

Document No:	283
Status:	Adopted
Author:	Cath Little
Title:	Notes of MRWS Steering Group meeting held on 13 th June 2012
Notes:	Bainbridge Room, Copeland Centre, Whitehaven Published on 16 th July 2012

Present:

Cllr Tim Knowles (CCC), Paul Feehily (CCC), Stewart Kemp (CCC) , Cllr Elaine Woodburn (CBC), Steve Smith (CBC), Cllr Alan Smith (ABC), Richard Griffin (ABC), Cllr Keith Hitchen (CALC), Guy Richardson (CALC), Chris Shaw (CALC), Rhuari Bennett (3KQ), Richard Harris (3KQ), Paul Gardner (Osprey Communications), Cath Little (CBC)

1. Apologies

Paul Walker (CBC), Stuart Smith (Wood Holmes)

2. Actions & Minutes – Doc 275

	29 th May 2012 – All actions completed
	Notes adopted

3. Updates

3.1 PSE3 Report. Both the PSE sub-group and the drafting group have now checked and amended the PSE3 Report. It is ready to go to the full Partnership for sign-off on 25th June.

3.2 Final Report. 3KQ, with the Drafting Group, have a first version of the Final Report. This does not contain any revised opinions yet. These will be added in once we are in a position to do so. Good progress made at meeting on 12th June.

3.3 Ipsos MORI full report is now published on the website. Rhuari gave a verbal update on additional information that has been included in the report. The two pieces of additional info included are an analysis on 'rurality' and views within the national park.

3.4 CIPR Award. The PSE sub-group and Osprey have submitted an entry to the CIPR for a communications and engagement award. It focusses on the PSE3 process specifically.

- 3.5 Copeland BC has been advised that through the Localism Bill the MRWS Partnerships final report will need to be presented to the Executive for final DtP rather than full Council. The report will be debated and issues noted at Full Council but a decision will be taken by the Executive regarding moving forward in the MRWS process. The DMB's will set out the process being used to make a DtP in which it will be made clear that the process being used is legal procedure.

4. Legal Advice

- 4.1 A discussion took place around the supplementary advice requested from Wragge & Co regarding *Voluntarism and the 'public interest'*. Steering Group members agreed that the information provided could be made clearer and shorter to ensure maximum understanding.

Action: Steve Smith and Guy Richardson took an action to organise a conference call with Wragge & Co to outline issue and seek clarification.

- 4.2 A discussion took place around the implications and way forward on the legal advice requested by the Partnership from Wragge & Co regarding *Making voluntarism legally binding*

It was agreed that the report as it stands is sufficient for now however the Partnership needs to get DECC's position. The advice makes it clear that we can make volunteerism legally binding but we need confirmation that DECC are prepared to do this.

Bruce Cairns from DECC joined the meeting at this point via conference call. Bruce confirmed that the report from Wragge & Co set out a fairly accurate picture of the options available.

It was agreed that a separate standalone meeting be organised with members of the SG and DECC in order to discuss this issue in more depth, on 20th June.

Rhuari Bennett asked if DECC would compile a paper to frame the meeting against Wragge & Co's advice detailing the pros' and cons of legislative options.

Action: DECC to prepare scoping paper for meeting on 20th June.

Action: 3KQ to make arrangements for meeting

5. Revising our Opinions

Steering Group members discussed the high-level approach to forming opinions. With the guidance provided by the Partnership in its two informal workshops, 3KQ will draft opinions for discussion and amendment. The drafting group will assist with this. The Steering Group discussed the two main areas of ongoing disagreement, namely geology and siting. If agreement cannot be found then the Final Report will highlight the difference of view and explain what could not be agreed.

Action: 3KQ take action to reword opinions on Geology

6. The Bridging Period

At the Partnership meeting on the 21st February 2012 it was agreed that the Partnership should be disbanded once the final report has been passed to the three Councils, on the basis that it could be reconvened if required. Also that there should be some form of bridging group to manage the interim process, including ongoing communication, and liaison with the DMBs.

A discussion took place around the establishment of this small mandated group to act as the “bridging group “and a range of activities it may undertake.

All SG Members were in favour of the establishment of the group however it was agreed that a very clear mandate needs to be defined regarding the group’s boundaries.

Actions

	ACTION	WHO
<i>Agenda Item 3 - Updates</i>		
3.5	Officers from the DMB’s to set out the process being used to make a DtP in which it is made clear that the process being used is legal procedure.	DMB Officers
<i>Agenda Item 4 - Legal Advice</i>		
4.1	Steve Smith and Guy Richardson took an action to organise a conference call with Wragge & Co to outline issue and seek clarification.	SCS & GR
4.2	DECC to prepare scoping paper for meeting 3KQ to make arrangements for meeting	DECC 3KQ
<i>Agenda Item 5 – Revising our Options</i>		
5	3KQ take action to reword opinions on Geology	3KQ

	<i>Agenda Item 6 – The Bridging Period</i>	
	No actions	