

COUNCIL

SUMMONS

To the Mayor and Members of Carlisle City Council

You are summoned to attend the Meeting of Carlisle City Council which will be held on **Tuesday, 05 March 2013 at 18:45**, in the **Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG**



Director of Governance

AGENDA

1. The Mayor will invite the Chaplain to say prayers.
2. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive will open the meeting by calling the roll.

Minutes

The Council will be asked to receive the Minutes of the meetings of the City Council held on 8 January and 5 February 2013.

4. **Public and Press**

To determine whether any of the items of business within Part A of the Agenda should be dealt with when the public and press are excluded from the meeting.

To determine whether any of the items of business within Part B of the Agenda should be dealt with when the public and press are present.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and any interests, relating to any item on the agenda at this stage.

6. **Announcements**

- (i) To receive any announcements from the Mayor
- (ii) To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council
- (iii) To receive any announcements from Members of the Executive
- (iv) To receive any announcements from the Town Clerk and Chief Executive

7. **Council Tax 2013-14 - Report RD.81.12**

7 - 28

To consider a report of the Director of Resources regarding the setting of Council Tax for 2013/14.
(Copy Report RD.81/12 herewith)

8. **Questions by Members of the Public**

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 10.1, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no questions have been submitted on notice by members of the public.

9. **Presentation of Petitions and Deputations**

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 10.11, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no petitions or deputations have been submitted by members of the public.

10. **Questions from Members of the Council**

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 11.2, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no questions have been submitted on notice by Members of the City Council.

11. Executive

(a) Minutes

The Council will be requested to receive the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 14 January and 11 February 2013 and ask questions of the Leader and Portfolio Holders on those Minutes.

11(b) Portfolio Holder Reports

The Council will be asked to receive reports from the following Portfolio Holders:

11(b)(i) Leader's Portfolio 29 - 32

Details

11(b)(ii) Finance, Governance and Resources 33 - 36

Details

11(b)(iii) Environment and Transport 37 - 40

Details

11(b)(iv) Economy and Enterprise 41 - 44

Details

11(b)(v) Communities and Housing 45 - 50

Details

11(b)(iv) Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People 51 - 54

and ask questions of the Leader and Portfolio Holders on those Reports.

(Copy Reports herewith)

12. Overview and Scrutiny

The Council will be asked to receive the Minutes from the following meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels and to ask questions of the Chairmen; and receive reports from the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels:

12(i)(b) Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman's Report 55 - 56

(Copy Report Herewith)

12(ii)(b) Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman's Report 57 - 58

(Copy Report Herewith)

12(iii)(b) Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman's Report 59 - 62

(Copy Report Herewith)

13. Regulatory Panel

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Panel held on 6 February 2013.

14. Licensing Committee

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 6 February 2013.

15. Development Control Committee

To receive the Minutes of the meetings of the Development Control Committee held on 12 and 14 December 2012; and 23 and 25 January 2013.

16. Audit Commitee

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 11 January 2013

17. Employment Panel

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Employment Panel held on 14 January 2013.

18. Appeals Panel

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Appeals Panel held on 29 January 2013.

19. Notice of Motion

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 12, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no motions have been submitted on notice by Members of the Council.

20. Communications

To receive and consider communications and to deal with such other business as may be brought forward by the Mayor as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Procedure Rule 2.1(xiv) to pass such resolution or resolutions thereon as may be considered expedient or desirable.

PART 'B'

To be considered in private

21. Appeals Panel Decision

- Information relating to any individual;
- Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information);

CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:-

The Mayor and Members of the City Council

7

Date of Meeting:-

5 March 2013

Agenda Item No:-

Public

Operational

Delegated Yes

Accompanying Comments and Statements

Required

Included

Title:-

COUNCIL TAX 2013/14

Report of:-

Director of Resources

Report reference:-

RD81/12

Summary & Recommendation:-

This report sets out the calculations to be made by the City Council in setting:

- a) The change in the City Council budget requirement from £13.457m to £13.453m as outlined in paragraph 1.4 due to final confirmation of Parish Precepts.
- b) The level of basic Council Tax in 2013/14 in respect of City Council Services at £206.39 and the amount to be levied in non parished areas at £193.43
- c) The level of Basic (City) Council Tax which will be charged in different parts of the City Council's area to reflect Special Items (Parish Precepts) – **Appendix A**
- d) The Basic amount of (City) Council Tax applicable to each category of dwelling in each part of the City Council's area – **Appendix B**
- e) The total amount of Council Tax to be levied in 2013/14, inclusive of Cumbria County Council and Cumbria Police Authority Precept, applicable to each category of dwelling in each part of the City Council's area – **Appendix C**
- f) Details how the Council Tax surplus was calculated **Appendix D**
- g) To approve the formal Council Tax Resolution – **Appendix E**
- h) In accordance with The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 as set out at **Appendix F**, Council are requested to confirm that :
 - i. The reduced discount in respect of Prescribed Class D (unoccupied and substantially unfurnished properties which require or are undergoing structural alteration or major repair works) to be set at 75%.

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

- ii. The reduced discount in respect of Prescribed Class C (unoccupied and substantially unfurnished properties) to be set at 50% for a period up to 6 months then 25% for a period up to 2 years then zero % thereafter. All periods commence from the date on which the property became unoccupied and substantially unfurnished.
- iii. The reduced discount in respect of Prescribed Classes A & B (unoccupied and furnished properties with and without a planning restriction of at least 28 days) to remain at 10%.
- iv. The higher amount for certain empty dwellings that have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a continuous period of at least 2 years (long term empty premium) to be set at zero.

Contact Officer: Steven Tickner

Ext: 7280

CITY OF CARLISLE

To: The Mayor and Members of the City Council
5 March 2013

RD81/12

COUNCIL TAX 2013/14

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tonight's meeting marks the third and final stage in the financial and budgetary process introduced by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and culminates in the setting of the Council Tax levels to be applied throughout Carlisle for 2013/14.
- 1.2 Stage 1 required the City Council to calculate its Tax Base – this was delegated to the Director of Resources at the meeting of the City Council of 13 January 2004 and calculated as at 5 January 2013.
- 1.3 Stage 2 required the City Council to calculate its Budget Requirement for 2013/14 and this was undertaken at its meeting on 5 February 2013.
- 1.4 The Budget Requirement agreed by Council on 5 February included an estimate of Parish Precepts as one precept was still outstanding. This has now been received and has resulted in the total amount of Parish Precepts requested being lower than estimated. This has the effect of lowering the Budget requirement from £13.457m to £13.453m. Any published Budget Resolutions will now incorporate the revised figures.
- 1.5 The Localism Act 2011 has made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992, and now requires the billing authority (Carlisle City Council) to calculate a council tax requirement for the year, not its budget requirement as previously.
- 1.6 The Parish Council Precepts for 2013/14 are detailed in **Appendix A** and total £399,350. The total amount payable to Parishes will be £453,234, the difference of £53,884 being made up of Council Tax support grant. Therefore, there is a decrease in the average Band D Council Tax for Parish Councils due to the grant more than making up the loss in tax base due to the implementation of the new Council Tax support scheme.
- 1.7 Cumbria County Council is similarly required to calculate its Council Tax Requirement and this was determined at its meeting on 14 February 2013. The

precept was set at £35,783,550. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,161.50 (no increase from 2012/13).

- 1.8 Cumbria Police Authority is similarly required to calculate Council Tax requirement separately from the County Council and this was determined at its meeting on 22 February 2013. The precept was set at £6,305,176. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £204.66 (an increase of 1.93%).
- 1.9 Finally, the City Council as “Billing Authority” is required under Section 30, to set an overall amount of Council Tax, by reference to the aggregate of its own Tax and that set by the Cumbria County Council and Cumbria Police Authority.
- 1.10 It should be noted that the City Council has held its share of Council Tax at the same level as 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 (i.e. no increase for 2013/14). The County Council have also held its share at 2012/13 levels and the Police Authority have raised their Council Tax rates for 2013/14 by 1.93%.

2. RELEVANT CALCULATIONS

- 2.1 The legislation is framed in a way, which requires that the relevant calculations are made by the City Council.
- 2.2 Where the information required to support the calculations is complex or lengthy, it is contained in the appendices attached to this report.
- 2.3 The remainder of this report is in the form of a commentary on the relevant calculations, concluding with a recommendation as to the terms in which the City Council should make the appropriate resolution.

3. COUNCIL TAX BASE

The Council Tax Base is a measure of the City Council’s taxable resources and is expressed in terms of the equivalent number of 2 person Band D properties. This was calculated by the City Council to be 30,808.05 for the whole of the area. The amount calculated for each parish is set out in **Appendix B**.

4. COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT

The City Council’s Council Tax Requirement 2013/14 has been determined as £5,959,201.

5. GRANT INCOME

- 5.1 The City Council is required to calculate the aggregate of its estimated income specified grants for 2013/14. These have been notified as:-

	£
Retained Business Rates	2,913,559
Revenue Support Grant	4,145,171
Total	7,058,730

- 5.2 Under Council Tax transactions relating to any surplus or deficit arising from the previous year's Council Tax are to be aggregated and incorporated in the amount of Council Tax set by the billing authority. This is to be achieved by increasing the amount of grant income by the amount of any anticipated surplus on the Collection Fund at 31 March 2013. If a deficiency is anticipated, or the transactions to be accounted for in 2013/14 gave rise to a reduction in liability, then the aggregate of grant income is to be reduced.

- 5.2.1 **Appendix D** summarises the anticipated position on the collection of Council Tax. In accordance with the authority delegated to the Director of Community Engagement by the Council, the overall surplus on Council Tax for 2012/13 has been determined at £271,149. The County Council's share of this surplus has been certified as £200,791, the Police Authority's Share certified as £34,711, leaving a balance of £35,647 for the City Council.

- 5.3 On this basis, total estimated grant income should be calculated as £7,094,377.

6. CITY COUNCIL BASIC COUNCIL TAX

- 6.1 Basic Council Tax is the average tax for the whole area in respect of the City Council's Council Tax Requirement after first deducting estimated grant income. Its relevance is as a basis for comparison since it will not actually be levied in any part of the Council's area.
- 6.2 Basic Council Tax is calculated by subtracting grant income from Budget Requirement and dividing the result by the Tax Base:-

	£
Budget Requirement	13,452,928
Less Grant Income	7,094,377
Net Requirement from Collection Fund	6,358,551
Divided by Tax Base	30,808.05
Basic Tax	206.39

- 6.3 Next, it is necessary to calculate the level of Tax which will be levied in different parts of the City Council's area, according to whether or not there are special items (parish precepts) to be charged in the area.

- 6.4 By setting aside the total value of special items from the amount required from the Collection Fund, and recalculating the result in the same way as calculating the Basic Tax in 6.2, the result is the amount of Tax which will be levied in the Urban Area and in any parish area for which no precept is required:

	£
Net Requirement from Collection Fund	6,358,551
Less Special Items	399,350
Net requirement excluding Special Items	5,959,201
Divided by Tax Base	30,808.05
Basic Amount of Tax for the Urban Area and Parishes Not Levying a Precept	193.43

- 6.5 A similar calculation is required to be made in respect of each parish area for which a special item is to be charged and these are set out in detail in **Appendix B**.

7. COUNCIL TAX APPLICABLE TO EACH PROPERTY BAND

- 7.1 Having calculated the “headline” Tax for each part of the area, it is now necessary to set the level of Tax for each of the eight property bands in each part of the area.
- 7.2 This is done by setting the Tax in proportion to that set for Band D, in the proportions set out in the legislation:-

	<u>Valuation Band</u>							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Proportion to 9	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18

- 7.3 The results of carrying out the above calculations are set out in **Appendix B**.

8. CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL PRECEPT

The County Council has issued a precept upon the City Council in the sum of £35,783.550 and set its basic Council Tax as £1,161.50 to be charged against each category of dwelling as follows:-

Valuation Band / Basic Amount of Tax

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£774.33	£903.39	£1,032.44	£1,161.50	£1,419.61	£1,677.72	£1,935.83	£2,323.00

9. CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY PRECEPT

The Police Authority has issued a precept upon the City Council in the sum of £6,305,176 and set its basic Council Tax as £204.66 to be charged against each category of dwelling as follows:-

Valuation Band / Basic Amount of Tax

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£136.44	£159.18	£181.92	£204.66	£250.14	£295.62	£341.10	£409.32

10. TOTAL AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX 2013/14

- 10.1 The amount of Council Tax to be levied in 2013/14 in respect of each category of dwelling in each part of the City Council's area is arrived at by adding together the amounts calculated at **Appendix B** to the amount set by Cumbria County Council as notified and set out in paragraph 8 and the amount set by Cumbria Police Authority and set out in Paragraph 9. i.e.

Band D Council Tax Levels			
	£	% Increase	% of Council Tax
City	193.43	0.0	12.4%
County	1,161.50	0.0	74.5%
Police	204.66	1.93	13.1%
Total	1,559.59		100.0%

- 10.2 The amounts are set out in **Appendix C**.

11. CONSULTATION

- 11.1 Consultation to Date.
Not applicable.
- 11.2 Consultation proposed.
Not applicable.

12. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

Not Applicable

13. FINANCE COMMENTS

Not Applicable

14. LEGAL COMMENTS

Not Applicable

15. CORPORATE COMMENTS

Not Applicable

16. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Not Applicable

17. EQUALITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

18. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

19. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

20. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 20.1 Having made all of the appropriate calculations identified in this report, the City Council is recommended to resolve in the terms set out at **Appendix F**.

21. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 21.1 To set the Council Tax for 2013/14.

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Does the change have an impact on the following?

Equality Impact Screening	Impact Yes/No?	Is the impact positive or negative?
Does the policy/service impact on the following?		
Age	No	N/A
Disability	No	N/A
Race	No	N/A
Gender/ Transgender	No	N/A
Sexual Orientation	No	N/A
Religion or belief	No	N/A
Human Rights	No	N/A
Health inequalities	No	N/A
Rurality	No	N/A

If you consider there is either no impact or no negative impact, please give reasons:

This report summarises the Council Tax position for 2013/14

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PETER MASON
Director of Resources

Contact: Steven Tickner

Ext: 7280

APPENDIX A

BASIC AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX APPLICABLE TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL'S AREA

PARISH/AREA	SPECIAL ITEMS (Parish Precepts) £	COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT GRANT £	TOTAL INCOME £	TAX BASE	BASIC AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX £
Arthuret	36,201	12,249	48,450	652.23	55.50
Askerton	0	0	0	51.04	0.00
Beaumont	5,290	207	5,497	181.30	29.18
Bewcastle	3,441	559	4,000	128.93	26.69
Brampton	70,355	18,523	88,878	1,443.73	48.73
Burgh By Sands	12,596	654	13,250	452.78	27.82
Burtholme	1,724	166	1,890	79.75	21.62
Carlatton & Cumrew	1,566	34	1,600	54.99	28.48
Castle Carrock	4,244	96	4,340	134.41	31.58
Cummersdale	5,656	833	6,489	187.43	30.17
Cumwhitton	3,407	193	3,600	128.27	26.56
Dalston	39,528	3,334	42,862	1,001.25	39.48
Denton Nether	3,051	449	3,500	98.48	30.98
Denton Upper	1,005	153	1,158	33.04	30.43
Farlam	2,985	296	3,281	210.96	14.15
Hayton	14,350	1,439	15,789	802.50	17.88
Hethersgill	5,673	827	6,500	126.00	45.02
Irthington	4,875	481	5,356	309.03	15.77
Kingmoor	7,117	543	7,660	264.75	26.88
Kingwater	979	21	1,000	61.62	15.89
Kirkandrews	6,392	950	7,342	148.37	43.08
Kirklington	1,840	10	1,850	133.78	13.75
Midgeholme	0	0	0	23.09	0.00
Nicholforest	3,426	574	4,000	131.24	26.10
Orton	3,315	435	3,750	158.90	20.86
Rockcliffe	2,462	338	2,800	282.62	8.71
Scaleby	4,862	138	5,000	134.47	36.16
Solport & Stapleton	2,640	160	2,800	137.44	19.21
Stanwix Rural	37,666	2,874	40,540	1,188.40	31.69
St Cuthbert Without	21,415	1,435	22,850	1,300.80	16.46
Walton	4,526	426	4,952	100.08	45.22
Waterhead	981	19	1,000	50.77	19.32
Westlinton	1,873	127	2,000	134.95	13.88
Wetheral	83,911	5,339	89,250	2,210.84	37.95
Total	399,350.00	53,884.00	453,234.00		

APPENDIX B

BASIC AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX FOR CITY COUNCIL SERVICES								
APPLICABLE TO EACH CATEGORY OF DWELLING IN EACH PART OF								
PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA	VALUATION BANDS							
	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ARTHURET	165.95	193.62	221.27	248.93	304.24	359.57	414.88	497.86
BEAUMONT	148.40	173.15	197.88	222.61	272.07	321.55	371.01	445.22
BEWCASTLE	146.74	171.21	195.66	220.12	269.03	317.95	366.86	440.24
BRAMPTON	161.44	188.35	215.26	242.16	295.97	349.79	403.60	484.32
BURGH BY SANDS	147.50	172.09	196.67	221.25	270.41	319.58	368.75	442.50
BURTHOLME	143.36	167.27	191.16	215.05	262.83	310.63	358.41	430.10
CARLATTON & CUMREW	147.94	172.60	197.26	221.91	271.22	320.54	369.85	443.82
CASTLE CARROCK	150.00	175.01	200.01	225.01	275.01	325.02	375.01	450.02
CUMMERSDALE	149.06	173.92	198.76	223.60	273.28	322.98	372.66	447.20
CUMWHITTON	146.66	171.11	195.55	219.99	268.87	317.76	366.65	439.98
DALSTON	155.27	181.16	207.03	232.91	284.66	336.43	388.18	465.82
DENTON NETHER	149.60	174.55	199.48	224.41	274.27	324.15	374.01	448.82
DENTON UPPER	149.24	174.12	198.99	223.86	273.60	323.35	373.10	447.72
FARLAM	138.38	161.46	184.52	207.58	253.70	299.84	345.96	415.16
HAYTON	140.87	164.36	187.83	211.31	258.26	305.23	352.18	422.62
HETHERSGILL	158.96	185.47	211.96	238.45	291.43	344.43	397.41	476.90
IRTHINGTON	139.46	162.72	185.96	209.20	255.68	302.18	348.66	418.40
KINGMOOR	146.87	171.36	195.83	220.31	269.26	318.23	367.18	440.62
KINGWATER	139.54	162.81	186.06	209.32	255.83	302.35	348.86	418.64
KIRKANDREWS	157.67	183.96	210.23	236.51	289.06	341.63	394.18	473.02
KIRKLINTON	138.12	161.14	184.16	207.18	253.22	299.26	345.30	414.36
NICHOLFOREST	146.35	170.75	195.14	219.53	268.31	317.10	365.88	439.06
ORTON	142.86	166.67	190.48	214.29	261.91	309.53	357.15	428.58
ROCKCLIFFE	134.76	157.22	179.68	202.14	247.06	291.98	336.90	404.28
SCALEBY	153.06	178.57	204.08	229.59	280.61	331.63	382.65	459.18
SOLPORT & STAPLETON	141.76	165.39	189.02	212.64	259.89	307.15	354.40	425.28
STANWIX RURAL	150.08	175.10	200.11	225.12	275.14	325.17	375.20	450.24
ST CUTHBERT WITHOUT	139.92	163.25	186.57	209.89	256.53	303.18	349.81	419.78
WALTON	159.10	185.62	212.14	238.65	291.68	344.72	397.75	477.30
WATERHEAD	141.83	165.48	189.11	212.75	260.02	307.31	354.58	425.50
WESTLINTON	138.20	161.25	184.28	207.31	253.37	299.45	345.51	414.62
WETHERAL	154.25	179.97	205.67	231.38	282.79	334.22	385.63	462.76
All other parts of the City Council's area	128.95	150.45	171.94	193.43	236.41	279.40	322.38	386.86

APPENDIX C

AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX TO BE LEVIED IN 2013/14 IN RESPECT OF EACH CATEGORY OF DWELLING IN EACH PART OF								
PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA	VALUATION BANDS		BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	BAND A	BAND B						
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ARTHURET	1,076.72	1,256.19	1,435.63	1,615.09	1,973.99	2,332.91	2,691.81	3,230.18
BEAUMONT	1,059.17	1,235.72	1,412.24	1,588.77	1,941.82	2,294.89	2,647.94	3,177.54
BEWCASTLE	1,057.51	1,233.78	1,410.02	1,586.28	1,938.78	2,291.29	2,643.79	3,172.56
BRAMPTON	1,072.21	1,250.92	1,429.62	1,608.32	1,965.72	2,323.13	2,680.53	3,216.64
BURGH BY SANDS	1,058.27	1,234.66	1,411.03	1,587.41	1,940.16	2,292.92	2,645.68	3,174.82
BURTHOLME	1,054.13	1,229.84	1,405.52	1,581.21	1,932.58	2,283.97	2,635.34	3,162.42
CARLATTON & CUMREW	1,058.71	1,235.17	1,411.62	1,588.07	1,940.97	2,293.88	2,646.78	3,176.14
CASTLE CARROCK	1,060.77	1,237.58	1,414.37	1,591.17	1,944.76	2,298.36	2,651.94	3,182.34
CUMMERSDALE	1,059.83	1,236.49	1,413.12	1,589.76	1,943.03	2,296.32	2,649.59	3,179.52
CUMWHITTON	1,057.43	1,233.68	1,409.91	1,586.15	1,938.62	2,291.10	2,643.58	3,172.30
DALSTON	1,066.04	1,243.73	1,421.39	1,599.07	1,954.41	2,309.77	2,665.11	3,198.14
DENTON NETHER	1,060.37	1,237.12	1,413.84	1,590.57	1,944.02	2,297.49	2,650.94	3,181.14
DENTON UPPER	1,060.01	1,236.69	1,413.35	1,590.02	1,943.35	2,296.69	2,650.03	3,180.04
FARLAM	1,049.15	1,224.03	1,398.88	1,573.74	1,923.45	2,273.18	2,622.89	3,147.48
HAYTON	1,051.64	1,226.93	1,402.19	1,577.47	1,928.01	2,278.57	2,629.11	3,154.94
HETHERSGILL	1,069.73	1,248.04	1,426.32	1,604.61	1,961.18	2,317.77	2,674.34	3,209.22
IRTHINGTON	1,050.23	1,225.29	1,400.32	1,575.36	1,925.43	2,275.52	2,625.59	3,150.72
KINGMOOR	1,057.64	1,233.93	1,410.19	1,586.47	1,939.01	2,291.57	2,644.11	3,172.94
KINGWATER	1,050.31	1,225.38	1,400.42	1,575.48	1,925.58	2,275.69	2,625.79	3,150.96
KIRKANDREWS	1,068.44	1,246.53	1,424.59	1,602.67	1,958.81	2,314.97	2,671.11	3,205.34
KIRKLINTON	1,048.89	1,223.71	1,398.52	1,573.34	1,922.97	2,272.60	2,622.23	3,146.68
NICHOLFOREST	1,057.12	1,233.32	1,409.50	1,585.69	1,938.06	2,290.44	2,642.81	3,171.38
ORTON	1,053.63	1,229.24	1,404.84	1,580.45	1,931.66	2,282.87	2,634.08	3,160.90
ROCKCLIFFE	1,045.53	1,219.79	1,394.04	1,568.30	1,916.81	2,265.32	2,613.83	3,136.60
SCALEBY	1,063.83	1,241.14	1,418.44	1,595.75	1,950.36	2,304.97	2,659.58	3,191.50
SOLPORT & STAPLETON	1,052.53	1,227.96	1,403.38	1,578.80	1,929.64	2,280.49	2,631.33	3,157.60
STANWIX RURAL	1,060.85	1,237.67	1,414.47	1,591.28	1,944.89	2,298.51	2,652.13	3,182.56
ST CUTHBERT WITHOUT	1,050.69	1,225.82	1,400.93	1,576.05	1,926.28	2,276.52	2,626.74	3,152.10
WALTON	1,069.87	1,248.19	1,426.50	1,604.81	1,961.43	2,318.06	2,674.68	3,209.62
WATERHEAD	1,052.60	1,228.05	1,403.47	1,578.91	1,929.77	2,280.65	2,631.51	3,157.82
WESTLINTON	1,048.97	1,223.82	1,398.64	1,573.47	1,923.12	2,272.79	2,622.44	3,146.94
WETHERAL	1,065.02	1,242.54	1,420.03	1,597.54	1,952.54	2,307.56	2,662.56	3,195.08
All other parts of the City Council's area	1,039.72	1,213.02	1,386.30	1,559.59	1,906.16	2,252.74	2,599.31	3,119.18

APPENDIX D**2012/13 Council Tax Surplus to be distributed in 2013/14**

£

Income into Fund 2012/13

Council Tax Payments (inc MOD)	46,335,276
Plus Arrears to be Collected 2013/14 Onwards	735,128

Net Transfers from Council Fund

Rebates Including Second Adult	7,449,851
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Total Estimated Income 2012/13	54,520,255
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Expenditure from Fund 2012/13

Police Authority Precept	6,992,490
County Precept	40,449,110
City Including Parish Precepts	7,181,003

54,622,603

Estimated Deficit/(Surplus) on Fund as at 15/01/13	(102,348)
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1. Surplus to be Returned 2013/14

(Surplus) on Collection Fund 31/03/12	(443,394)
Deficit/(Surplus) 1993-2011	69,898
Deficit/(Surplus) 2012/13 (See Above)	102,348
Less (Deficit) / Surplus Distributed to 2011/12	0

Deficit / (Surplus) to be Returned 2013/14	(271,149)
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Police Authority Share	(34,711)
County Council Share	(200,791)
City Council Share	(35,647)

(271,149)

APPENDIX E

1. That it be noted that at its meeting on 5 March 2013 the City Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2013/14:-
 - a) For the whole Council area as 30,808.05 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (The "Act"), and;.
 - b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as below:

Parish of:	£
Arthuret	652.23
Askerton	51.04
Beaumont	181.30
Bewcastle	128.93
Brampton	1,443.73
Burgh By Sands	452.78
Burtholme	79.75
Carlton & Cumrew	54.99
Castle Carrock	134.41
Cummersdale	187.43
Cumwhitton	128.27
Dalston	1,001.25
Denton Nether	98.48
Denton Upper	33.04
Farlam	210.96
Hayton	802.50
Hethersgill	126.00
Irthington	309.03
Kingmoor	264.75
Kingwater	61.62
Kirkandrews	148.37
Kirklington	133.78
Midgeholme	23.09
Nicholforest	131.24
Orton	158.90
Rockcliffe	282.62
Scaleby	134.47
Solport & Stapleton	137.44
Stanwix Rural	1,188.40
St Cuthbert Without	1,300.80
Walton	100.08
Waterhead	50.77
Westlinton	134.95
Wetheral	2,210.84
& for the urban area of CARLISLE	18,269.81
Total	30,808.05

2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £5,959,201

3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the City Council for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended):-
 - (a) 13,452,928 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils
 - (b) £7,094,377 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act
 - (c) £6,358,551 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax Requirement for the year. (Item R) in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act).
 - (d) £206.39 Being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1 above) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
 - (e) £399,350 Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
 - (f) £193.43 Being the amount at 3(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish Precept relates.
4. To note that the County Council, the Police Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.
5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

VALUATION BANDS

PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA	VALUATION BANDS							
	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ARTHURET	165.95	193.62	221.27	248.93	304.24	359.57	414.88	497.86
BEAUMONT	148.40	173.15	197.88	222.61	272.07	321.55	371.01	445.22
BEWCASTLE	146.74	171.21	195.66	220.12	269.03	317.95	366.86	440.24
BRAMPTON	161.44	188.35	215.26	242.16	295.97	349.79	403.60	484.32
BURGH BY SANDS	147.50	172.09	196.67	221.25	270.41	319.58	368.75	442.50
BURTHOLME	143.36	167.27	191.16	215.05	262.83	310.63	358.41	430.10
CARLATTON & CUMREW	147.94	172.60	197.26	221.91	271.22	320.54	369.85	443.82
CASTLE CARROCK	150.00	175.01	200.01	225.01	275.01	325.02	375.01	450.02
CUMMERSDALE	149.06	173.92	198.76	223.60	273.28	322.98	372.66	447.20
CUMWHITTON	146.66	171.11	195.55	219.99	268.87	317.76	366.65	439.98
DALSTON	155.27	181.16	207.03	232.91	284.66	336.43	388.18	465.82
DENTON NETHER	149.60	174.55	199.48	224.41	274.27	324.15	374.01	448.82
DENTON UPPER	149.24	174.12	198.99	223.86	273.60	323.35	373.10	447.72
FARLAM	138.38	161.46	184.52	207.58	253.70	299.84	345.96	415.16
HAYTON	140.87	164.36	187.83	211.31	258.26	305.23	352.18	422.62
HETHERSGILL	158.96	185.47	211.96	238.45	291.43	344.43	397.41	476.90
IRTHINGTON	139.46	162.72	185.96	209.20	255.68	302.18	348.66	418.40
KINGMOOR	146.87	171.36	195.83	220.31	269.26	318.23	367.18	440.62
KINGWATER	139.54	162.81	186.06	209.32	255.83	302.35	348.86	418.64
KIRKANDREWS	157.67	183.96	210.23	236.51	289.06	341.63	394.18	473.02
KIRKLINTON	138.12	161.14	184.16	207.18	253.22	299.26	345.30	414.36
NICHOLFOREST	146.35	170.75	195.14	219.53	268.31	317.10	365.88	439.06
ORTON	142.86	166.67	190.48	214.29	261.91	309.53	357.15	428.58
ROCKCLIFFE	134.76	157.22	179.68	202.14	247.06	291.98	336.90	404.28
SCALEBY	153.06	178.57	204.08	229.59	280.61	331.63	382.65	459.18
SOLPORT & STAPLETON	141.76	165.39	189.02	212.64	259.89	307.15	354.40	425.28
STANWIX RURAL	150.08	175.10	200.11	225.12	275.14	325.17	375.20	450.24
ST CUTHBERT WITHOUT	139.92	163.25	186.57	209.89	256.53	303.18	349.81	419.78
WALTON	159.10	185.62	212.14	238.65	291.68	344.72	397.75	477.30
WATERHEAD	141.83	165.48	189.11	212.75	260.02	307.31	354.58	425.50
WESTLINTON	138.20	161.25	184.28	207.31	253.37	299.45	345.51	414.62
WETHERAL	154.25	179.97	205.67	231.38	282.79	334.22	385.63	462.76
All other parts of the City Council's area	128.95	150.45	171.94	193.43	236.41	279.40	322.38	386.86

Precepting Authority	VALUATION BANDS							
	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cumbria County Council	774.33	903.39	1,032.44	1,161.50	1,419.61	1,677.72	1,935.83	2,323.00
Cumbria Police Authority	136.44	159.18	181.92	204.66	250.14	295.62	341.10	409.32

Aggregate of Council Tax requirements

PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA	VALUATION BANDS		BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	BAND A	BAND B						
Parish of:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ARTHURET	1,076.72	1,256.19	1,435.63	1,615.09	1,973.99	2,332.91	2,691.81	3,230.18
BEAUMONT	1,059.17	1,235.72	1,412.24	1,588.77	1,941.82	2,294.89	2,647.94	3,177.54
BEWCASTLE	1,057.51	1,233.78	1,410.02	1,586.28	1,938.78	2,291.29	2,643.79	3,172.56
BRAMPTON	1,072.21	1,250.92	1,429.62	1,608.32	1,965.72	2,323.13	2,680.53	3,216.64
BURGH BY SANDS	1,058.27	1,234.66	1,411.03	1,587.41	1,940.16	2,292.92	2,645.68	3,174.82
BURTHOLME	1,054.13	1,229.84	1,405.52	1,581.21	1,932.58	2,283.97	2,635.34	3,162.42
CARLATON & CUMREW	1,058.71	1,235.17	1,411.62	1,588.07	1,940.97	2,293.88	2,646.78	3,176.14
CASTLE CARROCK	1,060.77	1,237.58	1,414.37	1,591.17	1,944.76	2,298.36	2,651.94	3,182.34
CUMMERSDALE	1,059.83	1,236.49	1,413.12	1,589.76	1,943.03	2,296.32	2,649.59	3,179.52
CUMWHITTON	1,057.43	1,233.68	1,409.91	1,586.15	1,938.62	2,291.10	2,643.58	3,172.30
DALSTON	1,066.04	1,243.73	1,421.39	1,599.07	1,954.41	2,309.77	2,665.11	3,198.14
DENTON NETHER	1,060.37	1,237.12	1,413.84	1,590.57	1,944.02	2,297.49	2,650.94	3,181.14
DENTON UPPER	1,060.01	1,236.69	1,413.35	1,590.02	1,943.35	2,296.69	2,650.03	3,180.04
FARLAM	1,049.15	1,224.03	1,398.88	1,573.74	1,923.45	2,273.18	2,622.89	3,147.48
HAYTON	1,051.64	1,226.93	1,402.19	1,577.47	1,928.01	2,278.57	2,629.11	3,154.94
HETHERSGILL	1,069.73	1,248.04	1,426.32	1,604.61	1,961.18	2,317.77	2,674.34	3,209.22
IRTHINGTON	1,050.23	1,225.29	1,400.32	1,575.36	1,925.43	2,275.52	2,625.59	3,150.72
KINGMOOR	1,057.64	1,233.93	1,410.19	1,586.47	1,939.01	2,291.57	2,644.11	3,172.94
KINGWATER	1,050.31	1,225.38	1,400.42	1,575.48	1,925.58	2,275.69	2,625.79	3,150.96
KIRKANDREWS	1,068.44	1,246.53	1,424.59	1,602.67	1,958.81	2,314.97	2,671.11	3,205.34
KIRKLINTON	1,048.89	1,223.71	1,398.52	1,573.34	1,922.97	2,272.60	2,622.23	3,146.68
NICHOLFOREST	1,057.12	1,233.32	1,409.50	1,585.69	1,938.06	2,290.44	2,642.81	3,171.38
ORTON	1,053.63	1,229.24	1,404.84	1,580.45	1,931.66	2,282.87	2,634.08	3,160.90
ROCKCLIFFE	1,045.53	1,219.79	1,394.04	1,568.30	1,916.81	2,265.32	2,613.83	3,136.60
SCALEBY	1,063.83	1,241.14	1,418.44	1,595.75	1,950.36	2,304.97	2,659.58	3,191.50
SOLPORT & STAPLETON	1,052.53	1,227.96	1,403.38	1,578.80	1,929.64	2,280.49	2,631.33	3,157.60
STANWIX RURAL	1,060.85	1,237.67	1,414.47	1,591.28	1,944.89	2,298.51	2,652.13	3,182.56
ST CUTHBERT WITHOUT	1,050.69	1,225.82	1,400.93	1,576.05	1,926.28	2,276.52	2,626.74	3,152.10
WALTON	1,069.87	1,248.19	1,426.50	1,604.81	1,961.43	2,318.06	2,674.68	3,209.62
WATERHEAD	1,052.60	1,228.05	1,403.47	1,578.91	1,929.77	2,280.65	2,631.51	3,157.82
WESTLINTON	1,048.97	1,223.82	1,398.64	1,573.47	1,923.12	2,272.79	2,622.44	3,146.94
WETHERAL	1,065.02	1,242.54	1,420.03	1,597.54	1,952.54	2,307.56	2,662.56	3,195.08
All other parts of the	1,039.72	1,213.02	1,386.30	1,559.59	1,906.16	2,252.74	2,599.31	3,119.18
City Council's area								

Policy Decisions:

Following the regulations and explanations regarding the setting of The Council Tax Prescribed Classes of Dwellings, for England, for the purposes of Section 11A and 11B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Members are asked to agree the following recommendations:

Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992**Classes A and B:**

Class A - unoccupied and furnished properties with a planning restriction of at least 28 days (second homes)

Class B –unoccupied and furnished properties which are not restricted by a planning condition (second homes).

Classes A and Class B discount to remain at 10%.

Classes C & D:

Class C – unoccupied and unfurnished.

Class D – Unoccupied unfurnished properties requiring major repairs for a period up to 12 months.

Class C discount to be set at 50% for a period up to 6 months then 25% for a period up to 2 years and zero discount thereafter.

Class D discount to be set at 75%

Classes E & F:

Class E – A property excluded from the long term empty premium due to the relevant person residing elsewhere in accommodation provided for and in connection with their employment with the Ministry of Defence.

Class F – A property which forms part of an annexe to another property and is being used as part of that main residence.

Class E discount to be set at 50% for a period up to 6 months then 25% for a period up to 2 years and zero discount thereafter.

Class F discount to be set at 50% for a period up to 6 months then 25% for a period up to 2 years and zero discount thereafter.

Long Term Empty Premium

A long term empty dwelling is a dwelling that has been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a continuous period of at least 2 years.

The higher amount for long term empty dwellings to be set at zero

Regulations:

The Local Government Finance Act 2012 - Regulations published:

- The Council Tax (Exempt Dwelling) (England) (Amendment) Order 2012

SI 2012/2965 - coming into force on 1st April 2013

This amendment removes two of the classes from the order (Classes A and C) so they are no longer exempt from Council Tax.

- The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012

SI 2012/2964 - coming into force on 1st April 2013.

S11(2) of the LGFA 1992 ("The Act") makes provision for empty homes discounts of 50%. Section 11A of the Act makes special provision for England, in relation to the empty homes discounts, providing for the discounts to be reduced in relation to certain classes of dwelling prescribed by the Secretary of State.

Section 11B of the Act (inserted by the LGFA 2012) makes provision for an empty homes premium to be charged in relation to such classes of long term empty dwellings as the billing authority choose, subject to exceptions prescribed by the Secretary of State.

These regulations relate to England and prescribe one additional class of dwelling for the purposes of S11A of the Act and two further classes of dwelling for the purposes of Section 11B of the Act

The Prescribed Classes:

Class A - unoccupied and furnished properties with a planning restriction of at least 28 days (second homes)

Class B – unoccupied and furnished properties which are not restricted by a planning condition (second homes)

Paragraph (3) of regulation 2 prescribes Classes A and B in the 2003 Regulations for the purposes of Section 11A(4) of the Act. Billing authorities in England will be able to reduce or end the council tax discount for chargeable dwellings which are **unoccupied and furnished**, and the occupation of which is restricted by a planning condition preventing occupation for a continuous period of at least 28 days in the relevant year and therefore fall within Class A. Billing Authorities will

also be able to reduce or end the Council Tax discount for chargeable dwellings which are **unoccupied and furnished**, and the occupation of which is not restricted by a planning condition preventing occupancy for a continuous period of at least 28 days in the relevant year and therefore fall within class B.

In relation to dwellings of any class prescribed by the Secretary of State for the purposes of Section 11A(4A) of the Act (inserted by section 11 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012) an English billing authority may determine that the Council Tax discounts applicable where there is no resident of the dwelling shall be replaced by any percentage of Council Tax up to 100%.

Class C – unoccupied and unfurnished.

Class D – Unoccupied unfurnished properties requiring major repairs for a period up to 12 months.

Classes C and D are prescribed by paragraph (3) of regulation 2 for the purposes of section 11A(4A). Class D is an additional class inserted into the 2003 Regulations by paragraph (4) of regulation 2 of these Regulations. Billing authorities in England will be able to decide what percentage of Council Tax to charge in relation to these classes of dwelling instead of the discount, up to the full amount. Dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished will fall into Class D where they are undergoing, or have undergone within the last six months, major repairs, but they will only fall into this class for a maximum period of 12 months. Dwellings, which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished will fall into Class C.

Class E – Sole or main residence of an individual where:

That individual is a qualifying person in relation to another dwelling provided by the Secretary of State for defence for the purposes of armed forces accommodation and for which that individual is job-related (no empty homes premium)

Would be the sole or main residence of an individual if that individual were not a qualifying person in relation to another dwelling provided by the Secretary of State for Defence for the purposes of armed forces accommodation and for which that individual is job-related (no empty homes premium)

Class F – property which forms part of a single property which includes at least one other dwelling and which is being used by a resident of that other dwelling, or as the case may be, one of those other dwellings as part of their sole or main residence (no empty homes premium).

Classes E and F are prescribed by paragraph (3) of regulation 2 for the purposes of section 11B(2) of the Act. These classes are inserted into the 2003

Regulations by paragraph (4) of regulation 2 of these Regulations. Billing Authorities in England will not be able to charge an empty homes premium in relation to a dwelling which would be the sole or main residence of a person but which is empty while that person resides in accommodation provided by the Ministry of Defence by reason of their employment i.e. service personnel posted away from home (described by Class E and the definitions and schedule currently in the 2003 Regulations). Billing Authorities will also be prevented from charging an empty homes premium in relation to dwellings which form annexes in a property which are being used as part of the main residence or dwelling in that property (described by Class F in the Regulations).

Higher amount for a long term empty dwelling is prescribed by Section 12 of the LGFA 2012 which inserts Section 11B into the LGFA 1992. A long term empty dwelling is a dwelling that has been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a continuous period of at least 2 years.

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

11(b)(i)

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Leader Portfolio Holder's Report –

Title:

Councillor Prof Joe Hendry

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.

The Rural Support Group continues to advance the Parish Charter. The consultation runs until 20th February 2013. It has featured on the agenda at the bi-annual Joint meeting between the Executive and Representatives from the Parish Councils and has also been on the agenda at Carlisle Parish Council Association's Executive Committee meeting.

Overall Crime and anti social behaviour across North Cumbria continues to reduce, with the exception of burglary which has seen a steady increase in the number of incidents over the past year. Partner agencies have worked together to raise awareness of the problem and the Police have increased their patrols and operations in order to catch offenders and educate residents. The Police and Crime Commissioner (Richard Rhodes) is now in post and is due to release what his priorities will be for the forthcoming year. The CDRP has supported the Home Life Scheme in order to help vulnerable people stay safe in their own homes. Further details are contained in Cllr Riddle's report.

The Carlisle Economic Potential Report has been produced in draft format and continues to feature as a key area of work for the Carlisle Economic Partnership. Partners are providing feedback to the Chamber of Commerce on proposals for actions and suggested outputs in order to help inform the Action Plan. It is hoped that this will be signed off at the next meeting in March. Broadband additionally continues to be an agenda item being led and challenged by this group. A meeting with BT was recently held to further this agenda.

The Healthy Communities and Healthy City Steering Group continue to work together to address health inequalities. They have assisted the food bank in establishing collection points and are currently developing other projects. Links are being explored with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

An event will take place on Friday 8th March to explore and scope advancing Carlisle as a Sustainable Food City around key partnership themes.

Policy and Communication

Work has begun on a new corporate style to complement the new Carlisle Plan; this style will be a departure from the corporate plans of the past.

A series of Listening Council events are planned for March. The dates and venues are:

- Longtown Community Centre – Tuesday 12th March 1.30pm to 3pm
- Harraby Community Centre – Wednesday 13th March 10am to 11.30am
- Newtown Primary School – Thursday 14th March 1.30pm to 3pm
- Yewdale Community Centre – Friday 15th March 10am to 11.30am
- Carlisle Library – Saturday 16th March 10am to 11.30am

These events will provide an opportunity to meet the Leader and discuss the issues that are most important.

The Love Where You Live bus campaign was completed in December but we have benefited from the artwork still being on many of the buses through until February. The Pest Control leaflet has been produced and targeted marketing is being prepared. The first wave of marketing for the new e-billing service has been completed. The promotion of this new way of self service will continue throughout the year.

Business Continuity

It has been a good year in raising the awareness of Business Continuity. A presentation was given to managers at Management Briefing and a full desk-top exercise, run by Chris Briggs from the Resilience Unit, was conducted in autumn 2012 involving all the senior managers who would be involved in a real event. A full review of the Business Continuity Plan followed. The next step is to work with service areas to review their recovery plans. This will be aided again by Learning Pool sessions held in the training room.

Further Activities and Developments

I continue my visits to local firms and industries to learn and to listen. I continue to be impressed by the quality and range of industries particularly in the manufacturing sector in Cumbria.

Recently I spent a morning at Pirelli and by the time I left I had an appreciation of what a world class hi-tech firm we have in Pirelli Carlisle. Quite simply, they produce the finest Formula 1 car tyres in the world. This is a huge tribute to their management and work force.

Recently I met with North Cumbria Young Farmers to seek their views and listen to their concerns. They are a fine group of young people and a great credit to Carlisle, and they are keenly aware of the problems and challenges of the rural economy. As Leader of the

City Council, representing the whole City District, both urban and rural, I found it very helpful to meet, share and discuss with them, and give them whatever support and encouragement I can.

The new Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria, Mrs Claire Hensman and her husband visited Carlisle recently at my invitation, They spent most of the day in Carlisle, meeting the Mayor, receiving a first class briefing on the Council's Economic Development Strategy (by Councillor Colin Glover and Jane Meek), visiting Pirelli and Richard Rose and Morton Academy.

In the Lord Lieutenant's letter of appreciation, she commented very favourably on the Economic Development briefing. She also states that she and her husband were '...thrilled at the investment going on at Pirelli and equally at Morton Academy.'

It is a very real privilege for me to be able to show so many distinguished and interested people, the specialness of Carlisle and its people.

To the same end I have agreed with the National Apprenticeship Service in Cumbria to act as an Advocate for the development of apprentices in Carlisle and shall be liaising with local schools, the College, the University and industry, to further this very important issue for the future benefit of Carlisle and its young people.

Finally, members of JMT had an excellent presentation on the proposed creative arts centre and media facility and education centre being planned by Carlisle College. Moira Tattersall and her senior team have very clear sighted and ambitious plans for this facility which will complement our proposals for an arts centre / theatre in the city.

Professor J D Hendry
Leader of the Council

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

11(b)(ii)

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Finance, Governance & Resources Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Dr Les Tickner**

GOVERNANCE

Licensing

The aftermath of Christmas is traditionally a mopping up operation, dealing with the complaints and disagreements in the alcohol and taxi trades. In addition the current work of the section includes:

- Liaison with Cumbria Constabulary and Cumbria Trading Standards regarding public awareness of house to house collections – clothing bags. Joint press release made by agencies.
- In house Disability Awareness Sessions for all licensed drivers are in the second month, these will continue throughout the year. To date 114 out of 340 drivers have attended.
- Carlisle City Council Gambling Policy was published on 3rd January 2013 and comes into effect on 31st January 2013.
- Private hire operators, vehicles and driver renewals, a total of 154 licences.

Electoral Services

The Electoral Services Section is beginning a significant project for the Council relating to Individual Electoral Registration. The move from household electoral registration to individual electoral registration will be the biggest change to electoral registration for almost a century.

The aim of the change is to modernise and improve the electoral registration system creating a system that has better protection against electoral fraud, is more convenient for eligible citizens to register to vote and aims to increase public trust in elections. From the summer of 2013 Electoral Registration Officers (ERO) will begin the transition from the current household system to individual electoral registration (IER).

The necessary legislation has been or is in the process of being published. The transition to IER will begin after the European Elections in June 2014 but the preparation and testing of the various systems begins in 2013. The Electoral Services Section is liaising closely with the Cabinet Office to coordinate the required work plan

which includes issues of finance and ICT systems. The Government is committed to meeting the additional cost of IER and additional funding will be provided to Local Authorities through a non ring fenced grant under S31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The grant is intended to be equal to the cost of additional responsibilities in implementing the above change over and above the normal electoral registration budget.

Safety, Health & Environment

Health and Wellbeing Health Checks

As part of the SHE teams remit regular employee wellbeing initiatives have been undertaken over the last 8 years.

The team manages the Occupational Health Services within the Council and has over the years invested in equipment and training to provide health checks.

These health checks attempt to encourage employees to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing by monitoring their cholesterol levels, blood pressures and blood sugar levels as well as providing specific measure on their weight, body water and fat percentages and their current metabolic requirements.

The team view this provision as a proactive way in which this Council can assist in addressing sickness absence levels by improving health as well as staff morale.

At a recent event, held over a two hour period, 64 employees attended to receive these health checks. Those that were unable to get all the information as a result of the high demand were offered alternative appointments the following week.

RESOURCES

Financial Services

Strategic Planning

The Council, at its meeting on 5th February, approved the revenue and capital budgets for 2013/14, including a council tax freeze for 2013/14 for the city and surrounding areas. Tonight's Council will formally approve the overall council tax for the Carlisle area.

2012/13 Final Accounts Process

Work is commencing on providing the timetables and instructions to budget holders to support the year end process and training sessions are also planned to enable the Statement of Accounts to be prepared and approved by the statutory deadline of 30 June.

Audit Services

The Audit Committee, at its meeting on 11th January 2013, received the quarterly progress report in respect of delivering the 2012/13 Audit Plan. In summary:

- The Plan calls for 540 direct audit days to be delivered in 2012/13 - 441 days had been delivered (82%) by 7th December 2012, which was 67 days ahead of target for that time of the year.
- The remaining time available in quarter 4 would mainly concentrate on the completion of the remaining material audit reviews.
- There was one recent change to the Audit Plan which members noted and agreed.

The Committee received an update to the progress made on implementing the recommendations arising from the audit of Records Management. After some debate on this subject, the Committee asked for a further progress report to be reported in six months time.

The outcome of 5 recently completed audits were then considered:

- External Funding
- Tullie House
- Housing Benefit Overpayments
- Improvement Grants
- Highways Claimed Rights

The main focus was on meeting the audit recommendations in improving External Funding administration to be co-ordinated by the Deputy Chief Executive.

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES

Asset Review Disposal Programme

The sales of the workshops at South John Street and the Depot behind Raffles Parade, which went to auction in November, have now been completed together with further Sites on Willowholme Industrial Estate. Negotiations and agreements for sale have recently been concluded on assets at Currock Road Industrial Estate and the Petrol Filling Station, Wigton Road. These are both freeholds, subject to long leasehold ground rents; completion of formal documentation is anticipated by the end of this financial year. Work continues to bring another two ground rented freehold assets, the medical centres at Fusehill Street and Eastern Way, to auction on 28th February 2013 through the auctioneers Pugh and Co. Delivery of the Business Plan carries on in accordance with the programme. The overall position is that of the 51 assets identified for disposal, the sale of 22 has been completed so far, realising total gross receipts of £3.27m. This is ahead of target budget projections at this stage in the process.

POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

Carlisle Plan

The Carlisle Plan is now ready as a draft and will be tabled at the Executive on 11th February. The plan has a new vision and new priorities for the City Council.

Contract/Performance Monitoring

The monitoring of the Carlisle Leisure Ltd contract continues to evolve and develop. Similar work with Tullie House Trust is on going and in recent months monitoring of the YMCA contract for the Shaddongate Resource Centre and the Low Harker Dene travellers site contract has begun.

Service Standards

The set of high-level 'Corporate' Service Standards are now well established with a system in place to collect and publish the latest information. The next phase is to work with Directors and Service Managers to develop standards for discussion and review at DMTs. The same principles will be adopted as with the corporate standards. These standards will be promoted within the Directorate and supported by Learning Pool modules, developed to raise the awareness of the staff in the concept of Service Standards and the benefits of e-learning.

Information Management

Work has begun on new retention schedules; the first team to receive support is the Service Support Team for personnel records.

Recent counts for information requests (From 11 December 2012 to 1 February 2013):

Environmental Information Regulations requests received - 12

Environmental Information Regulations requests responded to - 7

Freedom of Information requests received – 79

Freedom of Information requests responded to - 60

Data Protection Act subject access requests received - 2

Data Protection Act subject access requests responded to – 0

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The 2013 Employee Opinion Survey took place in January and the results will be reported to Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 4 April.

A new learning and development programme has been created for first line managers and supervisors. This recognises that they are key members of the management team and have the closest contact with the people who produce the work. The programme includes sessions on recruitment and selection of staff, attendance management, specific IT training relevant to managers, management qualifications (ILM level 3 and 5) and newly developed workshops e.g. Essential Skills for First Line Managers and Supervisors, Interviewing Skills for Managers, Remote Relationships and Team Development.

The Workplace Health Group organised a New Year, New You session in January which 64 staff attended. Their body statistics including BMI, bone and muscle mass, visceral fat and body water percentage were calculated. Blood pressure, cholesterol and blood glucose tests were also on offer. Advice on health improvement was given by the Safety, Health and Environment Manager and the Occupational Health Nurse.

Report to:

Council

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Item

11(b)(iii)

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Environment & Transport Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Elsie Martlew**

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Clean Up Carlisle

A review of dog fouling in 10 areas has revealed that those areas targeted for enforcement and education as part of the “Clean up Carlisle” campaign had a reduction of between 22% and 72%. Although the dark winter months tend to generate most complaints about dog fouling the reduction in actual dog fouling on the ground proves, not only the success of the campaigning by the City Council, but also communities themselves can improve their local environments. The next review will be in April where it is hoped that the targeted education and enforcement activities and the support of the local communities will reduce the incidents of dog fouling in all of the areas surveyed.

Food Safety

On two further occasions this month the Food Safety Team successfully removed dangerous food from the food chain. The officers found that ready to eat foods had again been packed on machines that had earlier been used to pack raw meat. A number of serious Ecoli food poisoning outbreaks have been linked to these types of packing machines. Between 1st April 2012 and the 31st December 2012 the Environmental Health Service received 184 confirmed cases of infectious diseases which include food poisonings. Separating raw meats from ready to eat foods is a significant measure in preventing food poisoning.

Public Burials

Due to its public health role the City Council has responsibilities for the burial of persons where no suitable arrangements appear to have been made. These are sometimes misleadingly known as pauper burials. It is usual for the Council to receive around 3 or 4 of these a year but between April 2012 and January 2013 there have been 9 incidents that

have required investigations. Trying to identify families and finances, and where necessary arranging the funerals, can be time consuming. The City Council would advise that people living alone to take steps to ensure their wishes upon death are followed, this would include writing a will, keeping a list of family and friends and putting this information in a place where it can be easily found. We would also recommend that neighbours and friends keep in contact with the elderly or vulnerable who are living alone.

HIGHWAYS

Claimed Rights

In anticipation of the termination of Claimed Rights, City and County Officers are meeting regularly to identify what needs to be done and ensure a smooth transition of this service at the end of March. Much work still remains to be done.

Lighting Improvements

A programme of lighting improvement is to commence in early February. Highway lighting on Holmrook Road, Queensway and Crosshill Drive is to be replaced with now white lights. This work is funded by the County Council. Footway Lighting improvements are also to take place on Melbourne Park.

Footway Improvements

A programme of footway improvements is underway on a number of streets around the City. Work commenced in October on Fusehill Street and work will be taking place on Stand Road, Lismore Place, Greystone Road, Portland Place, Whinsmoor Drive, finishing on Edgehill Road. This work is funded by the County Council.

GREEN SPACES

Winter maintenance of all parks and green spaces is on schedule. The availability of football pitches has been affected by poor weather (pitches are alternatively waterlogged or frozen) and we will be working with local clubs on a strategic approach to managing our pitches to improve their 'playability'.

Allotment self-management progressing satisfactorily and the first tranche of sites will be self-managed from 1 April 2013

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

The new office accommodation is complete but not yet commissioned as the BT cabling has not yet been installed. This is expected to be complete by mid- February

Cremators will require re-lining as soon as possible and therefore will be out of commission for a short time. A new cemetery will be required within the next 10 years and a space will be allocated in the next Local Plan draft.

WASTE SERVICES

Streets

The mechanical sweeper rounds have now been synchronised to follow the refuse rounds. This is having a positive impact in dealing with spills and litter created from the collection process.

The new litter bins are having a positive impact on the environment within the City Centre, the new ashtrays that are located in the top of the bins are being used, and this is helping to reduce the number of butts that are thrown on the floor.

Christmas working was a success and the City's standards for cleanliness were maintained throughout the festive season.

We are now focusing on back lining the urban footpaths; this will help the new mechanical sweepers maintain a clean back line, and should help reduce the summer weed growth.

Waste

Despite incorrect information being published on the Council's web site regarding Christmas and New Year collections, the crews performed a fantastic job catching up. The crews reported a higher than normally expected recycling of card. This could be attributed to the increase of on line shopping.

The weather is creating operational difficulties, with significant snowfall in Gilsland and Kershope Foot. This has resulted in the suspension of the garden waste service to help focus on residual waste and plastic and card recycling. If further snowfall is predicted, this may create further disruption in service delivery.

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Economy & Enterprise Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Colin Glover**

PLANNING POLICY

National Grid – North West Coast Connections Project

The National Grid met with Cumbria Association of Local Councils on 6th February to outline their project in Cumbria. This was an initial meeting to explain why they need to improve the transmission lines in Cumbria and to alert them that the next stage of consultation will be in summer which will include direct consultations on route corridors. A briefing for City Council Members is being arranged.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

Dalston have now formally written to request a neighbourhood plan area be designated for the whole of their parish council area. This will be reported to members in due course to approve the area and this will enable us to get a government grant to assist with some of the work required to support them. (£5,000 up front and up to £20,000 recoverable after examination at the end of the process)

Rural Masterplanning

We have had two further rural masterplanning consultations.

Working with Castle Carrock Parish Council, they used this opportunity to add a number of questions they wanted to ask local people as part of the work. The consultation closed on the 16th February 2013.

In Brampton the Graphical Magazine contained an insert for the consultation which will run up until 8 March 2013. Both parish councils have distributed the consultation and the responses will come back to the City Council direct to feed into the ongoing work.

Public Realm – Rickergate Workshop

As part of the Council's Budget provision to enhance Public Realm a workshop was held with local residents and businesses in the Rickergate area. This area acts as a gateway to the City Centre as well as being a residential and business area and the workshop explored the views of local people on how they would like to see the area improved through changes to the public realm. The workshop was well attended and follow up meetings are being held to further explore some of the issues raised.

City Centre Issues

A very positive meeting was held with representatives of the city centre traders on 30th January. This was the first of regular meetings that are primarily designed to improve communications and joint working, but also be the basis for the city centre businesses community to give and receive feedback on issues and proposals relating to city centre vitality and potential for growth.

The businesses are now considering how they might work together and potentially form some sort of trade or business association, which the City Council would give them appropriate support to achieve.

I note with disappointment the announcement by Hoopers that it intends to close the store. We are engaging with Hoopers to ensure the empty building does not become an eyesore after it closes. We will continue to support them in trying to find alternative viable uses for the building so that it can continue to be an asset in this important position within the city centre.

Sense of Place

Carlisle has many assets and positive reasons to come to the area – for visitors, businesses, investors, students and residents. A project has been launched in conjunction with a private sector led Project Steering Group to understand more about what people feel and think about Carlisle and to use this to develop a strong and distinctive approach to promoting Carlisle and a shared Sense of Place. This work will help to shape the 'Carlisle Story' and will also provide us with the tools we need to strengthen and grow our city.

Where necessary, this will also enable us to challenge any negative views, both internally and externally, of our offer and raise the profile of what Carlisle is all about.

This project will last until around May with facilitated workshops being held with the business community, young people , and wider community groups.

A number of towns and cities up and down the UK have already undertaken a similar project with outcomes being a wider recognition and understanding of what their city can offer, identifying opportunities and leading to improved place marketing and potential inward investment.

The Cumbria M6 Corridor Initiative

Together with South Lakeland District Council and Eden District Council we have now signed an agreement that will assist in economic growth along the M6 corridor through Cumbria.

The initiative recognises that all three councils are promoting growth through their planning documents covering housing, employment and business growth as well as being designed to build on Cumbria's strengths in business areas such manufacturing, which provides 23 per cent of the county's output.

The Cumbria M6 Corridor Initiative outlines that the councils will work collaboratively to:

- Promote economic growth along the M6 corridor in East Cumbria
- Provide employment sites within easy reach of main transport routes
- Support development wherever it is most appropriate across the area
- Improve infrastructure and communication networks along the corridor
- Make it easier for businesses to relocate in the area
- Seek to attract new and growing investment
- Market the corridor as an area open for business
- Work with partners such as the County Council and Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to facilitate growth

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

11(b)(v)

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Communities & Housing Portfolio Holder's Report

Title:

Councillor Jessica Riddle

CDRP

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 placed statutory obligations on Local Authorities and the Police to act in co-operation with Health Authorities and other relevant agencies, to work together to develop and implement a strategy for tackling crime and disorder in their area.

Carlisle and Eden CDRP (Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) has, and continues to be a successful catalyst for the multi-agency working to address crime and disorder in North Cumbria. Since its inception, we have worked effectively to contribute to significant and sustained falls in crime and disorder.

Performance figures for the Carlisle area for the period of 01/04/12- 31/1/13

Crime Category	Number of offences 2011 (YTD)	Number of offences 2012 (YTD)	Difference in number of incidents	% Change
All Crime	6,332	5,449	-883	-13.9%
Serious Acquisitive Crime	521	516	-5	-1.0%
Assault with Injury	538	474	-64	-11.9%
Burglary Dwelling	158	169	+11	+7.0%

All Vehicle Crime	341	340	-1	-0.3%
Robbery	22	7	-15	-68.2%
Criminal Damage	1,364	1,051	-313	-22.9%
Damage to Dwellings	437	333	-104	-23.8%
Damage to other Buildings	149	94	-55	-36.9%
Damage to Vehicles	514	409	-105	-20.4%
Other Damage	212	180	-32	-15.1%
Arson	49	34	-15	-30.6%

Crime statistics across Carlisle still continue to fall with the exception of burglary. The increase in burglary in a dwelling is decreasing month by month but still continues to be an issue for both the rural and urban areas. Police and partners are continuing to work together to tackle the issue through targeted media campaigns and covert and overt operations.

Operation Street Safe

As part of Neighbourhood Policing Week (11th – 18th February) Carlisle & Eden Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and partners from Cumbria Constabulary, Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service, Carlisle City Council, Riverside Carlisle, Cumbria Trading Standards, Victim Support and INSPIRA will be taking part in a StreetSafe Operation.

The event will take place on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th February. During the two days the partners will be visiting approximately 200 households in Scalegate Road and Beaumont Road areas of Upperby, Carlisle between 5.00pm and 8.00pm each evening.

Streetsafe is the best opportunity to consult with residents about issues in the community. The initiative provides a high profile police and partnership presence to demonstrate our commitment to working together to improve the quality of life for our communities through reducing crime and anti social behaviour. We take the opportunity to listen to concerns about burglary, theft from vehicles, anti social behaviour, street lighting, dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti and other such issues affecting the quality of life of the Neighbourhood. We

are then able to feed this back to partners and make some immediate and longer term positive impacts in those communities, thereby improving that "feel safe" factor.

Problem Solving Groups

The Carlisle East and City West PSG's (Problem Solving Group) continues to work well and provide early interventions to ensure a quick response to community issues.

PSG Performance Monitoring	City West (March 2011 -)	Carlisle East (March 2012 -)
Total number of actions dealt with	144	51

Noise nuisance has been highlighted as one of the key priorities across the west of the City. The City Council's Environmental Health Team is working closely with partners (Police and Housing Providers) to ensure issues are tackled quickly and efficiently.

Environmental Crime including littering and dog fouling is still a serious concern for local residents in the east of the City. The Environmental Enforcement Team is continuing to tackle the problems through a co-ordinated and intelligence led approach. Patrols have been increased and the use of covert measures is being considered in some locations.

Strategic Assessment and Partnership Plan

The Crime & Disorder Regulations 2007 place a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) / Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) to prepare a Strategic Assessment of crime and disorder in their local areas.

The aim of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment is to provide partners, and other responsible authorities, with an understanding of the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse in the county and local areas which will enable partners to plan their resources in order to tackle crime and disorder.

The Strategic Assessment has now been produced and will be used by the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to produce this year's Partnership Plan.

HOUSING

Home Improvement Agency

Age UK have been successful in a £10,000 bid for Warm Homes, Healthy People funding to provide practical help and assistance to vulnerable households with cold-related health conditions. Homelife Carlisle will be helping Age UK deliver the scheme to ensure that all households, including working-age, will benefit. The scheme will be promoted alongside Homelife Carlisle 'Keep Warm, Keep Well, Keep Safe' campaign this Winter.

Help available includes:

~Free Winter warmth packs which include: blanket, automatic night-light (replaced by hot water bottle for working age households), thermos flask, thermal socks, energy advice, thermometer and message in a bottle.

~ Free or subsidised home energy measures such as draught-proofing, radiator reflector panels etc.

Affordable Housing Completions

In the period of October to December 2012, 18 new affordable homes were built and delivered for occupation. These affordable homes are made up as follows:

- Ten properties in the rural villages of the district. Eight of these new homes were built at Cumwhinton by Two Castles Housing Association, and provide much-needed bungalows and family-sized accommodation for the local community. The £1.2million scheme secured a £.216m grant from the Homes and Communities Agency, following support from the City Council. All eight units are now fully occupied by people local to the area. Two further properties, both three bedroom properties, have been developed in Talkin, which were secured following negotiations with the developer. The delivery of rural affordable housing, especially family-sized accommodation, is a key priority in the Carlisle Housing Strategy 2012-16.
- Eight properties at Barley Edge, Botcherby, including six properties provided for sale at a discounted price. These discounted units are allocated through the City Council's Low Cost Housing Scheme, which provides a vital option for prospective homeowners who are being priced out of the open market. Two further properties are being made available under the Government's FirstBuy scheme.

HOMELESSNESS, PREVENTION AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

Accommodation and Support Services

The Accommodation and Support Services currently have a 98% occupancy rate; and the move on period from temporary accommodation is currently 7 weeks for singles and 8 weeks for families.

The team have arranged and facilitated a number of events and activities at both the men and women and family accommodation schemes including:

- ⇒ Food donation project with Sainsbury's
- ⇒ Barnardo's family parenting sessions being held within the women and family hostel; development of additional collaborative programme for home-share residents to be delivered within Shaddongate Centre
- ⇒ Development of social work placements within the services
- ⇒ Quilting project with residents of the women and family hostel

- ⇒ Easter art projects being developed with Carlisle College for the children and families
- ⇒ Zumba classes for residents within the women and family hostel
- ⇒ Regular healthy eating and cookery classes for residents within the women and family hostel
- ⇒ Partnership working with Hayton School to develop art work for the replacement women and family accommodation; teaching worksheets for children within the hostel; and teaching worksheets to be developed for the children attending Hayton School to promote homelessness awareness

Replacement family women and family accommodation

We are pleased that work has started on site, is on schedule and progressing well:

Key Steps	Anticipated timescales
Start on site at Water street	Begun
Anticipation completion	May 2013

We are currently developing several community projects and partnership initiatives which will take place once the hostel has relocated:

- ⇒ Partnership working with Hayton School to develop art work for the replacement women and family accommodation; teaching worksheets for children within the hostel; and teaching worksheets to be developed for the children attending Hayton School to promote homelessness awareness
- ⇒ Community initiative to develop the garden / play area
- ⇒ Continuation of the collaborative Art project with Carlisle College to develop unique bespoke Art work pieces for the new building; (this project last year developed art work for the Shaddongate Centre)

Welfare Advice Service

From 1 October 2012 to 31 December 2012, the team increased income to local residents and therefore to the local economy by £252,719.39.

WELLBEING TEAM

Community Centres

Meetings are taking place with each Community Centre to finalise Service Level Agreements. The Agreements have been well received by Managers and Chairs of the Centres Committees, who are pleased that the document is easy to understand and they recognise that producing business plans and local profiles will assist them in making their Centres more sustainable.

Carlisle Community Neighbours

The recruitment process has begun to appoint a Community Neighbours Co-ordinator. External funding has been secured through the Flexible Spend Health to Adult Social Care Monies. The successful applicant will be responsible for coordinating the provision of a Community Neighbours Scheme for vulnerable older people throughout Carlisle.

Communities & Housing (Equalities)

Training on the role of the Third Sector and the importance of the Cumbria Compact was delivered in February by CVS.

eCUSTOMER SERVICES

Customer Demand

Customer demand is rising steadily via all access channels. This is particularly within the areas of revenues and benefits. The increased demand has resulted in advisors being stretched the majority of the time. Within customer services, we are going through an intense training programme for advisors to get them up to speed with welfare reform changes as well as other service changes. This has come at a time when we have new starters replacing staff that have either retired or are going on maternity leave. This intense period will mean more training than ever for staff and their dedication to this, whilst serving a high volume of customers, deserves to be recognised.

Automating Services

The automating services project has gone live with self serve for the first service, which is Council Tax. Customers can register for a PIN number and view their Council Tax account online. They can also give information, sign up for direct debit via the web and register to get an e-bill rather than a paper bill. So far well over 100 customers have signed up for this service following a 'soft launch'. A more focused marketing strategy will fall in line with the main Council Tax bills being produced in March 2013. This will mean a more convenient service for the customer as well as savings for the authority.

DWP

The DWP Fraud team will be moving into the Civic Centre in March 2013. They will be moving from their current base at Rufus House which is due to be closed. The team will occupy a room on the ground floor which was previously occupied by the Communications Team whilst the first floor was being rewired. The team are due to merge with the local authority fraud team under welfare reform, currently scheduled for 2014. The advantages of this agreement will include income to the authority and closer working links with the DWP in light of welfare reform changes. The Single Point of Contact for DWP will be the Customer Services Manager as with the other external partners.

Identity and Passport Service

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) currently occupy one interview room and office space two days per week in the contact centre. The service has advised that they would like to procure an extra interview room for the two days a week they carry out the service at Carlisle. This will generate income into the authority. Customer services are working with property services to align a business case for this effective from 1st April 2013.

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

11(b)(vi)

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Culture, Health, Leisure & Young People Portfolio Holder's Report**
Councillor Anne Quilter

Carlisle Midsummer Pageant

A £10,000 grant from the Art Council has been secured to deliver the Carlisle Midsummer Pageant. The event, to be held in August, will be linked to the Proclamation of the City and will include a procession of giant puppets depicting key local historical events and characters.

The Council has linked up with Chester Midsummer Watch who has been developing an historical parade for the last 21 years. Puppets from Chester will participate in our Pageant and plans are being made to take a selection of Carlisle's puppets to Chester.

A number of workshops will be held over a 6 day period and will be delivered by artists from the Chester Midsummer Watch. Schools and community groups will take part in the workshops to produce a range of puppets.

Carlisle Music City

Planning continues for this successful event which will take place between 25 May and 2 June. Carlisle City Council has pledged £5000 to the event and a further £2000 has been secured from Riverside Housing Association.

The event includes a main stage, booked for the town centre for Bank Holiday Monday, 27 May, as has the bandstand for throughout the week. New partners who are taking part include Carlisle Station and The Lanes Shopping Centre.

Subway Development

The redesign of the subways, linking the City Centre with Bitts Park and the Sands and Trinity underpass, has really started to take shape. Carlisle City Council is working in Partnership with students at the University of Cumbria to produce the artwork for the subways. This will then be installed by the young people. Prior to this there will be a 'clean up'. It is hoped that this can be achieved through young volunteer participation. This contributes to the overall 'Pride in Your City' theme and will demonstrate how young people are positively contributing to make their community a better place.

Sports Development

A wide range of activity has taken place to further develop sporting activity in Carlisle and includes:

- The organisation of two events with University of Cumbria, involving their third Year PE/Sports Development Students. One group are organising a dualathlon at Morton Leisure Centre. The second group are organising a volunteer conference at the University. The Council's Sports Development Officer will mentor both groups.
- Partnership working and joint funding of a weekly 'Parkrun' programme at Chances Park. The inaugural event on Saturday, 19 January attracted 112 runners. Runners have the opportunity to meet afterwards for a coffee in the community centre, increasing its sustainability.
- The new Carlisle City Council Sports Volunteering scheme is ready to launch. Booklets describing the scheme are now complete. The scheme is being run in partnership with the Sport and Physical Activity Alliance Foundation (SPAAF) and Streetgames, a national organisation which funds volunteering opportunities for young people, targeting areas of deprivation and need.

Carlisle Leisure Limited

A busy period for Arts and Events with 66 shows over the 3 month period. Notable events included the first visit of the West End production of Calendar Girls with over 8,000 customers attending. Hotels and restaurants in the city reported many being fully booked during that week.

Trinity

The Amateur Swimming Association National Plan for Teaching Swimming programme continues to grow with swimming lessons for up to 480 children from non-swimmer to advanced stroke development. Provision of swimming lessons for children with additional needs including learning difficulties and autism is fully subscribed. These sessions no longer depend on external funding and are now self-sustainable.

Tourism Support

The new 2013 'Discover Carlisle Holiday Guide' is now finalised together with the "Places to Visit" leaflet for 2013 with both being distributed through normal channels over a wide area.

Plans are now been formulated for a local one day conference on Tourism in late April in conjunction with the members of the Carlisle Tourism Partnership. It is envisaged that Key note speakers will include representatives of Visit England, Cumbria Tourism, Britain's Heritage Cities as well as information on the increasing availability of high bandwidth broadband and the opportunities this can offer local tourism businesses.

We are working with Cumbria Tourism on a number of Press trips which has already include a Belgium based travel writer who visited Carlisle over two days in mid February. His visit will result in a family orientated Carlisle and Hadrian's Wall piece for 'Around Brussels', 'BThere' (In-flight mag) and Easyjet (in-flight mag). Future visits we are trying to accommodate include a Newsquest journalist (West Midlands based) and a 20 strong group of Indian travel agents.

Old Town Hall and Carlisle TIC

Work continues on the repair and restoration project for the Old Town Hall with Cubby Construction continuing to work to a contract completion date in June 2013.

All the City Council tenants on the ground floor remain open for business with liaison being maintained with them by the contractor on the day to day building works.

The TIC, having temporarily relocated to the nearby Cathedral Lodge on Castle Street, is successfully maintaining a full service for both visitors and residents alike, with the same telephone number in use. Upon returning to the Old Town Hall the TIC will benefit from redecoration, new lighting, new carpeting and better facilities for disabled users, all of which are included in the current project works..

Further to the Overview & Scrutiny Task Group Report on the TIC, a Project Working Group has also now been formed to develop further improvements to the Assembly Rooms and the TIC. This second phase improvement project will look at improved access to the first floor and ensuring full modernisation of the services provided within the TIC, maximising the use of ever improving technology and information dissemination, as well as maximising opportunities to showcase local quality products.

Tullie House

Over the winter months Tullie House has held a variety of events and exhibitions including an exhibition, C-Art showcasing local artists work; Tek Hod, which was a solo exhibition involving wrestling demonstrations and competitions; and the traditional Burns Night Dinner.

In April Tullie House will be introducing a new schools and learning programme funded by the Arts Council. It supports family learning activities, events and holiday workshops in conjunction with the national museums.

Finally I would like to congratulate Tullie House on having won the Cumberland News 2012 award for Tourism and Hospitality.

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12(i)(b)

Meeting Date: **5 March 2013**

Public/Private*: Public

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Chairman’s Report -

Title: **Councillor Olwyn Luckley**

Reviewing the Overview Report and Work Programme, the Panel asked for additional information in regard to the Disabled Facilities Grant Scheme and Homelessness, both subjects of Task & Finish Groups’ recommendations last year.

Extra funding for the DFG Scheme had been received from the Department of Communities and Local Government in December last year and clarity was requested regarding its use and whether it was ring fenced for the DFG Scheme. An update on Riverside Carlisle’s participation in the DFG Scheme was also requested.

Questions were put relating to young people, homelessness and the Homeless Prevention Pilot Project. Answers to some of the questions are expected by the next meeting of the Panel.

Although the statutory responsibility for the delivery of services provided for children and young people rests with the County Council, the City Council delivers a wide range of programmes of activity for children and young people.

The Panel welcomed the Working with Young People Report which laid out the current programme and plans for increased partnership working with a number of other services in this field.

Information on the numbers of those young people not in education, employment or training and for this to be broken down into those living in the urban area and those in the rural area was requested. Members also asked for an update on the social inclusion programmes of the new Shaddongate Resource Centre.

The Panel considered the Community Engagement Transformation Report. As the Directorate includes several of the Council's front line services, questions were asked over a range of Members' concerns, the Panel wishing their concerns to be considered during discussions on the Directorate's restructure and a further update on the subject at its next meeting.

The final item examined was a report on the proposals in relation to the Council's Closed Circuit Television service. The proposals were a scaling down of the service in 2013/14 as part of the financial savings the Council had to make and had been approved by the Executive in November. A number of questions were asked relating to the benefits of the present scheme and the possibilities of external funding. The members resolved that with their concerns about these proposals having been aired, they supported the consultation presently taking place.

Councillor Olwyn Luckley

Meeting Date: 5 March 2013

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairman's Report –
Councillor Reg Watson**

Paper Task Group

The Panel was informed by Councillor Craig who is heading the Saving Paper Task Group that a report would be submitted following the evaluation of the pilot.

Sickness Absence 2012/13

The Panel considered the Council's sickness absence report and voiced a number of concerns

- Why had the Council not conducted 100% of the return to work interviews?
- How was the Council addressing poor performance?
- The Director of Resources said 4 members of staff had been absent for nearly the whole year
- The Panel will continue to monitor sickness for the rest of this year

The Draft Carlisle Plan

In considering the Plan members raised the following comments and questions.

Q. A member felt that the Plan concentrated on the city centre and not the whole Carlisle District.

A. The Leader agreed that in some ways this was correct. But he felt that a healthy active City Centre would benefit the whole Carlisle District and would stimulate the whole of North Cumbria.

Q. A member raised concerns regarding fuel poverty in the city and asked if this was a priority for the city.

A. The Leader expressed concerns regarding all poverty and made mention of the Council's responsibility with regard to affordable housing and he also expected to meet with the Housing Minister when he visits Carlisle in March.

The Panel supported the development of the M6 Corridor.

Performance Update

Concern was expressed about the Council's response to the Welfare Reform and would the processing timetable for new claims increase as a result of this bill.

The Director of Resources acknowledged the capacity challenges but was confident that resources were in place to meet them.

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12(iii)(b)

Meeting Date: **5 March 2013**

Public/Private*: Public

Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel -

Title: **Chairman's Report – Councillor Stephen Layden**

Meeting held Thursday 17th January 2013

The Business Interaction Centre item was taken first on the Agenda and the Chairman welcomed Dr Stephen Bulman of the University of Cumbria. The Director of Economic Development provided details of the proposal to set up the BIC and the proposed contribution from the Carlisle City Council of £100k towards capital costs. It was stated that supporting economic growth was a key Council priority, which necessitated attracting new investment to the city, developing an enterprise culture and raising skill levels. The University was a key partner in this; its Corporate Strategy has four themes: sustainability, creativity, employability and enterprise. It wishes to establish BIC as part of That strategy.

Paternoster Row had been identified as the preferred location where. To provide a modern, fit for purpose facility £160k capital expenditure was required. The operating costs, of initially £180k would be covered by the University which had asked for £100k from the City Council towards capital costs of refurbishment of the building.

Members were concerned that there had been issues in the past with partner bodies including the University and asked about due diligence and future Scrutiny input. The Panel was assured that the Council's financial contribution would be used to upgrade the building but the University had the responsibility to deal with the dilapidation of the Paternoster Row and Castle Street buildings.

It was anticipated that the centre would open in late Spring 2013. The lease with the University was active until 2017 with the hope that it could be extended if successful.

The report ED 04/13 was noted, with the Panel approving the Executive's recommendations, as well as asking the Executive to ensure the £100k was used to develop the Business Interaction Centre and not for the University's lease agreement. It was further resolved that, in order to enable closer working with the Council, a request be made to the University for a City Council representative to sit on the University's board.

The Overview Report incorporating the Work Programme and Forward Plan items was considered leading to the following resolutions: the Terms of Reference of the Talkin Tarn Task & Finish Group be approved; a Tourist Information Centre sub-committee be set up to meet three or four times a year to deal with issues as they arise; the designation of the Kingmoor Nature Reserve be added to the Work programme for the 28th February meeting.

The Director of Local Environment provided a report summarising and updating the Panel on the **Cumbria Strategic Partnership Enhanced Partnership Working Project**.

The last Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership meeting had been held in June 2012. There were several pressures on the partnership: the Government had announced the end of Landfill Allowance Trading Schemes in 2012/13; the payment mechanism from the County Council to districts for recycling had changed; other than South Lakeland and Carlisle, other district councils had recyclates tied up in existing contracts; the current economic climate. There was also a lack of consensus between the Districts and the County Council.

In noting the report, the Panel suggested the City Council investigates the use of Section 106 Agreements to offset increased costs to the Council such as refuse/recycling arising from planning applications for new housing estates. The Panel also supported the suggestion of sending a letter to the Chairman of the Cumbria SWP to encourage continuation of partnership working.

The Panel received a report from The Neighbourhood and Green Spaces Manager on the **Use of Green Infrastructure** and heard a summary of the Carlisle Green Infrastructure Strategy that would be incorporated into the local plan. A positive and wide-ranging discussion of issues and initiatives (EEOSP.09/13) ensued before the Panel formally noted the report.

The final item considered was the **Environmental Performance of the Council**. The Safety, Health and Environmental Manager highlighted how the renewals of equipment embraced new environmentally friendly technologies and sought to continue the 'invest to save' ethos of the Carbon Trust.

Carlisle City Council had made a large reduction in emissions (11.1%) in 2011-12 from the previous year. There had been substantial reductions in gas and electricity consumption. In 2012/13 the City Council retained or achieved eight Green Flag awards. Positive developments were continuing with Solar Panels. The Chairman acknowledged that the new administration had signed up to the continuing programme of energy reductions and paid tribute to the work of the previous administration in endorsing the work that had led to the substantial reductions.

Cllr Stephen Layden

February 2013.

