

Engagement Package funding for the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership

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Title:	Engagement Package funding for the West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership, 2008 to September 2012
Notes:	Will be updated again at close of financial year

The Government is looking for a community in the UK to volunteer to have a deep underground disposal facility for higher activity radioactive wastes. Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council decided to take part in early discussions about this process on behalf of West Cumbria in part because a large amount of the country's radioactive waste is already stored in the area at Sellafield.

The Councils set up the West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership that includes organisations such as Churches Together in Cumbria, the Lake District National Park Authority, the National Farmers' Union and the Cumbria Association of Local Councils.

The Partnership's role is to advise the Councils on whether West Cumbria should take part in the Government's search for somewhere to locate a repository. Even if that happens, the Councils would still have a right to withdraw from the process up until the point when work could start on the underground facilities, probably more than a decade from now.

The Government provides an Engagement Package to communities that get involved in this process to cover all the work they need to do to look into the issues involved including things such as public information; liaison, consultation and engagement; salaries and associated costs of Partnership staff; organisational costs of running the Partnership and working groups; and commissioning specialist research and advice. This statement publicly sets out what funds have been received from Government, and how they have been spent. The documents referred to are published on www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk

Engagement Package spend, First half of 2012-13

<i>Partnership meeting design, facilitation, and reporting</i>	28K
<i>Programme management of all activity</i>	75K
<i>Venues, catering, accommodation, expenses, public notices</i>	12K
<i>Expert advice and independent research</i>	6K
<i>Final Reporting document</i>	26K
<i>Public engagement, communications and reporting of public input</i>	116K
<i>Public opinion survey (part 2 of 2)</i>	34K
<i>Independent evaluation</i>	24K
<i>Partner costs for staff time and councillor involvement</i>	152K
<i>Total (figures rounded to nearest £1K)</i>	473K

The Engagement Package is agreed as grant funding under the Local Government Act. Community representatives involved had full control over how the money was spent, meaning they allocated it in line with community priorities without being unduly influenced by either the Government or the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. Any funds not spent during a financial year are returned to Government.

To ensure that Government appropriately supports the organisations participating, the Partnership published a 'funding stakeholders policy' (document 8) that allowed for full reimbursement of expenses, and in certain circumstances, the time for participating in the community Partnership process. For transparency, the reimbursements made to each party are published here. In the first six months of 2012-13 such funds reimbursed to Partnership members for their staff and councillor involvement included:

<i>Accountable Body costs (Copeland BC costs of legally managing the project)</i>	5,394
<i>Allerdale Borough Council</i>	20,290
<i>Copeland Borough Council</i>	60,774
<i>Cumbria County Council</i>	26,052
<i>CALC, Cumbria Association of Local Councils</i>	23,062
<i>NuLeAF, Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum</i>	4,463
<i>Chamber of Commerce</i>	2,676
<i>Cumbria Tourism</i>	2,749
<i>NFU</i>	2,450
<i>Lake District National Park Authority</i>	3,497
<i>Eden District Council</i>	759

These figures illustrate the position up to the end of September 2012. They can be updated after the closure of the financial year, 31st March 2013.

Engagement Package spend, 2011-12

<i>Partnership meeting design, facilitation, and reporting</i>	49K
<i>Programme management of all activity</i>	166K
<i>Venues, catering, accommodation, expenses, public notices</i>	21K
<i>Expert advice and independent research</i>	112K
<i>Consultation document and DVD pack</i>	64K
<i>Public engagement, communications and reporting of public input</i>	408K
<i>Public opinion survey (part 1 of 2)</i>	46K
<i>Independent evaluation</i>	34K
<i>Partner costs for staff time and councillor involvement</i>	325K
<i>Total (figures rounded to nearest £1K)</i>	1,225K

In 2011-12 the funds reimbursed to Partnership members for their staff and councillor involvement as well as expenses included:

<i>Accountable Body costs (Copeland BC costs of legally managing the project)</i>	12,372
<i>Allerdale Borough Council</i>	42,153
<i>Copeland Borough Council</i>	116,928
<i>Cumbria County Council</i>	63,528
<i>CALC, Cumbria Association of Local Councils</i>	56,328
<i>NuLeAF, Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum</i>	16,100
<i>Chamber of Commerce</i>	5,840
<i>Cumbria Tourism</i>	4,900
<i>NFU</i>	3,755
<i>Lake District National Park Authority</i>	2,769
<i>Eden District Council</i>	530

Engagement Package spend, 2010-11

<i>Partnership meeting design, facilitation, and reporting</i>	61K
<i>Programme management of all activity</i>	161K
<i>Venues, catering, accommodation, expenses, public notices</i>	23K
<i>Expert advice and independent research as required</i>	88K
<i>Public engagement, communications and reporting of public input</i>	376K
<i>Independent evaluation</i>	32K
<i>Partner costs for staff time and councillor involvement</i>	246K
<i>Total (figures rounded to nearest £1K)</i>	987K

In 2010-11 the funds reimbursed to Partnership members for their staff and councillor involvement as well as expenses included:

<i>Accountable Body costs (Copeland BC costs of legally managing the project)</i>	18,510
<i>Allerdale Borough Council</i>	27,587
<i>Copeland Borough Council</i>	73,783
<i>Cumbria County Council</i>	70,963
<i>CALC, Cumbria Association of Local Councils</i>	35,789
<i>NuLeAF, Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum</i>	18,313
<i>Cumbria Tourism</i>	1,050

Engagement Package spend, 2009-10

<i>Partnership meeting design, facilitation, management and reporting</i>	54K
<i>Programme management</i>	51K
<i>Venues, catering, accommodation, expenses, public notices</i>	12K
<i>Expert advice and independent research as required</i>	5K
<i>Public engagement, communications and reporting of public input</i>	187K
<i>Independent evaluation</i>	13K
<i>Partner costs for staff time and councillor involvement</i>	211K
<i>Total</i>	533K

The significant increase in funding between the two years reflects the step up in intensity of activity both in delivering the Partnership Work Programme (document 13) and of public engagement work (document 15).

In 2009-10 funds reimbursed to Partnership members for their staff and councillor involvement as well as expenses included:

<i>Accountable Body costs (Copeland BC costs of legally managing the project)</i>	11,588
<i>Allerdale Borough Council</i>	27,790
<i>Copeland Borough Council</i>	72,430
<i>Cumbria County Council</i>	85,183
<i>CALC, Cumbria Association of Local Councils</i>	12,778
<i>NuLeAF, Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum</i>	2,899
<i>NFU</i>	152

Engagement Package spend, 2008-9

<i>Partnership meeting design, facilitation, management and reporting</i>	<i>16K</i>
<i>Venues, catering, accommodation, expenses</i>	<i>1K</i>
<i>Expert advice</i>	<i>5K</i>
<i>Public notices</i>	<i>1K</i>
<i>Partner costs for staff time</i>	<i>49K</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>72K</i>