

**WEST CUMBRIA MRWS PARTNERSHIP MEETING 4 SEPTEMBER 2009****Mark Dutton*****Introduction***

1. These notes only record the main points of interest to CoRWM. A full record of the meeting will be produced by 3KQ.

***Date, place and title of meeting attended:***

2. 4th September, 2009
3. Copeland Centre, Whitehaven
4. Fourth Meeting of the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership  
(Previous meetings were on 17th March, 15th May, and 14th July, 2009)

***Who attended for CoRWM:***

5. Brian Clark and Mark Dutton as observers and John Rennilson as a member of the public

***Others present included:***

Elaine Woodburn,	Leader of Copeland Borough Council
Alan Holliday,	Councillor, Copeland Borough Council
Yvonne Clarkson	Councillor, Copeland Borough Council
Fergus McMorro,	Acting Chief Executive, Copeland Borough Council
Ian Curwen	Officer, Copeland Borough Council
Sharon Walker	Copeland Borough Council
Tim Heslop	Leader of Allerdale Borough Council
Sam Standage	Councillor, Allerdale Borough Council
Carni McCarron-Holmes	Councillor, Allerdale Borough Council
Charles Holmes	Head of Regeneration, Allerdale Borough Council
Tim Knowles	Councillor Cumbria County Council
Stewart Kemp	Officer, Cumbria County Council
Keith Hitchen	Copeland CALC, Mayor of Copeland
Guy Richardson	Cumbria CALC
Chris Shaw	Copeland CALC
Peter Kane	GMB Union
Tony Jones	Prospect Union
David Moore	West Cumbria Site Stakeholder Group
Michael Heaslip	West Cumbria Partnership
Robert Morris-Eyton	National Farmers Union
Fred Barker	NuLeAF
Bruce Cairns	DECC (Observer)
Lewis Mortimer	DECC (Observer)
Elizabeth Atherton	RWMD, NDA (Observer)
Alun Ellis	RWMD, NDA (Observer)
Gavin Thompson	Environment Agency (Observer)
Mick Bacon	HSE (Observer)

6. The meeting was facilitated by Richard Harris and Rhuari Bennett of 3KQ. It was open to members of the public and five attended including:

Bill Miller	AMEC
John Rennilson	CoRWM Member

Phil Richardson  
A N Other  
A N Other

Galston  
Councillor, Copeland Borough Council

### ***Purpose of the meeting***

To:

- 1) start to build an understanding of community benefits and agree a process for taking this work stream forward
- 2) develop the work programme for 2009/10
- 3) understand the NDA's generic design concept and how this translates into a specific design depending on any potential location
- 4) adopt the PSE plan and agree how external enquiries and meetings will be handled

### ***Main points of interest to CoRWM***

#### *Update*

7. Tim Knowles explained that Cumbria CC has agreed in principle to join the Partnership subject to a Memorandum of Understanding being agreed between the three councils. In his view, it should be finalised in a matter of days rather than weeks.

#### *Community Benefits*

8. Lewis Mortimer of DECC gave a presentation on Governments approach to community benefits. DECC confirmed that Government is committed to providing a community benefits package to the host community. The scale and content will be developed through discussions with representatives of the local community. These discussions will take time but its scale will be much larger than the single trust fund which was agreed for the extension of the national LLW facility near Drigg. DECC confirmed that it is willing to start the discussion on the principles and processes that will used at the November meeting of the Partnership. CALC raised the issue that benefit packages had to address cost/disbenefits of the area hosting a GDF such as possible loss of tourism income. Concern was also expressed about the use of "acceptable" in a number of places in the Work Programme whereas what the Partnership should be doing is building confidence.
9. Elizabeth Atherton of the NDA gave a presentation on international experience relevant to community benefits. Direct benefits and then social, economic and intergenerational benefits were considered. It was noted that some of the benefits secured in other countries in terms of employing local labour and business rates being paid directly to the local council could not apply in the UK. In the discussion, the community around the WIPP project was identified as a useful source of information on establishing sustainable benefit to the community. In response to a question on whether DECC would fund representatives of the Partnership meeting the WIPP community, DECC encouraged discussions with the international community at the forthcoming CARL meeting and queried how much information is required before a Decision to Participate is made.
10. In the general discussion, Cumbria CC pointed out the need for a strategic approach in which the benefits package complimented the aspiration for £100 billion to be injected into the community as a result of the Energy Coast Master Plan. Representatives of CALC pointed out that it is essential that parishes local to the potential site are provided with enough incentive to be willing communities.

11. NDA confirmed that the next draft of "Geological Disposal: Planning for Implementation" would be produced in a few months after the comments from CoRWM, NuLeAF and others have been addressed.

#### *Work Programme*

12. The proposed work programme is reproduced as Appendix 1. It was agreed that:
  - CALC raised the issue of how Parish Councils would be involved in the decision-making process. This highlighted the necessity of developing Stage 4 of the process so stakeholders can understand how both social and scientific aspects will be taken into account.
  - More information is required in international experience and benefits that would not be legal in the UK
  - There would need to be a study by a contractor on the impact of the facility on the community. This may not be needed before the DtP but it would be important to develop the specification and identify potential contractors.
  - It is important to understand the planning process under the Town and Country Planning Act in the context of the implementation process recognising that it is only relevant to later stages of the process and planning applications for boreholes and the associated infrastructure would precede the application for work underground.
  - It is important to understand the process for developing the design and how the community can influence it.
  - Concern was expressed about the capacity to produce risk management.

#### *Generic Design Concept*

13. Alun Ellis of the NDA gave a presentation on the generic designs that NDA are using for planning processes. These are:
  - Hard rock: the KBS3V concept for heat generating waste and the NIREX concept for ILW
  - Soft rock: the Swiss concept namely tunnels for heat generating waste and small vaults for ILW
  - Evaporates: the WIPP concept.
14. He stressed that these are for planning purposes and no decisions have been made or could be made until a specific site had been identified.
15. These will support the NDA's commitment to produce the Generic Disposal System Safety Case in September 2010.
16. Councillors wanted information on the number of jobs that would result, what the surface facilities would look like and the area they would occupy etc. The Steering Group agreed to compile a list of questions that councillors may be asked and the NDA agreed to provide indicative information. The importance of providing adequate responses to questions raised by the community if a DtP is to be supported was recognised.
17. NDA explained that the issue of retrievability will be addressed when the Technical Specification for the facility will be produced. This will follow the Functional Specification which will be published soon. NDA confirmed that the community will be

involved in the discussions but stressed that the decision on when to backfill can be made at a late stage.

#### *PSE Plan*

18. Some modifications to the previous PSE plan were proposed by the Steering Group and were agreed. It was noted that a Partnership web site now exists at [www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk](http://www.westcumbriamrws.org.uk) and that a non geographic telephone number 0800 048 8912 was available to answer public queries. The first activity is to deliver an explanatory leaflet to all households on 5th and 12th October (this has been delayed a couple of weeks).

The importance of

- Ensuring that all councillors in the three councils are briefed beforehand so that they can answer questions asked by their constituents.
  - Briefing the press was recognised and actions to ensure these actions are implemented were discussed.
  - Partner organisations and particularly EA would also need copies of leaflet and brief staff before leaflet issued to the community.
  - The partnership is exploring the possible use of a Public Reference Panel which might be based around an existing 3000 person group used by the County Council of which around 700 were in West Cumbria.
19. DECC and NDA agreed to provide any assistance that is required.

#### ***Actions for CoRWM (what, when, whom):***

20. To take the above into account when planning its ongoing work on Task 3 (Voluntarism). Annexes A and B contain details of (A) the Work Programme and (B) the proposed PSE process. It should be noted that these were drafts submitted by the Steering Group for approval by the Partnership and some changes will have been made.

**Annex A: Work Programme for 2009/10**

**20 Aug 09**

Document No:	13 draft 2
Status:	Draft
Lead Author:	3KQ (with Steering Group)
Title:	Work Programme for 2009/10 (draft)
Notes:	Page 1 must be read in conjunction with pages 2-4, not in isolation

The schedule below indicates the core tasks that will be undertaken at each of the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership meetings in 2009/10. Each task is derived directly from the criteria that the Partnership will use when recommending whether to participate or not in the future siting process. The criteria, and more detail on some of the tasks, are outlined overleaf and must be read in conjunction with the schedule below.

Workstream	4 September	14 October	24 November	13 January 2010	23 February 2010
1 – Safety, Security, Environment and Planning			1a(i) Understand what regulatory bodies and processes are in place	1a(iii) Understand role of planning system	
2 – Geology		2a(i) Understand peer review process for BGS work			2a(ii) Ask DECC to instruct the BGS work
3 – Community Benefit	3a(i) Understand DECC views on community benefit, and international experience	3b Understand impacts of GDF and potential mitigation measures	3a(ii) Develop principles for community benefit	3a(ii) Develop principles for community benefit (cont.)	3a(ii) Develop principles for community benefit (cont.)
4 – Design and Engineering	4a(i) Understand generic design concept		4a(ii) Understand retrieveability and reversibility		
5 – Process		5a(i) Understand the site selection process			
6 – Public and Stakeholder views	6a(i) Adopt PSE plan 6a(ii) Initiate Round 1 PSE	6a(ii) Monitor and guide Round 1 PSE	6a(ii) Monitor and guide Round 1 PSE	6a(iii) Respond to output of Round 1 PSE	6a(iv) Adopt redesign for Round 2 PSE
7 – Other Activity					

The criteria and subsequent tasks identified for 2009/10 are below.

	<b>Workstream</b>	<b>What we will look for</b>	<b>How we will do this</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Safety, Security, Environment and Planning</b>		
1a	Criterion: "Satisfied that suitable regulatory and planning processes are in place or being developed to protect residents, workforce and the environment"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable regulatory bodies and processes exist or are being developed</li> <li>▪ Adequate communication links between regulators and community are present and working</li> <li>▪ Acceptability of the planning aspects of the siting process</li> </ul>	<p>Task 1a(i)– Understand what regulatory bodies are involved, what their roles are and what regulatory processes they have in place or are developing. <i>Presentation from regulators potentially followed up by sub-group/SG meeting as needed.</i></p> <p>Task 1a(ii)– Assess the recent and current arrangements for regulatory interfaces with the community. <i>Presentation from regulators.</i></p> <p>Task 1a(iii)– Understand the role of the planning system in the process and any uncertainties associated e.g. role of IPC. <i>Presentation from planning consultant, and presentation and discussion with Government as needed.</i></p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Geology</b>		
2a	Criterion: "Whether the Partnership is confident in the integrity of the BGS screening work/report"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable peer review process</li> <li>▪ Broad stakeholder confidence in BGS study</li> </ul>	<p>Task 2a(i)- Understand peer review process and work with Government to alter process if required. <i>Discussion with DECC at a Partnership meeting: delegated to SG if needed.</i></p> <p>Task 2a(ii)- Ask DECC to instruct the start of the BGS work. <i>Partnership decision.</i></p> <p>Task 2a(iii)– Assess summary of s/h views from DECC's stakeholder review process, and Partnership's PSE Round 2. <i>Partnership discussion upon completion of BGS work and PSE Round 2.</i></p>
2b	Criterion: "Sufficient areas remaining in West Cumbria after initial screening to make further progress worthwhile"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subjective judgement that the results of the screening leave enough "possibly suitable" land to make further progress worthwhile</li> </ul>	<p>Task 2b- Assess BGS report when published. <i>Presentation from BGS.</i></p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Community Benefits</b>		

3a	Criterion: "Whether the Partnership is confident that an appropriate community benefit package can be developed"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable process in place to secure additional benefits - beyond those which derive directly from the construction and operation of the facility</li> </ul>	<p>Task 3a(i)- Understand Government's perspective on community benefit and what is stated in the White Paper, as well as international experience of other nuclear communities. <i>Presentations from DECC and NDA supported by White Paper and summary report of international experience.</i></p> <p>Task 3a(ii)- Develop with Government a set of principles by which community benefit would be discussed, agreed and potentially administered (including how benefits might be allocated to different communities). <i>Steering Group lead, seeking sign off from Partnership at key stages.</i></p>
3b	Criterion: "Whether the Partnership is confident that appropriate possibilities exist to assess and mitigate blight if it occurs"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable process is in place to assess any negative impacts and mitigate them</li> </ul>	Task 3b- Understand the likely broad impacts (both positive and negative) of hosting a repository, and how they might be mitigated. <i>Presentations from NDA/Cumbria Tourism/Local Authorities.</i>
3c	Criterion: "Whether the Partnership is confident that the possibility of a repository fits appropriately with the overall direction of the relevant community/ies"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support for the possibility of a repository in relation to other documented long term priorities</li> </ul>	Task 3c- Understand the vision for the future of West Cumbria and to what extent a repository may or may not fit into it. <i>Presentation from Local Authorities.</i>
<b>4</b>	<b>Design and Engineering</b>		
4a	Criterion: "Satisfied that the design concepts being developed are appropriate"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable design concept and flexibility thereof</li> <li>▪ Reassurance that reversibility/retrieveability is an option, and flexibility to confirm this later</li> </ul>	<p>Task 4a(i)- Understand the generic design concept, and how this translates into a specific design depending on any location ultimately chosen. <i>Presentation from NDA.</i></p> <p>Task 4a(ii)- Develop understanding of the meanings of retrieval/reversibility and the implications associated with them, as well as how flexible the generic design concept is. <i>Presentation from NDA and regulators.</i></p>
4b	Criterion: "Satisfied with the proposed inventory to be managed in a facility"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Knowledge of what the inventory is, and acceptable process for how the inventory would be changed, including how the community can influence this</li> </ul>	Task 4b- Develop understanding of the inventory, the process for altering it and how the community might influence it. <i>Presentation from NDA.</i>
<b>5</b>	<b>Process</b>		
5a	Criterion: "Whether the Partnership is confident that the siting process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acceptable process of moving from 'possibly suitable areas' to specific</li> </ul>	Task 5a(i)- Understand the site selection process, including how community can influence it. <i>Read White Paper,</i>

	is sufficiently robust and flexible to meet their needs"	<p>potential host sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provision for 'pause points' to allow more work to be undertaken at the Partnership's request</li> <li>▪ Acceptable nature of (and limitations to) the Right of Withdrawal</li> <li>▪ Government commitment to sustain the process</li> </ul>	<p><i>presentation from DECC/NDA followed by Steering Group liaison as needed.</i></p> <p>Task 5a(ii)– Understand, and seek reassurance on, how 'pause points' might be introduced. <i>Steering Group seek clarification and discussion as required from DECC and NDA.</i></p> <p>Task 5a(iii)- Understand what a Decision to Participate implies and how the Right of Withdrawal works, what would need to underpin it, and when it ceases to exist. <i>Read White Paper, presentation from DECC, Steering Group discuss with DECC if required.</i></p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Public and stakeholder views</b>		
6a	<p>Criterion: "Whether the Partnership's recommendations are credible given public and stakeholder views" (<i>note: the word 'credibility' here is used to reference the criterion in the White Paper, para 6.22</i>)</p>	<p>This is a subjective judgement but any recommendation might require at least the following to indicate credibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Broad support from the stakeholder organisations in the area, including those that are likely to form a Community Siting Partnership if a DtP was taken (<i>again, words taken from WP para 6.22</i>)</li> <li>▪ An increasing level of confidence in the Partnership held over time by those engaged</li> <li>▪ Evidence that concerns raised have been, or will be, addressed where appropriate</li> </ul>	<p>All of the PSE related tasks would be: <i>developed by PSESG, adopted off by Steering Group: updates would be provided to Partnership unless otherwise stated.</i></p> <p>Task 6a(i)– Design and adopt a PSE Plan.</p> <p>Task 6a(ii)- Initiate, monitor and guide Round 1 PSE, including consulting on the PSE Plan.</p> <p>Task 6a(iii)- Reflect on output of Round 1 PSE, incorporate output and provide feedback to participants. Full Partnership to consider output report of Round 1.</p> <p>Task 6a(iv)- Adopt a redesigned Round 2 PSE as required</p> <p><i>(note these tasks cover 09/10 activity only)</i></p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Other Supporting Activity</b>		
	<p>Task 7a– Build the capacity of Decision Making Bodies and other Partnership members. <i>Individual members to take individual responsibility.</i></p> <p>Task 7b– Manage risks in the process. <i>Steering Group to consider at alternate meetings.</i></p>		

## Public and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

**21 Aug 09**

Document No:	15 Draft 3
Author:	PSE Sub-Group
Status:	Draft
Title:	Public and Stakeholder Engagement Plan
Notes:	Contains an update to the timeline on page 6 only

### 1 – Background

---

1.1 The West Cumbria MRWS Partnership exists to *"make recommendations to Copeland BC and Allerdale BC on whether or not they should participate in the geological disposal facility siting process, without commitment to eventually host a facility"*. The Partnership is therefore predominantly concerned with the process up to a "Decision to Participate" as defined in the Government White Paper<sup>1</sup>, and not beyond.

1.2 The Partnership is aware that significant public and stakeholder engagement (PSE) will be required in its work programme. This is due firstly to the requirements set out in the White Paper (see Appendix 1) and secondly due to the moral and practical need to engage widely on an issue of such sensitivity, especially given the history of nuclear waste management in West Cumbria.

1.3 This PSE Plan is a working document and as such will frequently be updated and where appropriate published. It sets out:

- a) Roles
- b) Over-arching objectives
- c) Broad Approach to PSE
- d) What do People Want from Engagement?
- e) High Level plan
- f) Round 1 core activity and timeline

### 2 – Roles

---

2.1 The Partnership exists because Decision-Making Bodies have asked key organisations representing community interests to come together to inform their decision whether to participate<sup>2</sup> in the siting process. This means that the Partnership will ask for *endorsement* from the Decision-Making Bodies on its plans at key stages. The Partnership will then oversee delivery of the PSE plan on behalf of the Decision-Making Bodies.

---

<sup>1</sup> Managing Radioactive Waste Safely: A Framework for Implementing Geological Disposal, June 2008

<sup>2</sup> Although the White Paper uses the phrase "Decision to Participate", it is suggested that the Partnership adopt the phrase "decision whether to participate" or similar so it is absolutely clear to all readers that the decision has not yet been made.

### 3 – Over-arching Objectives

3.1 The framework set by the Government means that useful objectives for the Partnership's PSE programme include:

- a) Provide a mix of engagement opportunities to share information and ensure feedback from stakeholder organisations and disinterested members of the public
- b) Identify the extent of support for a decision whether to participate or not, any issues of concern and the reasons given for and against participation
- c) Demonstrate the credibility of the Partnership's recommendations on whether to participate or not, including through demonstrating good practice in consultation
- d) Produce a report setting out the approach taken to engagement, the activities undertaken, and the outcomes including feedback on support, concerns and opposition.

Note that detailed objectives for each round of engagement are set out in section 6.

### 4 – Broad Approach to PSE

4.1 Where possible the Partnership will adopt an approach to PSE that will:

- a) Time engagement to allow for maximum input/influence (earlier vs. later)
- b) Use a variety of methods (existing and new) to reach different people
- c) *Seek* people's views at key points, rather than *tell* them how it is
- d) Be willing to make tangible changes as a result of these views
- e) Give prompt feedback as to how views have been taken on board
- f) Give regular updates on progress
- g) Regularly reconfirm the support of Partnership members along the way
- h) Be inclusive rather than selective (whilst also being proportionate)

### 5 – What do people want from engagement with the Partnership?

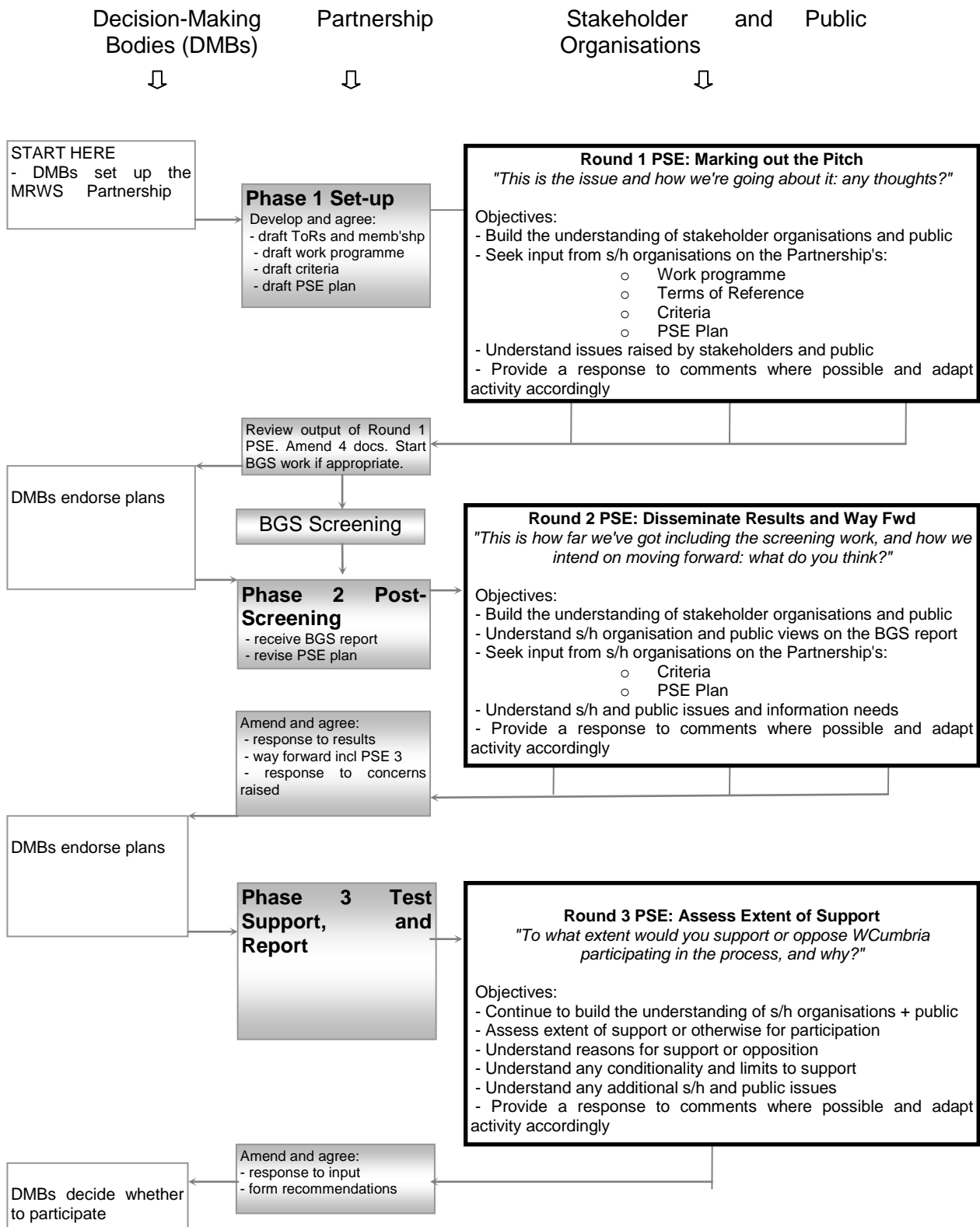
5.1 In developing a PSE Plan, the Partnership is aware that different people will want different things from engagement. The table below sets this out – to be checked and developed as work progresses.

<i>Stakeholder Category</i>	<i>What <b>they</b> might want from engagement with the Partnership</i>	<i>What the <b>Partnership</b> wants from engagement with them</i>
Public: Potentially all interested people who are not represented below	- reassurance that this difficult issue is being handled properly - information that allows me to know what's going on when, and get more involved if I want to, (including info on the pros and	- understand what we are trying to achieve - understand what we are not doing (siting) - tell friends and family what's going on if they may be interested

	<p>cons of participating)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- opportunity to feed in my views and knowledge at key points, and have them considered and responded to respectfully</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- input their views at key points, so we can change our work appropriately</li> </ul>
<p>Stakeholder Organisations: All other formal organisations that have an interest in MRWS in WCumbria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- updates at key points in the Partnership's life so I can keep abreast of activity</li> <li>- opportunity to input at key points if I have views and knowledge that are material to the Partnership's work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- keep their organisation and members updated and feed in their views</li> <li>- canvas and feed in the views of their organisation and members at key points so their views are taken properly into account and there are no 'surprises' later</li> </ul>
<p>Decision-Making Bodies: Full Councils of Allerdale BC and Copeland BC (and potentially later the County)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reassurance that the Partnership is a credible body</li> <li>- assurance that the partnership's programme is robust and sufficient to inform a credible decision about participation</li> <li>- opportunity to influence any aspect of the Partnership at key points in its life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- explicit support for the approach being adopted at key points</li> <li>- guidance on any areas that need to be changed to maximise the robustness and respect given to the Partnership's recommendations</li> </ul>
<p>DECC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reassurance that the Partnership is a credible body</li> <li>- assurance that the partnership's programme is robust and sufficient to inform a credible decision about participation</li> <li>- regular updates on activity and plans so we can ensure appropriate consistency with the White Paper to warrant the spending of public funds</li> <li>- opportunity to support where appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- financial support and flexibility</li> <li>- support and advice on the Government context and constraints we must work within</li> <li>- distance: to allow us to develop our own work and thinking towards a decision whether to participate</li> </ul>
<p>Other official bodies: other Government, NDA, Regulators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- regular updates on activity and plans so we can highlight issues that we can assist with or that impact on us</li> <li>- opportunity to input at key points</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- advice on request: particularly where Partnership work impacts on or needs to be coordinated with, your work</li> <li>- keep their organisations up to date regarding the Partnership's work</li> <li>- confidence that regulatory processes will be robust</li> </ul>
<p>Partnership Members: All organisations that sit on the Partnership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- opportunity to be involved in and affect every part of the Partnership's work</li> <li>- to have our name, views and expertise associated with the Partnership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- active participation in the work, including a significant time commitment</li> <li>- explicit ownership of the Partnership's work and recommendations</li> <li>- keep their organisation updated and feed in their views</li> </ul>

## 6 - High-Level PSE Plan: Objectives for 3 Rounds of PSE

The main rounds of activity are set out below with associated objectives. More detail for activity planned for round 1 is in section 7.



## 7 – Round 1: Core Activity

To meet the objectives outlined in sections 3 and 6, the following core activity is proposed. It draws from the spectrum of engagement set out in Appendix 2 for the 'levels' of engagement. The '4 areas' for comment include the work programme, Terms of Reference, criteria and PSE Plan.

Level	Method	Main Aims	Round 1 PSE Objectives				Promise to Participants / Notes
			Build under-standing	Seek input on 4 areas	Understand their issues	Provide feedback	
Informing	Website	Provide one-stop information source regarding the local process	✓				We will keep you informed  <i>N.B. There will be a comment mechanism on the website also, via email</i>
	Leaflet to all Households	Provide basic update to <u>all</u> households	✓				
	Press: adverts, press releases, seeking interviews/articles	Raise awareness of existence of consultation	✓				
	Partner publications <sup>3</sup>	Raise awareness and provide updates	✓				
	Meet 2ndy schools and Youth Council	Raise awareness and discuss future involvement	✓				
Consulting	Community Meetings (Neighbourhood Forums, Parishes)	Update people, understand broad reaction towards the process	✓		✓	✓	We will keep you informed, listen to views, and provide feedback on how public input influenced us where appropriate
	Meet existing key communities of interest <sup>4</sup>		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Involving	Public Reference Panel	Seek views from a limited cross-section of public	✓	✓	✓	✓	We will work with you to ensure your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in our plans and provide feedback on how your input influenced us
	Stakeholder Organisation Workshop	Provide in-depth opportunity for updates and questions Debate and seek views on all aspects of Partnership's work	✓	✓	✓	✓	

<sup>3</sup> Partner publications include Your Cumbria, Copeland Matters, Allerdale Outlook, CALC newsletter etc

<sup>4</sup> For example the Older Persons Forum



**Appendix 1 – Government White Paper requirements and other good practice**

---

The Government White Paper sets out various requirements and suggestions for how the public and stakeholders should be involved prior to a decision whether to participate. These are not quoted verbatim but include:

- Develop a programme of community engagement, to inform a Decision to Participate (DtP). Planning for this may run in parallel to the BGS screening. (p51 Step 8)
- Undertake community engagement. A mixture of engagement methods could be used to ensure feedback from stakeholders and disinterested members of the public. This might include citizens panels, workshops, discussion in local groups or organisations, information provision to local communities, groups or individuals, quantitative feedback from opinion polls etc. Engagement should seek to identify the extent of support for participation, any issues of concern about participation, and the reasons for any opposition to participation. (p 51 Step 10, and para 6.24)
- Government will want to be satisfied that a DtP is credible. Credibility might be demonstrated on the basis of a local consultation process applying established local good practice. Credible local support would be expected amongst organisations likely to form a Community Siting Partnership should a DtP be taken, as well as among the local community. (para 6.22)
- Provide a report setting out the approach taken to engagement, the outcomes of that engagement and making clear the basis of the DtP. This report should accompany the DtP. (para 6.25)
- Government is not expecting, or seeking, a particular threshold of support but is keen to see evidence of appropriate community engagement and meaningful feedback on any concerns of those affected. (para 6.26)

There are further requirements and suggestions placed on a full Community Siting Partnership if a DtP is taken but these are not directly relevant to the current Partnership at this stage. In addition, there are various sets of guidance that the Partnership should be aware of, although the extent to which they apply to the work programme varies. These include but may not be limited to:

- HM Government Code of Practice on Consultation, July 2008, focussing on formal written consultations.
- Scottish National Standards for Community Engagement.
- Department of Communities and Local Government White Paper called Communities in Control, July 2008, including the "duty to involve" placed on local authorities.
- Parish Charters or similar authored by the Decision-Making Bodies.
- Statements of Community Involvement or similar authored by the Decision-Making Bodies.
- Aarhus Convention
- Freedom of Information Act

**Appendix 2 – Levels of Participation (from IAP2)**

It is worth noting that there are different levels of PSE that can be undertaken. Whilst there are many frameworks to draw from, these levels can usefully be described as:

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
<i>Public participation goal:</i> To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	<i>Public participation goal:</i> To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	<i>Public participation goal:</i> To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	<i>Public participation goal:</i> To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	<i>Public participation goal:</i> To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
<i>Promise to the public:</i> We will keep you informed.	<i>Promise to the public:</i> We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<i>Promise to the public:</i> We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<i>Promise to the public:</i> We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	<i>Promise to the public:</i> We will implement what you decide.
<i>Amended from International Association of Public Participation, IAP2, www.iap2.org</i>				

N.B. It is likely that Partnership PSE activity will need to combine the different levels for different stakeholders at different stages in the work programme.