

PORTFOLIO:

**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**

Report of  
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR  
FIRTH**

1. During the period 30 July to 29 to 24 October 2002, as Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economic Prosperity, I have attended the following:-

02.09.02	Executive Meeting
04.09.02	Development Advisory Group Rural Development Committee – Penrith
05.09.02	Overview and Scrutiny – Corporate Resources
06.09.02	FMD Report – Penrith
09.09.02	Joint Management Team
10.09.02	Officer's Briefing – Economic Development City Council
11.09.02	Stanwix Rural Parish Council
12.09.02	Overview and Scrutiny – Infrastructure
13.09.02	Cumbria Branch Local Government Association – Penrith.
30.09.02	Executive Meeting
01.10.02	Audit Commission CPA Conference – Newcastle
02.10.02	Officer's Briefing – CPA Irthington Parish Council
03.10.02	Post 16 Education Group Border Visions Conference – Hexham
04.10.02	Border Visions Conference – Hexham
07.10.02	Joint Management Team Carlisle Business Forum (Services) Ltd.
08 – 10.10.02	North West Regional Assembly Conference – Brussels.
11.10.02	Post 16 Carlisle Educational Review
16.10.02	Officer's Briefing – Executive Scaleby Parish Council
17.10.02	Executive Meeting Employment Panel
18.10.02	Overview and Scrutiny – Community

21.10.02	Executive Meeting
	Tourism Presentation
22.10.02	Market Management Group
	Officer's Briefing – Economic Development
24.10.02	Overview and Scrutiny – Corporate Resources.

## 2. CARLISLE GOES GLOBAL

The Corporate Plan calls for efforts to promote business uptake of broadband and e-commerce.

With this in mind, the Economic Development Unit co-operated with the Cumbria Institute of the Arts, the Cumbria Broadband Initiative and the Cumbria Chamber of Commerce and Industry to run an event called Carlisle Goes Global on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2003.

The objective of the meeting was to bring together a small group of businesses interested in the opportunities offered by broadband and the resources available through the Cumbria Institute of the Arts.

20 delegates attended and on going discussions are now underway.

## 3. EMPLOYMENT ALTERNATIVES

The Employment Alternatives project provides support to people in the following Groups

- Those undergoing some form of career change as a result of Foot and Mouth Disease, particularly those made redundant or who are now under-employed e.g. contractors
- Those looking at self-employment as an option
- Those looking to return to the labour market, for example Farmers' Wives

- Farming family members who are looking to diversity the farm operation following the disease
- Single Parents and Carers for whom options may be limited.

The assistance included.

- One to one counselling and advice
- Short courses, particularly for those interested in self-employment and farm diversification
- Seminars
- Advice evenings

The project is managed on behalf of the Carlisle City Council, Eden District Council and South Lakeland District Council by the Business Development Officer in the Economic Development Unit. The City Council and South Lakeland District Council contribute £6,500 each and Eden District Council £3,200 (pro-rata on population). A total of £80,000 was raised from external sources.

The current programme has just come to an end.

Over the last year a total of 541 people across the three districts received help under the scheme. In the case of Carlisle, the following was delivered.

- 9 Start Your Own Business Courses.
- A Women Returner Course at Brampton
- Business Idea Generation Workshops at Longtown and Brampton
- A total 178 people received assistance (87 men, 91 women)
- 18 were assisted into new full-time jobs



- 12 were assisted into new part-time jobs
- 14 existing businesses were assisted
- 28 new businesses were helped to set up
- 17 people still developing business plans

The partners to the project are now looking for funding for next year's programme.

Funding this year was provided by:

Carlisle City Council  
 Eden District Council  
 South Lakeland District Council  
 Cumbria County Council  
 Rural Development Programme  
 Cumbria Connexions  
 European Social fund  
 Barclays Bank

#### 4. KINGSTOWN BUSINESS NETWORK

Under the Corporate Plan objective to improve the co-ordination of information given to local businesses with particular reference to Council business tenants, the Head of Property Services and the Business Development Officer have been co-operating to run a series of meetings for businesses on Kingstown Industrial Estate. The meetings have been held in partnership with Kingmoor Park Properties, Business Link for Cumbria and the Cumbria Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

The first two meetings have been successful with issues of business development and estate management being discussed. Each meeting

has had outside speakers on topics such on the Northern Development Route. Around 30 businesses have attended each meeting.

Businesses on the estate have supported the meetings by providing venues and Tony Bingley of Lloyds Ltd has agreed to act as Chairman. A newsletter has been produced following each meeting and the new Council web-site will feature a bullet in board for the estate.

The next meeting will be held in January and it is planned to extend the meetings to other industrial estates next year.

5. **NEW DEAL**

New Deal achieved a target of 80% of people into work for August against our annual target of 44% set by Employment Services in April 2002.

Figures are not yet available for September 2002.

22/10/2002

## Monthly Unemployment Briefing - September 2002

The September 2002 unemployment figures were released by the Office for National Statistics today.

### UK Claimant Count

The number of people out of work and claiming unemployment benefit across the UK fell by 26,503 to 936,214. The unemployment rate has fallen by 0.1% to 3.1% of the workforce.

*(The seasonally adjusted figure for the UK fell by 200 to 946,000, which is 3.1%. This is the "headline rate" commonly used in the national media – no seasonally adjusted figures are available for local areas. Therefore, this figure should not be used to compare local and national rates. Similarly, the ILO unemployment rate quoted nationally [“the Government’s preferred measure”] is not available for local areas.)*

### County Claimant Count

The number of people out of work and claiming unemployment benefit in Cumbria fell by 357 to 6,414. The unemployment rate is 2.7% of the workforce, 0.4% below the national rate.

In the same month last year, the Cumbria rate stood at 3.0%, giving a year on year fall of 0.3 percentage points. Over the year unemployment in the county has fallen significantly more than the national figure where the rate is unchanged from a year ago.

**Male Unemployment:** fell by 324 to 4,789 which is 3.9%, 0.4% below the UK figure.

**Female Unemployment:** fell by 33 to 1,625 which 1.5%, 0.2% below the UK figure.

COUNTY/REGION/ COUNTRY	Male		Female		All Persons			
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Monthly Change	Rate	Monthly Change
Cumbria	4789	3.9	1625	1.5	6414	-357	2.7	-0.2
North West	88665	5.0	26863	1.8	115528	-4,087	3.5	-0.1
United Kingdom	697643	4.3	238571	1.7	936214	-26,503	3.1	-0.1
Great Britain	670324	4.2	229163	1.7	899487	-24,938	3.1	0.0

Cumbria Economic Intelligence Partnership is a Countywide Partnership established to improve the understanding of the local economy through research, analysis, and data dissemination.

Cumbria County Council   Cumbria Inward Investment Agency   Cumbria Learning & Skills Council  
Allerdale BC   Barrow BC   Carlisle CC   Copeland BC   Eden DC   South Lakeland DC  
Cumbria Tourist Board   Lake District NP   Business Link Cumbria   FE Colleges   Cumbria Learning Partnership



# Cumbria

## Economic Intelligence Partnership

### Travel to Work Areas.

TRAVEL TO WORK AREAS	Male		Female		All Persons			
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Monthly Change	Rate	Monthly Change
Appleby	38	1.2	28	1.3	66	6	1.2	0.1
Barrow in Furness	1140	6.9	347	2.1	1487	-31	4.5	-0.1
Carlisle	1085	3.4	402	1.4	1487	-151	2.5	-0.2
Kendal	143	0.9	71	0.5	214	-34	0.7	-0.1
Keswick	23	1.1	9	0.3	32	4	0.6	0.0
Penrith	129	1.2	57	0.7	186	3	1.0	0.0
Whitehaven	1100	5.2	338	2.3	1438	-77	4.0	-0.2
Windermere	34	0.6	19	0.3	53	2	0.4	0.0
Workington	1072	6.7	344	2.5	1416	-77	4.7	-0.3

### Local Authority Districts

LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICTS	Male		Female		All Persons			
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Monthly Change	Rate	Monthly Change
Allerdale	1140	5.7	377	2.1	1517	-77	4.0	-0.2
Barrow in Furness	968	9.0	272	2.2	1240	-27	5.4	-0.1
Carlisle	998	3.4	370	1.4	1368	-140	2.4	-0.3
Copeland	1141	5.3	346	2.3	1487	-84	4.1	-0.2
Eden	188	1.3	90	0.8	278	8	1.1	0.0
South Lakeland	354	1.3	170	0.6	524	-37	1.0	0.0

### Contacts

Richard Cooper Senior Policy Officer  
Policy and Performance  
Chief Executive's Directorate  
Cumbria County Council  
01228 606687  
richard.cooper@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Ginny Murphy Research Manager  
Cumbria Inward Investment Agency  
01900 600032  
ginnym@cumbria-investment.co.uk

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## Economic Intelligence Partnership

22/10/2002

22/10/2002								
	Unemployment by Ward – Aug 2002							
	Unemployment Totals			Unemployment Rates			Aug 2001	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Total	Yr-on-Yr Change
CARLISLE								
Arthuret	17	11	28	2.0	1.8	1.9	33	-5
Belah	44	32	76	2.2	2.0	2.2	88	-12
Belle Vue	71	26	97	4.4	2.1	3.4	113	-16
Botcherby	94	34	128	6.5	2.9	4.8	149	-21
Brampton	48	20	68	4.6	2.7	3.8	55	13
Burgh	11	11	22	1.7	2.2	1.9	19	3
Currock	77	30	107	4.7	2.3	3.6	124	-17
Dalston	14	6	20	2.2	1.3	1.8	19	1
Denton Holme	67	28	95	4.2	2.1	3.2	93	2
Great Corby & Geltsdale	7	3	10	1.3	0.8	1.1	10	0
Harraby	39	8	47	2.3	0.6	1.6	68	-21
Hayton	8	2	10	1.2	0.4	0.9	10	0
Irthing	12	3	15	1.9	0.8	1.5	16	-1
Lyne	9	7	16	1.3	1.6	1.4	18	-2
Morton	58	18	76	5.3	2.0	3.8	73	3
St Aidans	94	25	119	5.5	1.8	3.9	99	20
St Cuthbert Without	9	5	14	1.7	1.2	1.5	19	-5
Stanwix Rural	23	6	29	1.6	0.6	1.2	44	-15
Stanwix Urban	78	23	101	5.1	1.9	3.7	120	-19
Trinity	77	18	95	5.1	1.5	3.5	103	-8
Upperby	75	26	101	5.3	2.4	4.0	112	-11
Wetheral	19	6	25	1.8	0.8	1.4	21	4
Yewdale	47	22	69	2.2	1.2	1.7	76	-7

Please note that the wards used for the collection of information are statistical, not electoral. They therefore do not reflect the current electoral wards in Carlisle. The presentation of this information will not change until the detailed data based on the 2001 census starts to come through.

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