


WEST LAKES RENAISSANCE URC	
Date Established: May 2003	
Core Partners: Cumbria County Council (Accountable Body), Northwest Regional Development Agency, English Partnerships, Allerdale Borough Council, Barrow Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council	
Board members: 13	
Chair: Bob Watson	
Chief Executive Officer: Bob Pointing	
Staff Numbers: We have 30 Full Time and 4 Part Time members of staff based at offices in Barrow-in-Furness; Whitehaven and Maryport. We have successfully absorbed the West Allerdale Regeneration Team and an officer is seconded to the West Cumbria team by Copeland Borough Council to work on the Whitehaven Regeneration programme.	
Business Plan Period: 2003 – 20013/14	
URC Area (ha's): 76,930	
Population: 191,386	

Artist's impression of the Pow Beck Gardens development in Whitehaven

General Overview

The packed West Lakes Renaissance work programme has gathered pace over the past 12 months, with significant progress taking place on the ground.

West Lakes Renaissance has invested £29 million over 2007/8. The money has helped to secure a number of important milestones including the start of work on The Waterfront Barrow-in-Furness and on Energus, formerly the Nuclear Academy. In total £10.5 million has been channelled into The Waterfront Barrow-in-Furness, allowing work to start on Ramsden Business Park and for the 650-home Marina Village development to be marketed to developers.

Meanwhile the start of work on Energus represents another stride forward in the transformation of West Cumbria into Britain's Energy Coast™ – a £2 billion package of regeneration projects which West Lakes Renaissance is leading. The West Lakes Renaissance Nuclear Opportunities Team worked closely with Energus to map more than 100 companies that will help to shape the courses on offer at this vital facility. The last year has seen West Lakes Renaissance break the Britain's Energy Coast™ Masterplan into 31 projects, the majority of which will be delivered by us and others by local, regional and national partners.

Other significant projects which have been funded include a new factory for the Cumberland Pencil Company at Lillyhall Business Park; the upgrade of The Beacon tourist attraction in Whitehaven; the creation of a new community resource centre for Egremont together with significant visual improvements to the road gateways to the town; preparatory work for the Workington Transport Interchange and the former BIP factory at Maryport. The vision for Derwent Howe became clearer with West Lakes Renaissance part funding a Masterplan for the mixed industrial, retail and residential development of this key brownfield site and the iconic Ellenfoot Bridge was officially unveiled at Maryport's Elizabeth Dock.

More than £2 million worth of improvements to the Port of Workington, Maryport Marina and Harrington Harbour; while money was also channelled into bringing the Pow Beck Gardens development – the residential element of the Pow Beck Valley regeneration scheme in Whitehaven – to market. The refurbishment of The Royal Victoria Hotel in Maryport as part of the Service Sector Grant Scheme, gave the town its first three star hotel; while work came to a conclusion on The Wave (formerly Destination Maryport), which has been project managed by West Lakes Renaissance and will provide space for exhibitions and performances. West Lakes Renaissance has also taken a leading role among key partners in the campaign for a new nuclear power station in West Cumbria, a key component of the Britain's Energy Coast™ Masterplan.

It was a busy year supporting major cultural, leisure and sporting events, which ranged from the Whitehaven Maritime Festival; Maryport Blues Festival and the visit of The Black Pearl in West Cumbria to Barrow Live; Velocity; Docs @ The

Docks; the British Kite Surfing Association Championship; the British Jet Ski Championships and National Powerboat Grand Prix in Furness. We also hit the back of the net with a £5,000 grant for new goalposts on public pitches across Barrow, which meant that 66 teams threatened with the final whistle due to safety legislation, could kick off the 2007/8 season in style.

Of the total £29.4 invested; £20.9 has come from the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA); £3 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and £5.5 million through the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) under the Housing Market Renewal programme. Projects have been delivered by West Lakes Renaissance working alongside partners, such as local authorities and enterprise agencies.

- **Chief Executive's Review** 1st April 2007 to 31 March 2008

CREATIVE ENERGIES

A good proxy index of rising economic well-being in Barrow is the recruitment market for taxi drivers. In bad times recruitment is very easy; in better times, especially when the Shipyard is taking people on, it's very difficult, I'm told. BAE Systems in Barrow has a pretty healthy order book at the moment, and for this and other reasons, including our own efforts perhaps, there is a feeling of some optimism in the town. Further up the coast, in West Cumbria, the equivalent proxy is the recruitment of project managers and engineers in the nuclear sector. Such is the demand now, that we have wage inflation leading to a concern in the supply chain that we may be making ourselves less competitive. Nuclear decommissioning was supposed to mean economic decline, wasn't it? Not necessarily.

More conventional indicators such as GVA growth and youth retention also show that some things are now going right in the URC area. Manufacturing over the last year has been relatively strong across the UK. If there is to be a slowdown now, Furness and West Cumbria, with manufacturing based on defence contracts and nuclear **may** be able to buck the trend.

That's the economic scene-setting.

What has West Lakes Renaissance achieved in terms of its own remit to build a new economy for Furness and West Cumbria? Well there is an array of good projects now –not just the headline ones- which are producing tangible results and outputs. Our total investment for the year was nearly £30m, double the previous years. WLR is really making an impact now across the whole URC area.

I'll concentrate on just a few highlights.

Ramsden Business Park on the Waterfront in Barrow, which even I was beginning to believe was just an expensive way of rehousing a lot of slow-worms and lizards to keep Natural England happy, is now awash with earth movers and other heavy plant. By November 2008, we will have 7 hectares of prime business park –which is only the first phase -ready for the market. We know there is the demand to fill this very quickly. The worry now is that we want to move fast to complete the next phases of Waterfront development and put an access road in. Otherwise Barrow will run out of suitable sites again.

Even more exciting visually will be the **Marina Village** which - before the problems in the mortgage market - attracted 30 developers to Barrow. This really gave us the feel of a 'big city' URC: 650 new homes, a 450 berth marina, an overland boat lift, a watersports centre, hotels, commercial developments, the lot. The New Barrow no less.

Because we are not dealing with inflated land values and we have a known demand for new housing, the selection of a suitable developer does not seem to have been adversely affected by wider market conditions. Fingers crossed though.

In West Cumbria probably our biggest project to get underway was **Energus**, the flagship of the National Skills Academy for Nuclear, which will teach the skills required by the nuclear sector, including looking to the future, decommissioning, land remediation and new nuclear. Yes, we expect to get at least one new power station in West Cumbria and we are helping to make the case. Our URC is different from the others in that we are not only dealing with large infrastructure projects, but we are helping to create a new energy-based economy. This is real for us, has government support, and is the basis of **Energy Coast™**, a £2billion package including:

- research and skills -delivered through the University of Cumbria, UCLan, University of Manchester, National Nuclear Laboratory, Lakes College, as well as Energus – in what I like to call a *linear cluster* up the Cumbrian coast;
- a new hospital;
- a large brownfield sites programme (hopefully to be funded by EP/HCA);

- housing market renewal (ditto);
- building better schools;
- commercialisation support for companies;
- transport improvements;
- and a great deal more.

West Lakes Renaissance is leading on this programme which transcends what the URC was originally set up to do and will shape our own future over the next few months.

Such is the success of the Energy Coast™ brand, that Barrow is keen to join, bringing energy-related manufacturing, nuclear new-build capacity (BAe), gas processing, oil exploration and the UK's biggest offshore windfarm. We have the prospect of an **Energy Coast™** stretching across the full Cumbria coastline, from Morecambe Bay to the Solway Firth. Now, that is exciting.

Bob Pointing

- **Chairman's Review** 1st April 2007 to 31 March 2008

2007/2008 has been another very successful year for West Lakes Renaissance. We have delivered most of our planned projects or substituted them with other priority works.

Our final spend for the year (subject to audit) will be just short of £30m indicating the increasing scale of our intervention in the regeneration of Barrow and West Cumbria.

Elsewhere in the report is the detail of the wide range of projects which West Lakes Renaissance has commissioned or supported.

However, I must comment on the two major 'transformational' schemes:

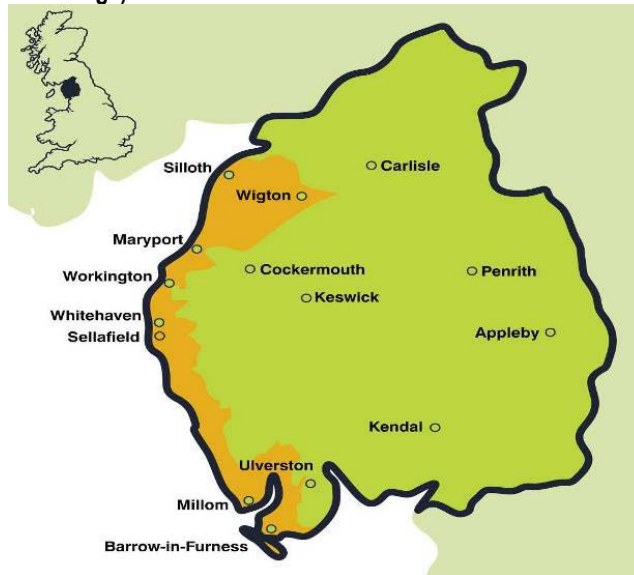
- **Britain's Energy Coast™**
The West Cumbria Spatial Masterplan – now the Britain's Energy Coast™ Masterplan – has now been translated into a set of projects which West Lakes Renaissance is coordinating with partners. Partners led by Jamie Reid MP for Copeland presented our plans to the Prime Minister last spring and we have met regularly with government ministers and officials since. The Britain's Energy Coast™ concept timing is fortuitous in that it fits perfectly with changing government thinking on renewable energy, including nuclear. It is very exciting to see the pieces of the energy coast jigsaw –including the nuclear skills academy (Energus), University of Cumbria, new acute hospital, better schools, housing market renewal, strategic transport improvements and we hope the national nuclear laboratory- coming together.
- **The Waterfront Barrow-in-Furness
(Marina Village and Ramsden Business Park)**
This scheme is now well advanced and critically land assembly is virtually complete. We must now look to attract a major developer to deliver the concept. Unlike Britain's Energy Coast™, our timing is not perfect with a downturn in both commercial and housing development forecast.

Over the year our delivery capacity has increased as we have strengthened our organisation and we are ready to step up to the next level. However, following a debate led by the Northwest Regional Development Agency and Cumbria Vision a new delivery structure is proposed for the county and the URC role in this is unclear. I hope that that we will be able to build upon what has already been achieved without programme disruption.

I would like to thank the Board, the Chief Executive and all the staff for all their efforts throughout the year and extend my thanks to our partners, particularly in the Northwest Regional Development Agency, Cumbria Vision, and County and District Councils.

Bob Watson

Area of Operation (marked in orange)



Strategic Framework Overview

West Lakes Renaissance has eight themes, two of which are core and six of which are change-supporting.

CORE THEMES

Industrial Transition

- Responding to competitive pressures in the global market
- Preparing infrastructure, sites and other opportunities for new industries and businesses
- Reshaping the economy of Furness and West Cumbria
- Reducing dependency on older industries

Nuclear Opportunities

Maximising new opportunities from nuclear decommissioning and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority locating to West Cumbria by:

- The preparation of sites
- Supply chain development and diversification
- Championing the NDA
- Coordinating promotion and networking

SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES

Culture and Creativity

Fostering, promoting and celebrating culture and creativity in Furness and West Cumbria by;

- Developing the tourism and cultural offer
- Supporting new cultural industries and festivals
- Boosting the profile of the area and its tourism appeal

Sustainable Communities and Housing Renewal

The Sustainable Communities agenda is about meeting the diverse needs of existing and future communities in ways that;

- Contribute to a high quality of life, but are sensitive to environmental requirements
- Are safe and inclusive
- Are well planned, built and run
- Offer equality of opportunity

The Housing Market Renewal mission is to produce the right homes in the right places for the future economy of Furness and West Cumbria. Aligning regeneration and housing market renewal by upgrading (or in some cases demolition) of obsolescent pockets of housing for which there is little current demand, recycling sites for higher quality housing and improving the housing environment

Coastal Renaissance

- Using the assets of the Cumbrian coast (build and natural environment) more effectively and sustainably for communities that live and work here
- Promoting the area for tourism and investment.

Connectivity

- Making better use of our ports
- Seeking improvements to the road infrastructure
- Supporting the local rail network
- Improving links by air and enhancing the DTI Broadband initiative

Enterprise Support and Networking

- Helping to develop an entrepreneurial culture
- Supporting new forms of social enterprise
- Strengthening existing business support delivered through the enterprise agencies and other local networks

Knowledge and Education

Helping to build and extend the skills base in Furness and West Cumbria, spanning the spectrum from basic employability to more advanced skills and forms of knowledge.

Our programme, whether directly or indirectly, is concentrated on projects designed to re-shape the economy of Furness and West Cumbria – particularly under our Industrial Transition and Nuclear Opportunities themes. However, so-called “transformational” projects do not by themselves build new economies. The recent history of regeneration from the first two Urban Development Corporations (Merseyside and London Dockland), through the City Challenge experience to where we are now, shows that a strategic or holistic approach offers the best opportunity to focus regeneration investment and achieve real and lasting change. Thus, our Industrial Transition and Nuclear Opportunities programmes, are supported by six inter-connecting themes, to ensure that as well as shaping the economic future of Furness and West Cumbria, we are also helping to create the environment, the right housing, the vibrant towns, the transport, the new enterprise culture, the sustainable communities and the new skills that are essential to support the future economy.

For Furness it is **The Waterfront-Barrow-in-Furness Masterplan** and the **Barrow Urban Design Framework** for the town that provide the overall vision. The new Barrow will see a complete transformation of the present environment – a buzzing and exciting waterfront economy that will attract visitors, investment, yachties, shoppers and young people. But it recognises that physical regeneration needs to be underpinned by strategies to ensure we will have the skills and the business growth to make this work. That, simply, is our regeneration strategy for Barrow. The rationale for public sector investment is that investment yields and rents are too low for the private sector to undertake schemes without some form of public sector support. As well as ‘market failure’, substantiated by our consultants in relation to the work that is underway, there are additional ‘transactional’ costs that would be incurred in Barrow, which disadvantage the area in relation to other locations.

In West Cumbria we have the **Britain’s Energy Coast™ Masterplan**, building a future and a new economy based on an energy, environment and technology business cluster. As in Barrow and Furness, this is underpinned by strategies to ensure we have the right environment, the new skills, the enterprise support, the infrastructure and the sites for the new economy. But the scale is even bigger and we are dealing with twelve district settlements.

The rationale based on ‘market failure’ would apply to West Cumbria as it applies to Barrow. However, there are specific sites, such as Westlakes Science and Technology Park, where rents have reached a level where further public sector support may be difficult to justify. This level of economic sustainability is what we would wish to achieve across the whole URC area. But we have a long way yet.

The ambition for the Britain’s Energy Coast™ Masterplan is even greater than the rationale for URC type interventions. It is about:

- future energy security and a response to climate change
- raising the productivity of the sub region to make it the best performing sub region in the UK
- promoting world-class science, research, innovation and commercialisation
- delivering the conditions for future business success

In short the Masterplan is a response to core Government goals as set out in the Comprehensive Spending Review and the pan Departmental agendas.

An unavoidable complexity of our programme is that it is delivered for a sub region and not a city region. We have dispersed towns and settlements across 85 miles of the Cumbria coastline. As well as Barrow, Whitehaven and Workington, our vision includes dealing with the areas where conditions are worst and where deprivation is most concentrated. These include the towns of Millom, Disington and Cleator Moor, for example. Some of our projects are by necessity smaller in scale than they are in other, 'big city' URCS. But they are no less effective.

Key projects		
Project Name & Description	Current Position on Previous Milestones 1st Apr 07 to 31st Mar 08	Project Milestones 1st Apr 08 to 31st Mar 09
The Waterfront Barrow in Furness		
Services and offsite infrastructure – new project (Walney Rd/ Ironworks Rd one way system)	Contract start date 15.08.07	Contract completion 30.04.08
Waterfront Business Park (Ramsden Business Park - first of 3 phases)	CPRG funding approval received, Works commenced Oct 2007. Launched private sector development opportunity in October 2007.	Works complete Nov 2008 Main business park access road to commence Oct 2008 and be complete Aug 2009.
Marina Village 650 Residential Units 350 Marina Berths Sports Facilities New marina Access	Assembly of procurement team (Planning, legal and property advisors by July 2007) Launched private sector development opportunity in Oct 2007.	Private Sector Developer to be announced July 2008.
Harbour Revision Order		Order to be made Aug/Sept 2008
Barrow New Vision		
Enterprise Fund	Project approved and underway	
Barrow Enterprise Support Strategy		
Encouraging Entrepreneurship.		Project completion: Mar 2009
POINT Business Development project		Project completion: Dec 2008
Affinity Groups project		Project completion: Dec 2008
Social Enterprise Network – The Hub		Project completion: Mar 2009
Intermediate Labour Market		Project completion: 31.07.08
The Workshop (worklessness project)		Project completion: 31.03.08
Barrow Retention Strategy		
<i>Talented Minds</i> in Furness and West Cumbria – a strategy for nurturing and attracting highly skilled people to live, work and enjoy Furness and West Cumbria		Strategy to be submitted to the WLR Board on 4 th June 2008.
Furness College Multi Skill Training Centre.	Project Open – May 2007	
CNC Machinists – apprentice training support.		Project completion: 31.08.10

BAE Apprentice support		Project completion: Dec 2008
Nuclear and Radiological Instrumentation Centre		Project completion 31.12.09
West Cumbria WLR Key projects		
Industrial transition West Cumbria		
Employment Sites - Site Infrastructure and Preparation	BIP site clearance complete in Oct 07 and phase I enhancements underway. Phase II Glasson Land acquisitions complete March 08 Leconfield works did not proceed due to state aid ruling on Space Northwest	BIP enhancements complete June 08. Derwent Howe masterplan adopted by partners June 08.
Employment Sites – Direct development	Direct Development of West Cumbria House, Moss Bay workshops completed by February 2008	Masterplanning of Bridge End to commence oct 08
Employment Sites - Gap funded schemes	Cumberland Pencil factory on site Oct 07 and complete march 08. Plateau 4b – developer withdrew March 08.	Plateau 2b developer agreement signed September 08. On site Jan 09.
Knowledge & Education		
Nuclear Skills Academy rebranded as Energus - internationally significant centre for excellence in skills for the Nuclear sector	Main construction works commence November 08	Energus providing training from Sept 08. Main centre complete and functioning in Feb 09.
UClan @ Westlakes – development of centre based on knowledge transfer	Project on hold pending ERDF.	
Coastal Renaissance – Land & Property		
Pow Beck Valley, Whitehaven Mixed use redevelopment for including sports, residential, office and retail development	Land acquisitions complete in Feb 08 and OJEU tender underway March 08	Select developer partner for phase I mixed use development August 08
Derwent Valley, Workington Mixed use redevelopment including sports, retail and informal recreation/ environmental improvements	Site investigations underway in Sept 07	Site investigations complete in may 08
Maryport Harbour	Completed harbour bridge June 07 Completed marina extension Nov 07 Core land acquisition complete March 08	Commission feasibility plan for harbour reconfiguration April 08
Whitehaven Harbour & Coastal Park	Boat yard completed Oct 07	
Derwent Howe, Workington – 400 acre ex – steelwork area. Mixed use development planned	Completed masterplan by April 2008	Derwent Howe masterplan adopted by partners in June 08
West Cumbria Townscapes - maximising value of heritage assets and contemporary streetscape and public realm enhancements	Egremont Gateway complete March 2008 Maryport Shipping Brow final designs approved December 07	Maryport Shipping Brow commence July 08 Workington Murray Road final designs approved and to tender in September 08 Works commence at Mount Pleasant and Civic Quarter Oct 08

Sustainable Communities		
<p>Housing Market Renewal Barrow & West Cumbria – addressing affordability and market failure to achieve ‘mission of the right homes in the right places for the new economy’</p>	<p>Completed phase I acquisitions in Barrow March 2008</p> <p>Completed acquisitions and demolitions in South Workington in Dec 2007</p> <p>Complete acquisitions and decants in Maryport March 2008</p> <p>Completed phase I demolitions in South Whitehaven Feb 08</p>	<p>Final redevelopment plan signed off by partners in Sept 08</p> <p>Commence phase II acquisitions September 08</p> <p>Needham Drive redevelopment complete in October 08</p> <p>Grasmere Avenue complete in June 08</p> <p>Demolitions works commence April 08.</p> <p>South Whitehaven Evolution masterplan sign off June 08</p>
Connectivity		
<p>Port of Workington – development of key commercial port servicing West Cumbria</p>	<p>Tranche 3 & 4 project work completed</p>	<p>Tranche 5 works commence in June 08</p>
<p>Good News Opportunities For The Year Ahead</p> <p><u>FURNESS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a new one way system on Walney Road/ Ironworks Road, to support the development of The Waterfront Barrow-in-Furness • Assisting Furness College with its £35 million expansion <p>The Waterfront Barrow-in-Furness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work completed on the first phase of Ramsden Business Park and work will start on the main access road the full Waterfront Business Park • A lead developer for Ramsden Business Park and Marina Village will be identified and a development agreement entered into • A bridge designer will be sought for the Buccleugh Dock Footbridge (construction to begin towards the end of 2009) <p><u>WEST CUMBRIA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of a West Cumbria Regional Park as part of the Northwest Regional Development Agency’s Regional Parks Strategy • Funding for the University of Central Lancashire to upgrade teaching and student facilities at the Westlakes Research Institute site on Westlakes Science and Technology Park. Work on site expected to start in 2008 and completed in 2009. <p>BRITAIN’S ENERGY COAST™</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high profile launch of the Britain’s Energy Coast™ Masterplan, including launch of new branding and a specially dedicated website • Expected completion of Energus (formerly The Nuclear Academy) • Publication of the Business Plan for Britain’s Energy Coast™ • Support for the Dalton Institute (Radlab), which will provide world class teaching and student facilities • Support for the Academies programme in Barrow and West Cumbria • Support for the National Nuclear Laboratory with the remit to maximise commercialisation and product developments 		

WORKINGTON

- Detailed design finalised for the Workington Transport Interchange, with work scheduled to start in 2009
- Opening of the Cumberland Pencil Factory on Lillyhall Business Park. Start of work on the expansion of the James Fisher Nuclear Ltd at Bridge End Business Park, Egremont, expected. Both are part of our West Cumbria Employment Sites programme
- Completion of infrastructure improvements to Harrington Harbour and the beginning of the process to secure a developer for a residential/ mixed use development

WHITEHAVEN

- A lead developer will be identified for Pow Beck Gardens – the residential and retail element of the Pow Beck Valley development. Detailed planning of the spine road should be approved
- Determination of the business plan for Haig Pit, part of the Whitehaven Coast Fringe arm of Whitehaven Regeneration
- Opening of a new £1.5 million Boat Repair Facility on Whitehaven's regenerated harbour area and the expected unveiling of designs for a new major hotel development in the town
- Completion of design works for the first two phases of public realm and streetscapes improvements throughout Whitehaven Town Centre

MARYPORT

- Site acquisition, remediation and demolition of the former BIP factory site in Maryport will be completed and, a new workshop development of up to 1,300 sqm on the key gateway Glasson Estate site will be underway by the end of 2008/9
- Start of the first phase of improvements to the slipway and lifeboat facility at Maryport Marina, as part of the harbour Masterplan configuration
- The roll out of the Service Sector Grant Scheme across West Cumbria after a hugely successful pilot in Maryport – which helped several hotels and B&Bs and helped produce the town's first three star hotel, the Royal Victoria Hotel

Links to Other Programmes

Housing Market Renewal is an integral part of our programme. West Lakes Renaissance has now completed the initial £14 million investment funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Regional Housing Board, which has allowed progress on projects in Barrow Central and Hindpool, South Workington and Senhouse Gateway, Maryport-Ewanrigg and South Whitehaven. The investment has been set against the following objectives;

- Increase the number of modern apartments and larger town houses within the urban cores of our main towns.
- Explore the ways in which the terraced housing can be modernised and adapted to meet 21st Century lifestyles and aspirations, and schemes which convert smaller terraces into larger family homes
- Create genuine mixed tenure sustainable neighbourhoods with a range of family homes available
- Encourage the building of homes at the very top of the housing market to meet the aspirations of our Energy Coast workforce

We are now bidding for £9 million of funding for 2008-11 with the aim of completing work in South Whitehaven, and remodelling the housing offer in Barrow Island and Workington Derwentside Renewal Area. We have also integrated Housing Market Renewal with the Sustainable Communities programme to ensure there is a joined up solution to housing, neighbourhood management and quality community facilities. West Lakes Renaissance will continue to support the enhancements to facilities and sustainable service provision at a local level in our major towns and our market towns where there is an evident economic benefit.

West Lakes Renaissance is taking the lead on delivering the West Cumbria Spatial Masterplan, which has now become the Britain's Energy Coast™ Masterplan to reflect the aspirations of this exciting project. We have broken down the Masterplan into 31 projects, the vast majority of which will be delivered by West Lakes Renaissance working alongside local, regional and national partners. The principal components of the plan will be delivered in 2009/10 and have been integrated into our current business plan. West Lakes Renaissance Chief Executive Bob Pointing sits on both the Leader's Group, which sets the Britain's Energy Coast™ agenda and the Delivery Group, which ensures that the vision for West Cumbria becomes reality.

The West Lakes Renaissance Board is responsible for the Economic Development Zone for Furness and West Cumbria which under the current programme had a total value of £12.4m and, but for recent Article 4 problems between the European Commission and Government Office for the North West, had been fully committed. We will ensure that the new

Competitiveness Programme will be delivered sub regionally, coordinating this with Northwest Regional Development Agency funded programmes.

West Lakes Renaissance has successfully absorbed the former SRB team for Maryport and Workington, and we are now looking forward at ways to continue the best work of the Market Towns Initiative for Cleator Moor, Egremont, North Allerdale and Millom.

In Barrow, the Chief Executive is a member of the Heart of Barrow Board and chairs the Barrow New Vision Group, which co-ordinates all regeneration activity in the town and – reporting to the Barrow Task Force – has prepared a programme to respond to the expansion of ship building in Barrow.

Links with economic development agency Cumbria Vision are excellent with a clear understanding of our respective roles; Cumbria Vision being the strategic body for economic development across Cumbria and West Lakes Renaissance the delivery body for Furness and West Cumbria. Our Chairman Bob Watson, alongside Board members Prof John Fyfe, Cllr Tony Markley and Ian Haythornthwaite also sit on the Cumbria Vision Board. We share a PR and Communications Manager, Luke Diccico, and West Lakes Renaissance's Nuclear Opportunities Director Rosie Mathisen also advises Cumbria Vision on energy.

Evaluation/ Succession Planning

We have annually monitored our progress and performance against the company's strategic indicators and milestone targets, developed as part of the WLR Baseline Framework study in 2004 and structured around WLR's strategic objectives and original 10 year Business Plan.

Our early baseline results three years into the programme are encouraging. The loss of young people from the area is slowing down and the gap with the rest of the northwest is closing. Similarly the employment gap is closing, although 'employment inequalities' in our poorer wards do not seem to have improved. Other evidence is less even. The number of adults with NVQ level 3 skills has increased substantially, and rises in residential values have exceeded northwest levels. Yet the level of business start ups and the income/ GDP gap have both remained fairly constant.

The annual results and subsequent partner surveys will form the basis of our mid term evaluation during 2008. This evaluation will measure and hopefully attribute the contribution that WLR, with other partners in the region, has made to the positive outcomes in Furness and West Cumbria.

Outputs

Direct Outputs	Lifetime	Achieved up to 31 st March 2008	As a % of lifetime outputs
Public Sector investment (£m)	269	£ 81,699,141	30
Private Sector investment (£m)	155	£ 12,614,998	8
Commercial Floor Space (sq m)	101,549	9,548	9
Jobs Created	3555	1,547	43
Housing Units	650	0	0
Land brought back into use (ha)	157	5	3

Note: due to the definition of "direct" outputs having changed since the 2006/7 report, WLR has now included the proportion of match funded outputs in the "achieved to date" totals.

Brokered Outputs	Lifetime	Achieved up to 31 st March 2008	As a % of lifetime outputs
Public sector investment (£m)	There are no brokered outputs to report		
Private sector investment (£m)			
Commercial floorspace (sqm)			
Jobs created			
Housing units			
Land brought back into use (ha)			

There is currently no system in place at WLR to capture and evidence EP defined "Brokered" Outputs.

Finance

Income & Expenditure for the period ended

31/03/2008

	Budget Annual £000	Budget YTD £000	Actual YTD £000	Forecast Outturn £000	
Income/Funding					
EP	0		0		
RDA	1409		1119		
Council	175		175		
ERDF	0		0		
Other	0		41		
			1335		
Expenditure					
Staff Costs	1020		828		
Offices/Premises Costs	189		173		
Traveling/Transport	29		49		
Consultants	240		133		
PR/Marketing	42		103		
Other	64		49		
	1584		1335		
					%Exp÷ Total EXP
Surplus/(Deficit)		0.0		0.0	

Average No. of Staff

29 FTE & 5 Temporary staff