guaranteeing the most supportive regulatory environment and, if necessary, public funding.

Local Enterprise Partnerships had been given the role to develop and implement Enterprise Zones. The Government expected LEPs to connect Enterprise Zones to economic priorities across the wider area. Government would offer a menu of options to Enterprise Zones to suit local economic needs, rather than a uniform central model.

The cost of Business Rate relief provided through the EZ would be met by Government. DCLG was looking for a partnership agreement that determined how business rate retention was managed within the LEP area. DCLG would return business rate growth from within the EZ to an appropriate accountable body and not necessarily the billing authority. LEPs should determine how the funds were spent. DCLG would be looking for assurance within the EZ submission that billing authorities were signed up to the proposed arrangements. The Cumbria LEP would need to hold discussions with the two billing authorities affected by the Cumbria EZ proposal. The deployment of funds to support economic development in parts of Cumbria not benefiting directly from an Enterprise Zone needed to be considered.

The Chair agreed to share his draft letter to the Minister on business rates with all CLB partners, for information **(Action: EM)**

It was agreed that the progress made by the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to establish an Enterprise Zone in Cumbria be noted.

78. MAXIMISING THE VALUE OF OUR EU RELATIONSHIPS FOR THE BENEFIT OF CUMBRIA

The CLB considered a report presented by the County Council's Assistant Director – Economic Development, which provided an overview of maximising the value to Cumbria of our relationship with the EU. It provided a brief summary of the EU policy context and the main funding programmes and concluded by identifying future opportunities to influence policy and attract additional funding.

Europe 2020 is the Commission's updated policy agenda which sets out 3 key priorities for action

- Smart growth - developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation.
- Sustainable growth - promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy.
- Inclusive growth - fostering a high employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.

EU 2020 sets ambitious targets that by the end of the decade; 75% of the 20 - 64 year old population should be employed; 3% of GDP should be invested in Research & Development ; the 20/20/20 climate /energy targets should be met and 20 million less people should be unemployed.

The EU deploys a wide range of actions to help deliver the above objectives and improve the efficiency of the single market. Under the current EU budget cycle (2007-2013) there are 3 mainstream structural funds which Member States can access to help achieve the Commissions aims:-

- European Regional Development Fund - ERDF
- European Social Fund - ESF and
- Regional Development Programme for England - RDPE

European Regional Development Fund

ERDF was aimed at boosting economic development and creating jobs in less prosperous areas by supporting investment in infrastructure, SME's and the environment. In the NW the 4 priorities for funding were stimulating enterprise in target and growth areas, exploiting innovation and knowledge, creating the conditions for sustainable growth and increasing employment. The Programme was managed by NWDA in the NW where £625 million had been allocated for 2007-13, with around 20% still uncommitted. Cumbria was eligible to receive funds under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective, formerly known as Objective 2 and over the years a number of flagship schemes like Whitehaven Harbour, Barrow Waterfront, Lillyhall, Kingmoor Park and Maryport Marina had received substantial ERDF funding.

Currently Cumbria was receiving, or was expected to receive, ERDF support for retrofitting houses with insulation, Carlisle Roman Gateway, Lowther Castle, Roman Maryport, a business start up and loan scheme. Approximately £14.6m of ERDF had been allocated to Cumbria in the current programme.

European Social Fund

ESF aimed to improve employment opportunities by increasing individual's skill levels and assisting people gain access to better job prospects. The Programme, which amounted to £438m in the NW, was targeted at people in

greatest need and had 2 priorities

- Extending employment opportunities
- Developing a skilled and adaptable workforce

Almost all the ESF funding available in phase 1 (2007-10) was committed but money was available in phase 2 to provide skills support to the unemployed and those affected by redundancy.

Rural Development Programme for England

The RDPE sought to strengthen and diversify the rural economy, protect and enhance the environment and assist community development through supporting rural services. It was jointly funded by DEFRA and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Launched in 2008 it would run until 2013. £374 million was available in the NW, with £299 million being delivered by Natural England and the Forestry Commission and the remaining £75 million being managed by the NWDA.

Other Funding Programmes

In addition to the above structural funds, there were several important transnational cooperation programmes which assisted research programmes including nuclear, develop education and training, assisted young people with cultural exchanges, improved regional policies, safeguarded the environment and reduced waste. Specific projects currently being funded were the flood alleviation ALFA project being delivered by Eden Rivers Trust and the County Council's Waste to Energy project through INTERREG4C.

The Assistant Director said that policy and governance changes being introduced by the Coalition Government, together with the impending end of the 2007-2013 Programme and discussions around the new EU budget post 2013, opened up a number of funding and lobbying opportunities for Cumbria.

NWDA, ERDF staff would transfer to the Department of Communities and Local Government from July while DEFRA would take over the management of the RDPE, with both programmes continuing to be administered within the region. Despite ESF increasingly being managed centrally, there was an opportunity for the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to have an influence on the future decision making of the other main programmes. The Cumbria LEP would be represented on the EU Local Management Committee from September and DEFRA was in discussion with LEPS about how they could support delivery of the RDPE.

A key factor influencing our future role in Europe would be the decision on the Budget 2014 – 2020. An announcement of the size of the budget was expected in June which would begin the start of a consultation period. The budget decision would impact on the recommendations of the Fifth Cohesion

Report which was the policy document guiding future EU funding programmes. The main messages in the 5th Cohesion Report were:-

- structural funds continue for all regions
- a tighter focus on EU 2020 priorities with richer regions addressing fewer priorities
- engagement of communities in the delivery of projects
- more streamlined administration and
- a new category of "intermediate region"

The EU funding, policy and administrative landscape was a complex one which required significant effort, time and specific expertise to take full advantage of it. However, as Government expenditure became tighter it was even more important that we maintained and strengthened our links with Europe to maximize the influence and the funding available in the County. Europe Direct Cumbria would continue to identify opportunities for a range of Cumbrian partners to be involved in EU programmes.

The County Council's Assistant Director – Economic Development agreed to ensure information about European funding was communicated more effectively to CLB (**Action AH**)

It was **AGREED** that a briefing note be prepared for circulation to CLB on EU funded programmes which had been delivered (**Action AH**)

CLB members suggested it may be worth setting up a LEP Expert Group on EU Funding (**Action CLB members on LEP**)

RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

79. NHS TRANSITION (STANDING ITEM)

The Chair of NHS Cumbria updated the Leaders on the latest situation in relation to NHS transition.

He reported that he was now the Chair of the Cumbria Cluster as well as NHS Cumbria.

The Cumbria Health & Wellbeing Board was in existence with this being co-chaired by himself and Councillor James Airey – the County Council's portfolio holder for Adult Social Care. Work was on-going to consider how the Board needed to develop to meet the expectations set out in the new health policy.

In relation to the plans for Government's Funding for Health Gain, which would be coming to Cumbria County Council during the next financial year, there had been 6 areas identified for use of this funding. These being:-

- Meeting the Challenge of the Ageing Population
- Support for informal carers
- Addressing the needs of mental health
- Addressing the impact of Alcohol Misuse
- Tackling poor diet and obesity in children
- Addressing significant health inequalities across Cumbria

It was **AGREED** that clarification was needed on process for agreeing the use of the Health Gain Money which was to be transferred from the PCT to the County Council (**Action: DR**)

The District Leaders noted the importance of clarifying the district council representation on the Health & Wellbeing Board.

The Chair thanked him for the informative update.

80. PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT

The Leadership Board considered a report by the County Council's Assistant Director – Policy & Performance, which explained that Cumbria had received a one-off payment of £6.7M of Performance Reward Grant (PRG) for the successful achievement of stretch targets in the 2007 – 2010 LAA. This was made up of £2.01M (30%) capital and £4.69M (70%) revenue grant.

A Performance Reward Grant Working Group, chaired by the Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council, with representation from District Councils, Cumbria's Thematic Partnerships and Local Strategic Partnerships had been charged with developing and managing the process of guiding and agreeing an effective use of the grant.

At its meeting on 1st April 2011, the Cumbria Chief Executive's Group (CCEG) considered a paper that set out a recommended process for allocating the grant. CCEG made a proposal that the grant should be used to support only one or two large projects and that PRG Working Group reconvene to develop proposals for the CLB to consider.

The purpose of this paper was therefore to secure CLB agreement to a process that offered an opportunity for partners to submit business cases for use of grant.

The Leaders considered the report setting out the outcome of the Chief Executive's Group discussions and the subsequent work of the PRG Working Group. Cllr Elaine Woodburn and Cllr Mitchelson raised concerns about the proposed process of inviting business cases, and the potential for a large number of business cases to be developed.

The CLB agreed the principle that a small number of strategic projects be funded through the PRG.

Cllr Elaine Woodburn and Cllr Mitchelson proposed that further work be undertaken by the Chief Executives' Group to come forward with firm recommendations on the use of PRG for the next meeting of the CLB. This was **AGREED**.

The CLB noted that in the tranche of Local Area Agreements ending in March 2010, Cumbria received the highest amount of grant nationally, and would acknowledge this in any future publicity material once agreement was reached on which projects are funded.

81. OLYMPIC TORCH

The Leader of South Lakeland District Council detailed the proposed route of the Olympic Torch through Cumbria. This would not be confirmed until after 21 June 2011. He explained that free publicity would be available as part of the Olympic events process and he agreed to send the current list of calendar of events during 2012 to all partners to enable them to update the list and send it back to him. Everyone would then be able to take advantage of free advertising of these events during the Olympic year **(Action BJ/JC)**

The Leader expressed disappointment at the number of Cumbrian schools that had signed up for the 'Get Set' Programme being run in conjunction with the event and the Assistant Director - Policy & Performance agreed to ensure the Get Set programme was promoted with schools to improve take up **(Action DR)**

82. SUB REGIONAL REPRESENTATION - NORTH WEST REGIONAL LEADERS' BOARD

The sub regional representation at the North West Regional Leaders' Board was confirmed as:-

Mr E Martin & Mr S Young (County Council)
Mr M Mitchelson (District)
Mr B Jefferson (LDNPA)

It was also agreed after discussion that the Chair of the NWLB be asked to stand down from attending next meeting of CLB.

83. DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH COUNCILS

The Leaders received a report by the County Council's Corporate Director – Children's Services, which set out a model for the development of Youth Councils in Cumbria.

Children and young people in Cumbria have the right to say what should happen when adults were making decisions that affected them; and to have their opinions taken into account. In a recent national survey, 82% of young people said they feel it's important for young people to have a greater influence in decisions made in their local area. Only 54% of them thought they had that influence. Youth Councils offered one way for young people to be involved in the Localism agenda and shape local services.

There were currently over 620 active youth councils across the UK. Youth Councils identified their role within localities as:

- representing the views of local young people and getting their voices heard
- campaigning on issues that are important to young people
- engaging with, influencing and sitting on decision-making groups
- contributing to improving the lives of young people within their communities
- creating a positive image of young people
- developing skills and interest around democracy

Youth Councils were developing through a partnership approach. Cumbria County Council was acting as an enabler and facilitator for Youth Councils, alongside its partners. There would be a Youth Council aligned to each locality of Cumbria. Representatives from each of these youth councils would then be invited to form a Cumbria Youth Council.

The Youth Councils would work with existing youth forums and school councils. This would enable both communities of interest and communities of geography to meet together. The model was flexible, with a strong focus on being responsive to individual district's contexts, needs and resources. Each Youth Council could look and operate differently. Each locality would have an operational Youth Council, youth forums or have held a youth conference by 31 March 2011. The inaugural Cumbria Youth Council meeting was scheduled for the May/June 2011 half-term holiday.

Children and young people were at the heart of the model and would be involved meaningfully to ensure engagement and sustainability. The Youth Councils must be inclusive and ensure they were representative of all their young constituents. Once a secure and coherent Youth Council structure was in place, Cumbria could look towards sending elected representatives to the UK Youth Parliament.

Partners were being encouraged to nominate Champions to work with each Youth Council to ensure they were feeding into and influencing decision making processes. Cumbria Children's Services would provide an annual update report to Cumbria Chief Executive's Group on the progress of Youth Councils. The Cumbria Youth Council and elected members of the UK Youth Parliament would work both regionally and nationally ensuring the voice of Cumbrian young people was taken into consideration at all levels of influence and decision-making.

The Chair of CALC said that parish councils were being encouraged to appoint Youth Advisors on all their bodies, as they felt very strongly that the youths should be embedded in the democratic process. The involvement at grass roots level would be very important. The CALC Chair suggested that all leaders should look at the NALC website for a report from Ringwood Council as it contained some very useful information. It was **AGREED** that the CLB Secretary would email all CLB members the link to the NALC report on Ringwood Council **(Action JC)**

It was **AGREED** that the Assistant Director would confirm costs of Youth Councils to CLB **(Action JM)**.

Everyone agreed that this was a good idea but felt that more work should be done to involve the district councils. It was **AGREED** that the Assistant Directors Policy & Performance and Strategy & Commissioning would work together to draw up a list of contacts within the district councils for this **(Action DR/JM)**

84. CUMBRIA CHIEF EXECUTIVES' GROUP - KEY ISSUES (STANDING ITEM)

The key issues from the Cumbria Chief Executives' Group held on 1 April 2011 were noted.

85. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2011/12

RESOLVED that the Programme of Meetings for the forthcoming year be noted.

86. FORWARD PLANNER

It was **AGREED** that:-

- PRG be added to the agenda for the September meeting to allow the Chief Executives to come forward with proposals.
- Housing in Cumbria be moved to the September meeting to enable the Cumbria Housing Group and Chief Executives' Group to contribute to its development
- Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership be added to the agenda for September meeting

87. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday 22 July at 1.30pm at CREA offices.

The Meeting ended at 1.50 pm