

Working in Partnership Copeland

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the Copeland GDF Working Group

Held at	Microsoft Teams
On	Thursday 16th June 2021
Commencing at	9.00am

PRESENT:

Mark Cullinan	Independent Chair
Nick Gardham	Independent Facilitator
Gary Bullivant	Irton Hall Ltd
David Faulkner	Private Resident
Cllr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder
Steve Smith	Copeland Borough Council, Nuclear Projects Manager
Rob Ward	Nuclear Sector Manager for Copeland Borough Council
Chris Shaw	Copeland District Association of Local Councils, Liaison Officer
Gillian Johnston	RWM Community Engagement Manager
Claire Dobson	RWM Copeland Community Coordinator
Barnaby Hudson	RWM Siting Manager
Gillian Thorne	RWM Working Group Communications Lead
Andy Ross	Genr8 North (not for the full meeting)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mike Brophy	RWM Head of Social Impact (agenda item only)
Karen Agnew	RWM Secretariat Copeland Working Group
Steve Wilkinson	RWM Project Manager
Helen Conway	RWM Grants Manager (agenda item only)

APOLOGIES

Mark Walker	Genr8 North
Cllr Andy Pratt	Copeland District Association of Local Councils (CALC), Chair

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.



AGENDA 1: IDENTIFY VOTING MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. CHAIR

- Recorded voting members from each organisation previously.
- Any changes to voting members to be notified.
- Assuming members attending the meeting hold the vote for themselves/their organisation unless they say declare otherwise.
- Minutes of previous meeting are a correct record - confirmed
- Two declarations of interest.

The Chair declared an interest in agenda item 5

CBC representative declared that Copeland Borough Council, as an interested party (but not as a principal authority) has an interest with regards to putting search areas forward.

AGENDA 2: OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND REVIEWS

Chair reviewed outstanding actions. Secretariat shared previous minutes with the meeting.

AGENDA 3: RWM COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDING PRESENTATION – SHOULD WE PROCEED TO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

RWM Head of Social Impact

- Transforming Communities
- Creating Social Impact Through Partnership
- Delivering Social Impact with RWM Staff

Questions asked by members of the Working Group:

1. Can you provide more information on timings in connection with the financial year and application process? The policy states a Community Partnership will have access to funding on the day it is signed.

A: We will be ready to administer the funding when a Community Partnership is ready. We aim to work with community support groups to help us identify projects which could benefit from funding.

2. Many projects locally do not receive funding as there is smaller population density, will the terms of reference need to accommodate this with regards to what is perceived to be value for money?

A: No, this funding will not be looked at on a “value per head” basis.



Working in Partnership Copeland

3. There are community led projects that by nature are not led by experts. Would we have to offer flexibility to support these community groups with regards to funding?

A: The screening, due diligence and support will provide the help and advice in advance and the grant award can also include wording which is flexible.

4. There are projects which have previously been considered but have been unable to secure sufficient matched funding, could these projects be considered?

A: There is no requirement for matched funding however, this money can be used as a match for other funders.

5. Would there be a requirement to deliver a vision for the Search Area(s) and if so, what if this does not match any existing community plans?

A: The funding can be spent widely within the local authority area and not just in the area of impact of a Geological Disposal Facility. There is the possibility that the potential host community could be larger than the initial Search Area(s)

6. If more than one Search Area is identified, this could mean multiple Community Partnerships. Is this supported by RWM?

A: RWM would be supportive of one or more Community Partnerships

7. Do you need to tie the Community Investment Fund to the community vision?

A: No, you don't need to tie the Community Investment Fund to the community vision. It is up to the Community Partnership to decide.

8. When would be an appropriate point for us to engage with projects that may be ready now for funding?

A: As we have not yet identified the Search Area(s) or formed a Community Partnership, it is too early to engage with projects, but we can be ready to support them once the funding becomes available.

9. Is there a role for the Working Group in the decision-making process?

A: By mid-July, the preparation work which is being carried out by the Grants team will be ready. At this point we can share this with Working Group if a Community Partnership stage is reached.

AGENDA 4: OPPORTUNITY FOR UPDATES FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS.

A request was made by a member of the Working Group to share the locations where RWM are having conversations with potential Interested Parties. The Community Engagement Manager informed the members that the next two working groups to come online won't be in Cumbria. Information relating to launch of other Working Groups will be

shared with this Working Group at least 24 hours prior to launch. Unfortunately, there is no further information to give at this time.

A member raised the concern that regardless of where the Geological Disposal Facility is built, Copeland as a community will be affected and therefore should be invited to join any Working Group which is formed across the UK. The chair confirmed that this was not an issue for the Copeland Working Group. The Community Engagement Manager noted the concern and would feed this back to the Senior team with RWM.

A climate change panel is being run in Copeland in the summer.

One of the members took part in the recent Yonder telephone survey. He wanted to feed back to the group that he felt the questions were too long and detailed for the information they were trying to gain. There will be an opportunity to feed this back to Yonder at the next Workstream 1 meeting.

AGENDA 5: WORKSTREAM UPDATES

WORKSTREAM 1 UPDATE. ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Government announced an extended period of COVID restrictions, this impacts the planned face to face exhibitions. It was proposed that the exhibitions be rescheduled for early September and the engagement team will run some smaller hybrid events during the July and August period which will be in line with Covid 19 requirements.

All members of the Working Group agreed with this amended schedule.

Workstream 1 to follow up on new schedule

The Chair requested the members take a 5-minute comfort break

WORKSTREAM 2 UPDATE. SEARCH AREA IDENTIFICATION

We continue to be on track in relation to supporting Working Group to identify Search Area(s). We will work with the project manager to revise timelines in relation to the rescheduled exhibitions and will feedback to Working Group in July.

WORKSTREAM 3 UPDATE. IDENTIFYING MEMBERS FOR A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

An update of the progress of the workstream was given by the convenor. The following recommendations were given to the members for their consideration.

Membership of a Community Partnership

RWM Community Guidance document states the minimum required to form a Community Partnership is the following:



- Chair
- A representative of Relevant Principle Local Authority
- RWM
- Community Members reflective of the makeup of the community.

It was **proposed** by the members of Workstream 3 that the following list of members would form the initial Community Partnership with the first action of priority being to recruit other members:

- Interim Chair
- A representative of Copeland Borough Council
- A representative of Copeland CALC
- Borough Councillor(s) within the identified Search Area(s)
- Parish and Town Councillor(s) within the identified Search Area(s)
- RWM
- Any Interested Parties with legitimate interest in the identified Search Area(s), who wish to continue in the process

Invitation to be extended to Cumbria County Council/Copeland Local Area Committee as per the Policy requirements

Until the Search Area(s) are identified we cannot engage with a wider range of Community Partnership members. This was why a membership of policy requirements and community reps (ie already in positions where they represent communities) has been proposed. Members of the Working Group requested clarity from RWM as to the policy, whether interested Parties becoming members of the Community Partnership is a requirement or an option if one is formed. Community Engagement Manager to seek advice from RWM Policy Adviser and report this back to the members at the next meeting. It is also recommended that the initial Community Partnership will be time bound, for a period of no more than 3 months.

Develop Comms and Engagement Plan – this will be discussed at the Workstream meeting on the 24th June 2021.

Engine Room – this will be defined by the Workstream and fed back to the main Working Group.

Draft Community Partnership Agreement – this has been reviewed by Copeland Borough Council and RWM legal teams and will be shared with the Working Group.

Mechanism for Community Investment Panel - ongoing

Chair Selection Process

HAVING IDENTIFIED AN INTEREST IN THIS ITEM MARK CULLINAN LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT



Discussion from the Working Group were invited around the following:

- Should the Community Partnership Chair be Independent?
- Is the option viable on timescale for Community Partnership launch?
- When does Chair selection take place during transition period between Working Group and Community Partnership?

Option	Pros	Cons
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides certainty upfront	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excludes CP members from decision – potential perception of being “done to”• Resource and time demand of recruitment process ahead of CP launch, for potentially 1 or more CP
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CP members able to select long-term chair after Transition period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excludes CP members from initial decision• Administrative burden of appointing transition chair, then long-term chair
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decision is made by CP members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Policy-compliant
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides continuity from WG to CP• CP members able to select long-term chair after Transition period• Initial CP members are part of WG – therefore involved in decision to select initial chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Viability for 1 or more CP?

Option A - It was felt there are challenges to this option.

It was felt that the community in the end will need to be the source of the Chair, but an interim Chair is required whilst the permanent Chair is selected.

It was agreed that Option A be dismissed.

Option B - It was argued that a Chair could be identified from within the Working Group. However, this option was dismissed.

Option C - Dismissed by the members.

Option D - It was felt there were benefits of having current Chair carrying on during the interim Community Partnership process whilst having them select their permanent chair.

Current Chair has offered to extend his position and will continue to Chair on one or more Community Partnerships for a period of up to 3 months whilst a permanent Chair is selected.



Members of the Working Group agreed to OPTION D which will be offered to the Chair of the Working Group to act as interim Chair for one or more Community Partnerships for a period of up to 3 months whilst a permanent Chair is selected.

MARK CULLINAN RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

AGENDA 6: WORKPLAN SCHEDULE UPDATE.

Nothing to add at this time

AGENDA 7: COMMS AND ENGAGEMENT UPDATE.

Newsletter scheduled for 17th June, this has been amended to reflect the change to the exhibitions and Working Group members were asked if they approved that the newsletter goes out as planned.

AGENDA 8: AOB. ALL

No business to discuss

AGENDA 9: DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

29th July 2021

Another meeting to be arranged 15th July 2021

Ref	Meeting Decision Log	Status
CWG001	Face to Face exhibitions to be delayed and rescheduled for Sep 2021	Agreed
CWG002	Current Working Group chair to be invited to act as Interim Chair for the Community Partnership whilst a permanent Chair is appointed.	Agreed
Ref	Meeting Action Log	
CWG001	Secretariat to share document suite with all WG members - KA	Completed
CWG002	Document of CIF principles to be circulated amongst group and discussed. To be merged with ToR	Mike Brophy
CWG003	Identify a point on the timeline where identifying a pipeline for funding projects would be appropriate	RW/CD
CWG004	Clarification on declared interest, how should those interest be featured on any decisions that follow	GJ



Working in Partnership

Copeland

CWG005	Clarification on the Policy and Guidance regarding Interested Parties joining a Community partnership	GJ
CWG006	When should councilors be invited to join CP	WS3



Comms Dashboard - May 2021

Summary

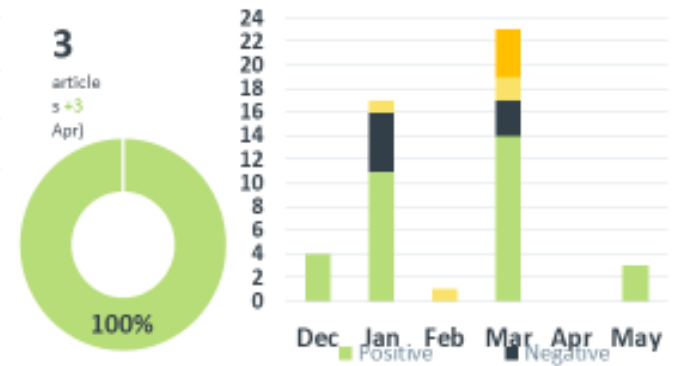
- Website saw 555 visits (887 Apr) of which 347 were new (750 Apr)
- Virtual Exhibition received 17 visits (8 Apr) of which 16 were new users (5 Apr)
- Press release issued highlighting 2x geology webinars (27 May)
- Development of walk through exhibitions - venues and dates confirmed.

Metrics

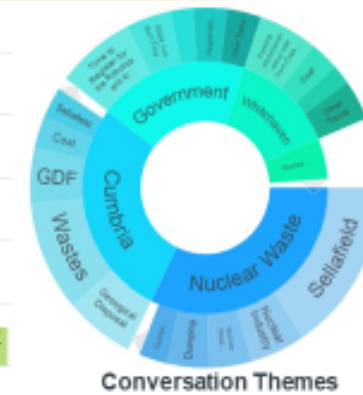
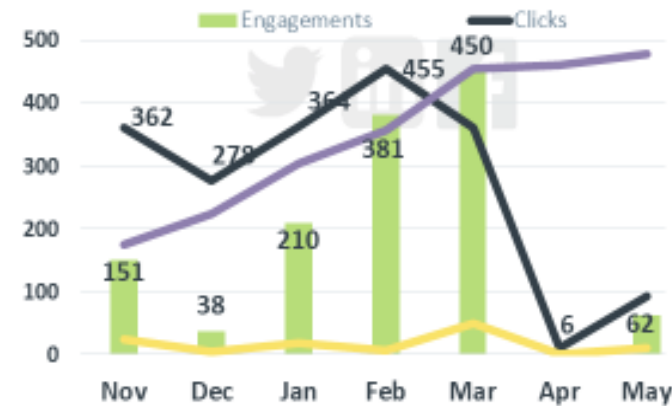
Contact Centre



Media



Social Media



Twitter & Facebook Inbound Sentiment

