

Document No:	262
Status:	Adopted
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Title:	Notes of MRWS Steering Group meeting held on 7 th February 2012 Bainbridge Room, Copeland Centre, Whitehaven
Notes:	Published on 30 th March 2012

Present:

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

Guests Speakers: Tom Nutt Communications Group (Brand Protection Consultant), Giles Claver Sedley Place (Brand Protection Consultant).

Rob Johnson (Cumbria Chamber of Commerce) & Ian Stephens (Cumbria Tourism) attended as members of the Brand Protection Sub Group, for item 8

1. Apologies

2. Actions & Minutes – Doc 249

	11 th January 2011 - All actions completed Notes adopted
3.8	Addition to minutes - It was agreed that a legal opinion be obtained through Wragge & Co on the question of whether there is a risk of legal challenge by starting the opinion survey fieldwork before the consultation period is complete. The risk was deemed to be minimal by the lawyers.

3. Updates

3.1 Finance. Officers met with DECC to discuss the underpinning to the 12-13 Engagement Package, before it is submitted to Ministers. The submission for additional funding around 2011/2012 engagement package has gone to

ministers. DECC advised that we should be notified this week. The 2012/13 submission will go to minister once additional funding is received.

- 3.2 Western Lake District board briefing, 15 March.** Richard Greenwood attending, with Rhuari or Jenny. Another volunteer would be welcomed.
Action: RB to find out timings of briefing and circulate.
- 3.3 Gosforth Probus Club** have asked for a briefing from a specialist. The NDA is attending.
- 3.4 Friends of the Lake District.** Rhuari and Paul met Jack Ellerby to brief him on the process and consultation. They are getting some interest from members. They are keen to stay 'open minded' about the process
- 3.5 Feedback to CoRWM.** CoRWM have asked for feedback on DECC and NDA's support to the local process. There is a short meeting with CoRWM at 4pm on 21 Feb, immediately after the Partnership meeting (please put in diaries). CoRWM are aware of the funding discussions.
- 3.6 CALC and Parish updates.** Guy to give verbal update as required, covering Dean Parish council, and the Derwent 7 meeting on 3 Feb.
- 3.7 Opinion Survey.** The PSE subgroup has started the 2-week public comment window for the draft questionnaire. Importantly, the change in questionnaire will mean that we cannot compare results between this survey and the previous surveys. Secondly, we are NOT testing people's knowledge before asking them the questions: this is consistent with Ipsos Mori's advice as it comes with many difficulties. Chris Shaw expressed concerns that the questionnaire as it stands may not be clear the general public. Rhuari Bennett advised that some amendments have already been made to the questionnaire and that it is still only draft so therefore any concerns will be wrapped up in next few weeks, including CALC's concern.
- 3.8 Chris McDonald** has taken up the opportunity to meet with Steering Group. Arrangements of meeting will be advised shortly.
- 3.9 Submarine Dismantling** – Elaine Woodburn advised that following involvement in a Submarine Dismantling Workshop possible inventory issues around GDF were highlighted. It was agreed that the Partnership should write to the NDA asking for an update on any issues/discussions that may affect the inventory. The NDA needs to have an holistic understanding of all nuclear waste streams.

Action: RB to write to the NDA requesting a briefing.

4. Letters in the Press

Paul presented options for the way forward for letters to the press.

A discussion took place around individual members concerns about letters being sent to the press on behalf of the Partnership that may be seen as engaging in debate or being defensive.

It was generally agreed that the Partnership should respond to letters which contain inaccurate information and that all replies should be in line with the consultation document and only clarify its position, not go any further.

Action: Steve Smith to re circulate information received from Wragge & Co re Governance and predetermination

Action: DECC/John Dalton to provide a briefing on the Localism Act and its implications for the MRWS process.

5. Reporting

Rhuari Bennett presented a report which outlined the timeline and process for production of the PSE3 and Final Reports.

Key points of the timeline highlighted were:

- 22nd May Partnership meeting is the point where TRG will present draft PSE report
- 25th June Partnership meeting final draft of the Final Report should be ready to be agreed and signed off.

Key Issues:

- The TRG sit right at heart of the reporting process therefore because of sensitivity of reporting it was suggested that other Partnership Members are involved.
- Legal Advice – All Partnership Members should receive all consultation responses.
- Purpose of Final Report – TRG need to know if this is the final aim in order to go forward.
- Be sure that fellow Members are content with overall focus of report.

A lengthy discussion took place around concerns of the makeup of the TRG. It was highlighted that as the majority of TRG are officers from the DMB's would it not be better to widen the representation on the TRG, therefore sharing the responsibility of the final reporting process with other members.

It was agreed that further conversations need to take place in order to agree a way forward with the reporting process. The spread of workload and full Partnership Member involvement being seen as high priorities.

6. End of Stage 3: Planning Ahead

Richard Harris presented a report for discussion and decision looking ahead and providing some expectations and suggestions for further planning for the end of the Partnership's Work Programme and the end of the Partnership itself.

The planned timetable and contingencies was discussed and the following recommendations within the report were agreed:

Recommendation 1: That the Steering Group and TRG schedule additional time/meetings for issues that require further discussion within the April-July period

Recommendation 2: That a 'contingency' Partnership meeting be scheduled in July

Recommendation 3: That the Partnership become inactive after Final Reporting (but still receiving updates etc.), and then be formally dissolved after the PAs take a DaP

Recommendation 4: That current support arrangements be continued, at a 'low as possible' activity rate, to cover the Bridging Period, with oversight by the Steering Group and Copeland BC continuing as accountable body.

Recommendation 5: That the Steering Group plan to continue to meet through the Bridging Period, at a much reduced frequency, in order to oversee support activity.

The issue of October 2012 being the time when the PA's will take a DaP was also discussed at length and issues for each authority voiced.

It was agreed that a more detailed time line needs to be produced for the next meeting for clarity. Also, local authorities need to see how we align with agreement in the MoU around all making decision at the same time.

Action: Richard Harris asked John Dalton if he could give some guide on DECC's position around the proposed timetable and contingencies.

Action: RB & RH will crunch down the report and will produce a list of bullet points to present to the full Partnership meeting on 21st February.

7. French CLIS visit

Following the visit to Bure in October 2011 an invitation to visit West Cumbria was extended to CLIS (Comité Local d'information et de Suivi or local information and oversight committee) the equivalent of our Site Stakeholder Group). Richard Griffin reported that they have accepted the invitation therefore agreement needs to be reached as to who will organise the visit and when should it take place?

15-20 people to visit, but it is not yet clear what they are expecting to see.

A discussion took place around all issues connected with a visit at this time and it was agreed to extend an invitation for later in the year as the Partnership in a very important stage at the moment and therefore attention needs to be focused.

Action: Richard Griffin to draft a response to the CLIS in France and make appropriate arrangements around this issue.

Concern was expressed by some Members around the NDA sending invitations to participate in events/visits/workshops etc. directly to Partnership Members. It was agreed that the NDA should be advised to send invites through the Steering Group where an informed decision can be made as to whether it is appropriate for Partnership Members to get involved thus be supported by the Partnership as a whole. The Partnership will not be supporting anyone wishing to be involved in the MoDeRn project visit to Switzerland.

8. Brand Protection

A presentation was given by Giles Calver of Sedley Place and Tom Nutt of The Communication Group, outlining the work that has been done, the findings and the key conclusions and recommendations following the Brand Protection Project work commissioned by the Partnership.

Although there are slightly differing views about the conclusions from the work, the study was supported and it was agreed that a report and presentation should go to the Partnership meeting on 21st February.

Actions

	ACTION	WHO
<i>Agenda Item 3 - Updates</i>		
3.2	RB to find out timings of Western Lake District board briefing on 15th March circulate	RB
3.9	RB to write to the NDA asking for an update on any issues/discussions that may affect the GDF inventory.	RB
<i>Agenda Item 4 - Letters in the Press</i>		
	Steve Smith to re circulate information received from Wragge & Co re Governance and predetermination	SS
	DECC/John Dalton to provide a briefing on the Localism Act and its implications for the MRWS process.	John Dalton
<i>Agenda Item 5 - Reporting</i>		
	None	
<i>Agenda Item 6 - End of Stage 3: Planning Ahead</i>		
	Richard Harris asked John Dalton if he could give some guide on DECC's position around the proposed timetable and contingencies.	JD
	RB & RH will crunch down the report and will produce a list of bullet points to present to the full Partnership meeting on 21st February.	3KQ
<i>Agenda Item 7- French CLIS visit</i>		
	RB and Officers to draft a letter of invitation for later in the year and make appropriate arrangements around this issue.	Richard Griffin
<i>Agenda Item 8 – Brand Protection</i>		
	None	