

# Barrow Area Plan 2014-17



## What we have done in Barrow

### The county council has:

#### Promoted sustainable economic growth and created jobs by:

- Creating career opportunities for young people through the apprenticeship scheme to gain experience in small to medium sized businesses in the district
- Supporting BAE Systems to grow its business in the Barrow area

#### Improved Educational Achievement by:

- Improving attainment in our schools
- Providing opportunities for local people to re-skill, gain confidence and become work ready
- Supporting the local federation of schools to improve the experience of young people moving from primary to secondary school
- Supporting the Furness Youth Council and providing opportunities for young people to get involved in local democracy
- Delivering an anti-cyber bullying campaign through the Youth Council and community groups

#### Improved Health and Well-being by:

- Helping people of all ages to lead healthier lifestyles and tackling local health issues relating to smoking and obesity
- Working with partners and communities to reduce poverty
- Helping people to get out and stay out of debt
- Helping those who are in most need by investing in the development of the Furness Credit Union
- Providing support for people in their homes, through the council's re-ablement project to help people regain their independence
- Ensuring safe routes to school through a network of School Crossing Patrols

## Our focus for Barrow

- Promoting sustainable economic growth, and creating jobs
- Improving Educational Achievement
- Improving Health and Well-being and Tackling Poverty

## What we will do in Barrow 2014-17

### The council will:

- Develop Barrow Waterfront as one of the key employment sites in Cumbria
- Complete the roll out of Superfast Broadband across Barrow & District through the Connecting Cumbria Project
- Improve educational attainment
- Continue to modernise the library service
- Work with communities to shape services locally
- Work with Health to integrate assessment and hospital discharge pathways
- Help people to get out and stay out of debt
- Lobby for service and infrastructure improvements to the West Coast, Transpennine Express, and Northern rail lines

**These are just a selection of the many projects we plan to undertake in Barrow over the next few years – further information is set out later in the plan and on our website at [cumbria.gov.uk](http://cumbria.gov.uk)**

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## 1. Foreword

I am very pleased to present the 2014-17 Area Plan for Barrow-in-Furness. This plan sets out the broad range of services which the County Council is delivering in the local area, including the major programmes and investments which are taking place to enhance the area and support local people.

Barrow is about to go through significant changes over the next few years as key employers in and around the town embark on major growth programmes. BAE has indicated that it will create a further 3,500 highly- skilled jobs for 25 years and will recruit 1400 apprentices, graduates and trainees. Together with the nuclear new build, the expansion of GlaxoSmithKline, the developments with National Grid and the growth of the largest wind-farm in Europe, there will be significant opportunities for local people to have greater job security. It will also enable our young people to leave education with greater prospects of securing employment in high calibre jobs.

While exciting, these developments will require the local authorities and other agencies to work effectively together to ensure the infrastructure and public services keep in step. Putting in the right conditions to attract employers and support people into work is one way in which the council can assist families to reduce personal debt and to improve their health and well-being. Raising the aspirations of our young people and offering them first class education, both academic and vocational, puts in place one of the building blocks to attract employers and encourages our young people to remain and prosper in the town.

As local councillors we recognise that the communities are our greatest assets and by working together we can find solutions to address local issues and challenges.

This plan sets out our focus for the area, which concentrates on improvement and development, enabling all local people to enjoy healthy, happy and prosperous lives.



**Cllr Kevin Hamilton**  
**Chair of Local Committee for Barrow**



## 2. Introduction

In February 2014 Cumbria County Council agreed its Council Plan for the next 3 years. The Barrow Area Plan describes how the council's priorities will be delivered across the area – being clear about what needs to be tackled and what the County Council will be doing locally to improve the quality of life for people in Barrow. It provides a current snapshot of life in Barrow and describes how Cumbria County Council is working with its partners to deliver relevant, quality services in support of local communities.

The county council delivers and commissions a wide range of services, many of which, such as schools, libraries, care homes, children's centres and fire stations, are located in local communities. The council maintains highways, delivers support services to many vulnerable people in their homes and provides a number of support services that are issues based or specific (eg. Trading Standards, Fire and Rescue); therefore the County Council plays a critical role in local communities.

However the government is taking a big bite out of the council's budget as part of its efforts to balance the nation's books. The county council has already made savings of £88million over the last three years (2010-2013) - and another round of reductions in government grants over the next three years (2014-2017) means further savings of £88million are needed. This adds up to one in every four pounds which the council used to receive to pay for services.

To meet the scale of the challenge Cumbria County Council will undergo significant change over the coming years. By 2017, the council will look, act and feel like a different organisation.

So, faced with the twin challenges of reducing budgets and the need to maintain service delivery, work has begun to look afresh at how the County Council delivers its services locally. The council is developing the concept of "service hubs" through a Delivery Plan that is being developed over the next few months and will sit alongside the Area Plan.

The county council is proud of the way in which it ensures that wherever possible the service that you receive is as locally accountable as possible. This is why there is continuing and increasing emphasis being placed within the council on the Local Committees' delegated responsibilities particularly with regard to the following services provided by the County Council:

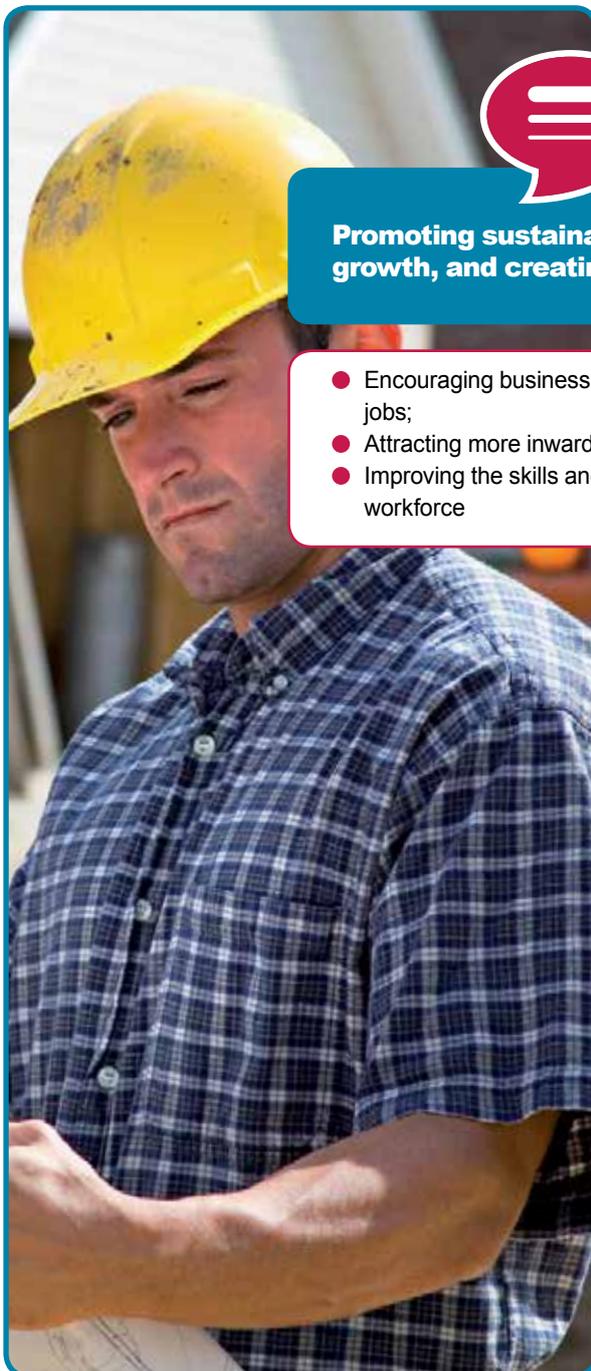
- Highway Maintenance
- Minor Highway Improvements
- Delivery of major maintenance and improvement schemes
- Provision of School Crossing Patrols
- Money Advice
- Support to 0-19 youth services
- Community grants

### All of the council's local work takes place within the framework of the County Council plan, which has 8 key priorities:

- To safeguard children, and ensure that Cumbria is a great place to be a child and grow up
- To enable communities to live safely and shape services locally
- To promote health and wellbeing, and tackle poverty
- To protect and enhance Cumbria's world class environment
- To provide safe and well maintained roads and an effective transport network
- To promote sustainable economic growth, and create jobs
- To support older and vulnerable people to live independent and healthy lives
- To be a modern and efficient council

# What we will focus on

The Local Committee has considered key local information and has agreed the following will have a focus for the County Council in Barrow within the context of the council's broader set of priorities:



## Promoting sustainable economic growth, and creating jobs

- Encouraging business growth and creating jobs;
- Attracting more inward investment;
- Improving the skills and confidence of the workforce





### Improving educational achievement

- Improving local school provision;
- Improving attainment in our schools;
- Building on the abilities of young people



### Improving health and wellbeing and tackling poverty

- Ensuring that the forthcoming changes in public health arrangements are made in a way that maintains and improves the health of local people;
- Supporting older and vulnerable people to live independent and healthy lives
- Targeting areas where life chances are lower



All of the above areas of focus cannot be tackled in isolation as they are inter-dependent and profoundly impact upon one another. Working with its partners, the county council will focus its activity to ensure it addresses its priorities and areas of focus within Barrow; assessing and tackling the attributing causes of need; as well as building on the assets already existing in local communities.

The people, businesses and agencies in Barrow-in-Furness must be ready for the huge expansion at BAE and the increased pressure it will place on existing services and infrastructure. There will be a need for more homes, more school places, access to GPs and health services, improved road and rail links etc.

The county council has over the years, established good working relationships with key employers in and around the town. This provides an opportunity to ensure that local people are able to benefit from this expansion and the development of the associated supply chain. Working with the employers, the schools, the two colleges and our partners, the council can ensure that local young people are able and ready to take up the apprenticeships as they become available.

To support this Area Plan a detailed delivery plan will be published later in the year.

## 3. About Barrow

### Barrow – The Place

Barrow-in-Furness is in the South West corner of the county. The district is dominated by the town of Barrow; the second largest settlement in Cumbria. Barrow has a distinctive urban form arising from its industrial heritage.

Barrow is an area of outstanding natural beauty and of historical interest. The island of Piel, with its castle ruin, is half a mile from the mainland and is accessed by boat. Walney Island has two nature reserves, which are of national significance and support a wide range of wildlife. Furness Abbey is over 700 years old and was once one of the richest Cistercian monasteries in England and remains of national and international interest.

At 78 km<sup>2</sup>, Barrow-in-Furness covers the smallest geographical area of any district in Cumbria. With a population of 68,400 it is also the most densely populated district in the county. The District of Barrow-in-Furness stretches east to the Parish of Lindal and Marton, north to the Parish of Askam and Ireleth and includes the market town of Dalton-in-Furness. Its most westerly point is Walney Island and to the south it stretches to the community of Rampside and Roa Island.

### Population and Demography

0-14 year olds make up 16.5% of Barrow's population; the greatest proportion in Cumbria but below the national average (17.7%).

Those aged 65 years+ make up 19.7% of Barrow's population; below the county average (21.6%) but above the national average (17%).

Barrow-in-Furness is the only district in Cumbria where the population is in decline. Over the last decade, Barrow's population fell by 4.1%; the second greatest decline out of Local Authority areas nationally. This change was driven by decreasing numbers of 0-14 year olds (-17.4%) and 15-64 year olds (-4.3%); the greatest and fifth greatest decreases nationally.

Numbers of residents aged 65+ increased by 12.1%; below the national and county averages (+14.9% and +18.9%).

The people of Barrow-in-Furness are immensely proud of the area and are keen to see it return to the strong working town it once was. There is strong community spirit across the area with volunteers actively shaping and taking forward locally identified projects in their neighbourhoods.





## Employment, income, earnings and wealth

Public services (public admin, education and health) account for the greatest proportion of employment in Barrow (26.8%), followed by the manufacturing sector (26%).

While the rate of new business registrations in Barrow is below the national and county averages, the rate of business survival is above average.

There are a significant proportion of low-income households in Barrow with more than 5,443 households receiving an income of less than £10,000. Welfare reform may have a significant impact in Barrow due to high levels of benefit claimants.

There are a number of major developments which are about to take place in and around Barrow in the near future, which will offer great opportunities for the area and its people.

BAE Systems, the main employer in Barrow, has recently won a number of major contracts and will be expanding significantly over the next five years. They estimate that approximately 3,500 extra jobs will be created and 1400 more apprenticeships graduates and trainees will be offered over the next five years. GlaxoSmithKline, another major employer is growing in Ulverston to create approximately 300 further jobs and the nuclear new build up the west coast will also provide job opportunities for local people.

## Welfare and Benefit take-up

3.5% of residents in Barrow claim job seekers allowance; the only district in Cumbria where this figure is above the national average (3.2%).

Despite falling numbers in people claiming job seekers allowance over the past year there are areas across the district where unemployment is a significant issue. Some areas of Barrow are already some of the most deprived areas in the country. Over recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of young homeless people in Barrow.

Barrow has the highest proportion of those claiming Disability Living Allowance in the county, therefore the greatest number of those who are likely to be affected by welfare reform and changes relating to this benefit.

Overall, 15.9% of the working age population of Barrow is claiming some form of out of work benefit, significantly above the 10.8% average for Cumbria. This is a significant issue for Barrow as rates are higher than any other district and are above both county and national levels.

## Arts and Culture

There is recognition in Barrow that arts and culture contributes to well-being and the development of social capital. All members of the community are supported to get involved in arts and culture and the council has supported community groups to take forward local initiatives. Barrow's schools and colleges encourage the arts through many mediums including music, art, and the performing arts.

## Skills, Education and Training

Latest attainment figures confirm that 51.1% of pupils in Barrow attained 5 or more GCSEs at grades A\*-C, including English and Maths; the lowest rate in the county and below the national average (58.6%).

Despite this, there are primary schools in Barrow which have received national recognition for their performance. In addition, looked after children in the area achieve well above the national average in schools.

Barrow also has the lowest proportion working age people educated to NVQ Level 4 or above (17.8%); below the county and national averages (30.1% and 34.2%).

## Deprivation.

Barrow is the most deprived district in Cumbria and one of the 10% most deprived districts in England. 21.8% of children in Barrow live in poverty; the greatest proportion in Cumbria and above the England average (20.1%).

Central ward in Barrow contains the most deprived area in the county; 47.5% of children live in poverty in this ward. 18.8% of Barrow's households live in fuel poverty; below the Cumbria average (21.5%) but above the England average (14.6%).

## Health and well-being

The district has a life expectancy of 77.7 years for males and 81.3 years for females; below the county and national averages.

Barrow is rated highest in the county for mortality from cancer and hospital admissions attributable to alcohol. The district is also above the national average in relation to rates of teenage pregnancy, child obesity, mortality from cardiovascular disease and alcohol-specific hospital admissions for under 18s.

One quarter of residents in Barrow have a long-term illness or disability, above the national average. Where there are high levels of long-term illness there are generally high levels of benefit claimants.

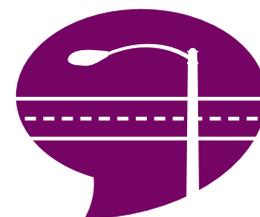
## Council assets and services

The Council has services spread across Barrow, from residential care homes, Children's Centres and Schools to Fire Stations, Libraries and much more. However, our buildings are only part of the picture – it has been estimated that we provide around 800 different services. These range from comparatively small (we run one Registry Office) to multi million pound services (our highways service maintains approximately 330km of roads and 8,200 streetlights in Barrow)

It is usual for the council to undertake individual reviews of its services and estate, to ensure we provide the best outcomes possible for local people.

However, a key aspect our work over the next three years will be to undertake a more fundamental review of the council's services and estate in the light of the changing needs of people in Barrow, having regard to our reducing budgets.

Much of the information is shown at a district wide level. However, in preparation of this plan officers and councillors considered more detailed information down to ward level and below. Those sources reinforced views that whilst some district based indices appear to show performance is close to county and national averages, within Barrow there are significant variances, with some communities suffering disadvantage in respect of several factors.



## 4. Highlights and achievements

The County Council has delivered a number of key projects in the Barrow area over the last year and it invests significant time and resources in delivering services which help meet the needs of people and businesses in the area.

### In the last Area Plan we said we would:

- Provide more support for new business and the growth of the Barrow economy
- Transform learning through improvements to schools
- Support the delivery of a new academy building in 2013/14
- Support the roll out of Superfast Broadband through the Connecting Cumbria project
- Build a new 21st century, 60 bed care home
- Support more people to live independently in their own homes
- Modernise our Library Service
- Continue to improve the area's road network



# What we delivered

## Case Study

### Provide more support for new business and the growth of the Barrow economy

Over the last 3 years Cumbria County Council, via Cumbria Social Enterprise Partnership has provided start-up support for 9 new social enterprise businesses, and is currently working with a number of new and existing enterprises.

Countywide there are over 800 social enterprises contributing 300million to the Cumbrian economy. This is a growing part of the Cumbrian and Barrow area economy, making a significant social as well as economic impact.

## Case Study

### Support the delivery of a new academy building in 2013/14

The school was built in partnership with Kier Construction Ltd with a £22 million grant, which was given to Cumbria County Council from central government as part of the council's reorganisation of secondary education in Barrow-in-Furness.

The new building, which accommodates around 1,200 pupils, is set over two and three storeys and is located on part of former Parkview School playing field.

The facility will provide an indoor sports hall, multi-use games area to the rear of the new buildings, an all weather 3G sports pitch to the north and will utilise existing sports fields.

The new Academy was completed in Autumn 2013.



**Case Study**

### Support the roll out of Superfast Broadband

The County Council entered into the Connecting Cumbria contract with BT to roll-out superfast broadband across the county. All properties in the intervention area in Barrow (34,602) will receive a 2mb/s service at least. Of these properties 33,400 will receive a service in excess of 24 mb/s by December 2015.



**Case Study**

### Modernise our Library Service

The library service keeps service provision under continual review to meet the changing expectation of individuals and communities, in addition to the impact of budgetary changes. A recent change was to end half day closing in the main Barrow Library in response to customer need.

As a council we understand that in an area there will be natural community hubs where people prefer to come together or access local services. We took the opportunity of the Barrow Island Primary School refurbishment to relocate the library within its building. Additionally, the library would compliment the Community Development Centre, also relocating with the school. This offers an opportunity to increase the opening hours and create a broader customer base.

In Askam we continue to work with the Parish Council to increase community use of the library. The Parish Council are funding a post which will allow opening on Saturdays. The Parish Council are working to increase the usage of the building by the community.

Amongst a raft of other supportive projects, the Library Service in Barrow also supports people to get over the digital divide.

Barrow Library uses ICT volunteers to help run job club, internet beginners and 'silver surfers'. The volunteers we use have experiences ranging from being unemployed, having a criminal record, having no or little basic skills, physical disability or mental health problems. Volunteering has helped them improve their confidence and increased their self-worth. Two of our volunteers have been successful in finding employment through their work at Barrow Library.

The Silver Surfer sessions not only helps people over the age of 50 get online but it is a social gathering for older people where they can meet in a safe environment. Barrow Library has run 40 sessions over a 9 month period, each session supporting 20 + people – that's a lot of silver surfers in Barrow!





 Case Study

**Support more people to live independently in their own homes**

Reablement, which continues to be implemented and extended, has been a key way in which the council has supported people to continue to live independently. Over the past 12 months (January 2013- December 2013) 526 service users have benefitted from this free service.

The roll out of the referral system (Strata) across the county enables Health and Social Care to share information securely and efficiently and promotes a real step forward towards a completely paperless system that tracks people's transition from Acute and Community Hospitals back to the community. It enables agencies to work together with shared information to produce better assessments, support and outcomes for people as they return home. Barrow is part of an initial roll out site which incorporates referrals both to and from different health teams and Adults Services.



 Case Study

**Build a new 21st century, 60 bed care home**

A new care home, providing gold standard care solutions for older people, especially those with dementia, is now being built in Barrow. It is anticipated that the home will open in 2015 and during the life of the build project this scheme will bring many other additional community benefits including the creation of apprenticeships, short-term work placements and training opportunities for local students.



 Case Study

**Continue to improve the area's road network**

In 2013/14 the county council undertook significant work to help support the ongoing maintenance and improvement of highways in Barrow. Planned maintenance works to the roads have included the A5087 Salthouse Road major resurfacing with a value of £340,000 as well as separate highway improvements to support the two major county council developments in Barrow; namely the new Furness Academy on Park Drive and the new 60 bed care home on the former site of George Basterfield House. In the last couple of years the county council has successfully completed a number of other major carriageway maintenance schemes on key routes in and around Barrow including Abbey Road, Rampside Road and Douglas Street. In addition, other improvements to the roads which have been progressed include the Abbey Road/Strand Road traffic signal improvements as well as repairs and improvements to existing sea defences at Rampside.



### Transforming learning through improvements to schools

Transforming learning through improvements to schools

Over the last three years the County Council has invested £12.8 million in upgrading two primary schools in the area; Barrow Island Primary School and St Georges Primary School and has built a brand new school at Vickerstown, Walney.

#### Barrow Island Community Primary School

The project at Barrow Island has had a significant impact not just on the school but the whole community. The project was a major refurbishment rather than a new build with the old building being fully restored, with a completely new roof, and new bright internal spaces, which will provide an inspiring environment for the pupils and teachers while being adaptable to meet the future teaching needs of Barrow Island's children.

The school is at the heart of the community and includes other services such as the Community Development Centre and a public Library.

#### St George's C of E Primary and Nursery School

St George's C of E Primary and Nursery School in Barrow celebrated its reopening following the completion of the £3 million refurbishment funded by Cumbria County Council.

The works have seen four separate buildings combined into one. The only parts of the original building that remain are the listed buildings which are more than 160 years old, the infant school and their sports and arts building. The new construction cleverly joins all of the buildings together.

#### Vickerstown Primary School

Cumbria County Council earmarked the £6.5m for the new school through the Primary Capital Programme. Pupils and staff moved into the school after leaving their old building in Latona Street. This new school now provides an excellent learning environment for a new generation and will go on to serve the community for many years to come.



## Further examples of local service delivery and projects include:

### Case Study

#### Promoting cultural tourism in Barrow

The archive collections can focus attention on Barrow from around the world. In November 2013, a Chinese film crew visited Barrow Archives to retrace the steps of diplomat, Li Hung Chang who visited the town in 1896. The diplomat's visit was in part a fact finding mission to witness the latest developments in Western industry and enterprise. It included an inspection of Barrow Hematite Steel Company and The Naval Construction and Armaments Company, later known as Vickers. The records of both of these companies are held at Barrow Archives.



### Case Study

#### Barrow Youth Council

The first directly elected Youth Council in Cumbria was established in Barrow. Working with Local Committee, County Council officers and Youth Service providers, a group of young people planned the delivery of a Youth Council and oversaw the election of representatives from across the Borough to a Youth Council. Members of the Council now regularly meet with Councillors in the Children and Young People's Working Group and have a voice in developing policies and services for the area.





### Enabling communities to shape services locally

The Area Support Team has built up a successful on-going dialogue with parents of children with disabilities. It was identified that children with disabilities would like to participate in dance sessions outside of school.

The team helped Barrow Sports Council to obtain funding for some taster dance sessions. At the sessions, the team consulted the parents to find out what worked and what changes could be made. The sessions proved very successful for most children with disabilities but they also identified the need for sessions with more complex disabilities and autism. The team identified local partners to deliver a specialist project that would meet the needs of these children.

Barrow Local Committee Neighbourhood Grants Panel awarded Octopus Collective £1,000 to undertake a research project called Co-Mmotion. This was developed by Autism specialists and community artists with a commitment to Special Needs education.

Co-Mmotion was delivered to children from local schools with their parents present. The project used sound, movement and audio-visual projection to significantly increase and enhance the levels of engagement.

This proved to be so successful that Octopus and the local Autistic Society are planning a major year round project. The Arts Council has expressed interest in the project and a bid of £20k has recently been submitted. To support this application, Barrow Local Committee Neighbourhood Grants Panel awarded £5,000 from their 0-19s fund.

Overall the Barrow Local Committee Neighbourhood Grants Panel has awarded £30k to 14 groups whose projects benefit the 0-19 age range. The Panel has awarded £35k to 17 local non-profit making groups. These grants have drawn down £80,000 of matched funding, demonstrating that a little bit of help goes a very long way.



### Sport in Barrow

The Local Committee continues to support the work of Barrow Sports Council by providing officer support and funds for grants and a free holiday sports programme. The Council's support has been critical whilst partner agencies have been cutting back dramatically on non-statutory services such as sport. In contrast to many other health measures, Barrow continues to have above average levels of physical activity.

Barrow Sports Council also runs a very successful programme of activities for children with a disability funded mainly by Children's Services. The programme includes many free activities in school holidays and subsidised activities in term time. Activities are agreed with parents and carers who meet at least once every half term.



### Food Digester Project

People living in Barrow are able to reduce their household's carbon footprint and buy a food waste digester for a fraction of their recommended retail costs through a successful bid to the Department for Communities and Local Government's Weekly Collections Support Scheme. The bid was put forward by Cumbria County Council on behalf of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership (CSWP) which comprises Cumbria County Council, Barrow Borough Council and the 5 other Cumbrian local authorities. Barrow has been selected to take part in the project along with Allerdale and Eden as all three districts still operate a weekly household waste collection.

After a robust procurement process it was established that the most cost effective food waste digester solution for Cumbria comprised 2 units – the Green Johannas and Green Cones – giving householders a choice as to which is the right unit for them.

The units will mean a large proportion of food waste is treated within the home which will offer savings in waste treatment costs – up to £43k per annum across the three districts involved in the project. And with each unit having a useful life of 10 years, we could see savings for many years to come.



**Case Study**

**Underage Sales of Age restricted products**

Trading Standards Officers have been working closely with the Police in combatting anti-social behaviour by undertaking a series of underage sales test purchasing exercises of age restricted products such as alcohol, knives and fireworks. Of those businesses who sold to a minor, depending on the severity, they have either been issued with Fixed Penalty Notices or are undergoing intensive training offered by Trading Standards and further test purchasing has resulted in a significant reduction of sales of age restricted products in the Barrow Area.

**Case Study**

**Advice for Communities**

Trading Standards have provided a drop in advice surgery for Barrow and the surrounding areas. Consumers have received advice on issues ranging from the sales of goods, services, problems experienced with obtaining refunds or to report illegal trading activity. Local businesses also used the surgeries to seek advice on compliance with consumer legislation and other regulatory matters.



## 5. Developing and delivering our services

### Our overall focus in Barrow for 2014-17

- Promoting sustainable economic growth, and creating jobs
- Improving educational achievement
- Improving Health and Well-being and tackling poverty

### Existing plans for delivery

Over the next three years the County Council will invest resources in its priorities and aspirations for the Barrow area through the provision of targeted services and transformational projects. As mentioned earlier this will have to be done in the context of reducing budgets and the need to save a further £88million in 2014-2017. Details of some of the key projects are provided below (with more details to be set out in the Area Delivery Plan later this year):

### To safeguard children, and ensure that Barrow is a great place to be a child and grow up we will:

- Work with children and their families to support their development and meet their needs
- Increase the recruitment of foster carers and adopters in Barrow
- Support the Children in Care Council to have greater impact on services for Children Looked After in Barrow
- Enhance accommodation options for care leavers in Barrow
- Focus on early intervention and develop the role of Children's Centre's and Youth Services in delivering early help
- Support the Furness Youth Council and continue to develop closer links with Local Committee for Barrow
- Challenge young people's risk taking behaviours that effect their health and wellbeing, including obesity, alcohol, safe sex and road awareness
- Improve the attainment of our young people in Barrow through the work of our School Improvement Team, the Cumbrian Alliance of System Leaders, schools and other providers
- Support schools to improve where necessary as identified by Ofsted
- Ensure there will be sufficient school places to address the effects of future growth in the Barrow area
- Maximise capital investment opportunities for our schools, focusing on those in greatest need.
- Implement the Local Transport Plan Strategy priorities including: Supporting initiatives and measures to enable children to walk and cycle to school and to improve safety around schools and in residential areas





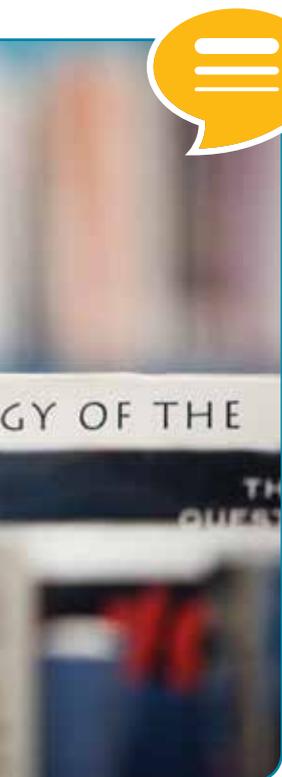
**To enable communities to live safely and shape services locally we will:**

- Deliver preventative activity to reduce the risk to the people of Barrow of fire, road traffic collision, accidents in the home and other potentially life threatening situations
- Implement the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership Plan to reduce road casualties including child pedestrians and cyclists
- Establishing service hubs in Barrow and Dalton to allow local people access to libraries, Community Development Centres, Children's Centres, Schools, care etc
- Support community groups to deliver local community projects through grant investment
- Work with community groups to enable the transfer of council assets to the communities
- Engage with communities on issues that matter to them and seek local solutions
- Deliver a modern Library Service that is accessible to all; encouraging reading, providing books, supporting learning across all ages, brokering access to a wide range of types of information, acting as a community space, linking to other public and community services, and supporting digital participation
- Engage with communities on community based passenger transport initiatives
- Implement the Local Transport Plan including traffic management measures working with communities
- Develop local Emergency Plans and work with partners to be prepared for major events

**To promote health and wellbeing, and tackle poverty we will:**

- Work with the credit union in the area to provide affordable loans and encourage saving
- Provide access for people to a money advice service in the area and undertake preventative work to help people avoid getting into debt
- Provide people with access to an advocacy service in each area, with local drop ins taking place to offer advice and support
- Be an active partner on the Barrow Health & Wellbeing Forum, coordinating projects to address key health issues in the area
- Invest in Community Development Centres in Ormsgill, Barrow Island, Walney and Abbotsmead to support activity focusing on employability; supporting people on low incomes; raising educational attainment; and healthy lifestyles
- Fund a range of cultural events and activities in Barrow
- Develop educational and outreach activities for the archive service, including partnerships, to maximise opportunities for young people, adults and communities to engage with local heritage
- Support local people to get involved in arts and culture, working with local artists and groups





#### To protect and enhance Barrow's world class environment we will:

- Engage with communities affected by local floods and provide analysis and solutions to local flooding issues by working with the local flood action and making space for water groups.
- Support communities to be resilient to unforeseen events like flooding and develop their capacity to respond
- Provide support to communities to develop local solutions that utilise resources more efficiently and effectively in their communities
- Implement the Local Transport Plan Strategy to increase the proportion of trips by sustainable travel modes, reduce the need to travel through the planning process and developers accordingly,
- Minimise the negative visual impact of highway infrastructure
- Provide appropriate disposal outlets for Barrow Borough Council kerbside residual waste collections through a Mechanical Biological Treatment facility at Sowerby Woods Industrial Estate, landfill at Bennett Bank and a transfer station at Walney Road
- Provide a Household Waste Recycling Centre in Barrow for householders to deposit and recycle their household waste, in accordance with statutory requirements
- Work collaboratively with local partners on operational and strategic development of waste management infrastructure across the County and within Barrow
- Work with local partners and communities, deliver and support waste prevention measures including the provision of education and information
- Work with Barrow Borough Council as Local Planning Authority to deliver the Local Plan process to promote and achieve a sustainable environment for the district



#### To provide safe and well maintained roads and an effective transport network we will:

- Maintain the existing highway roads and paths (including winter service) to ensure that people and goods can move around safely by different forms of transport.
- Develop, promote and implement the approaches and measures set out in the Local Transport Plan, including:-
  - Maintain the existing highway infrastructure
  - Work with partners to develop rail services and passenger facilities
  - Support communities to improve accessibility to services for people without access to a car
  - Maximise opportunities for investment in new H&T infrastructure and service through development and grant funding.
- Improve accessibility for people with impaired mobility
- Develop sustainable community transport solutions through work with communities and the Third Sector
- Work to ensure we retain and improve local rail services, infrastructure and connectivity through active engagement in the national refranchising and investment programmes

**To promote sustainable economic growth, and create jobs we will:**

- Secure superfast Broadband roll out across Barrow
- Support local businesses across Barrow through the Rural Business Hubs
- Develop identified employment sites that have capacity, including Barrow Waterfront which has £1m allocated to it from Community Infrastructure Fund
- Deliver the Council's apprenticeship scheme to support small and medium sized businesses and other opportunities.
- Implement the Local Transport Plan to identify necessary infrastructure required to support development and economic growth and maximise investment through government grant and developer contributions
- Deliver the spatial plan for the Barrow area: Housing, employment & retail development
- Focus on the identified Local Enterprise Partnership Priorities to develop infrastructure that enables development in the Barrow area, particularly growth in advanced manufacturing
- Utilise our land and property assets to facilitate and stimulate economic development

**To support older and vulnerable people to live independent and healthy lives we will:**

- Build a state of the art care home in Barrow
- Increase the availability of Extra Care Sheltered Housing
- Prevent people from losing their independence by working more closely with local communities and facilitating prevention services
- Maximise people's abilities, independence and safety through reablement and rehabilitative services, preventing the loss of independence and local links
- Support people in their own homes for as long as possible before considering a change in accommodation
- Integrate assessment and hospital discharge pathways, ensuring appropriate and safe access to community services over seven days
- Improve care co-ordination for those with long term conditions through work with primary care communities and GPs
- Support carers in their role, assisting them to continue providing care where they are able, and increase the numbers of informal carers accessing support and advice from partner organisations

- Jointly plan, commission and review services with Health colleagues to support the wider health economy
- Ensure a robust and personalised approach to keeping people free from harm and abuse working to the Pan Cumbria and Lancashire safeguarding protocols

**To be a modern and efficient council we will:**

- Implement Better Places for Work in Barrow to ensure staff can work flexibly and utilise technology to support their work.
- Rationalise the County Council's office portfolio to two office locations (Nan Tait Centre and Craven House) to enable staff to work together effectively and to reduce property maintenance and running costs
- Review council service needs within the area to inform the rationalisation of buildings across Barrow, invest in the buildings we retain, including residential care homes, schools and libraries, and dispose of those that do not support service delivery
- Dispose of surplus property assets following delivery of new accommodation, eg the former Parkview, Thorncliffe and Alfred Barrow Schools and so facilitate new investment in Health Service accommodation, housing and business development.
- Recognise communities and individuals as our greatest assets and work with them to improve services
- We will work with Barrow Borough Council to maximise efficiencies in the area
- Develop new ways of commissioning and procuring services which promotes the local supply chains and the Voluntary Sector
- Modernise the Archive Service to target our resources where they are needed most, and build in future sustainability.
- Ensure that the county's digital archives are preserved
- Develop electronic, online services to deliver 24/7 archive services for the public
- Ensure that the impact of new housing developments are fully assessed, ensuring that essential infrastructure to support such developments, such as schools/school extensions, highways infrastructure and so on, are secured and delivered.

## Reshaping local services through the development of service hubs

The council delivers a wide range of services in Barrow, some of which are focused on particular individuals or groups of people who live in the area (for example children in the care of the local authority and older adults living in care homes) and some of which are available to a much broader range of people (for example library and archive services, road maintenance and adult education).

The council wants to deliver these services in the most effective and efficient way possible. This means understanding where and how local people prefer to access local services. This may also include recognising where people do their shopping, banking, where they work and access leisure facilities. By understanding this, the council can shape its services to ensure they are in the most appropriate places and can reach the largest number of people. Some people prefer to access services in person whereas others are comfortable to use other means, such as telephone and the internet. This of course will depend on the nature of the particular service and the requirements of the individual.

However, the complexity of modern life means that people travel, work and engage with each other in a range of ways that don't necessarily reflect historical government boundaries. As this work develops the council will endeavour to reflect this complexity in its planning and service delivery, although we recognise that our aspirations will have to be realistic in the face of the financial challenges that we face.

The county council does not deliver its services in isolation and prefers to work in partnership. There is strong recognition that delivering services will be done in the context of understanding other local services. Work will be done to map what other organisations and public bodies deliver so that the county council can work closely with these partners to align delivery and support for the benefit of the communities of Barrow.

The council has begun to explore in greater detail where local people in Barrow and the wider area access services and the changing requirements.

The model of "service hubs" for Barrow will recognise the importance of the main urban centre of Barrow town and also the market town of Dalton-in-Furness. The outlying rural areas of the district (for example Lindal & Marton and Askam & Ireleth) will feed into these two key service hubs. Many people see these towns as not merely residential and business centres but also natural hubs for community activity. Barrow Local Committee is particularly keen to explore opportunities for services to be delivered through one stop shops where appropriate.



### How can you get involved?

Working together with local residents will be key to help us reshape our services in Barrow especially given the scale of the challenges that Cumbria County Council is facing with £88 million to save over the next three years. Therefore we would encourage you to get involved and have your say on this plan and on the areas of focus that we talk about within it. To have your say you can either go online to [cumbria.gov.uk](http://cumbria.gov.uk), contact your local councillor as listed at the back of this document or through the area office on 01229 407312. Access to a computer is available in your local library.



## 6. Monitoring the plan

The development and monitoring of Area Plans are integral to the broader approach to Area Planning. A key component to supporting the monitoring process will be the development of the Delivery Plans, which will identify key local projects that will be monitored and reported under the Council's performance framework and Service Plan delivery.

Through the Local Committees we will produce Achievement reports mid-year and end of year that will identify key progress against the priorities in the Area Plan and the projects in the Delivery Plans.



## 7. Key Area Contacts

### Councillors for Barrow

Electoral Division	Councillor	Contact Details
Dalton North	Barry Doughty	Barry.doughty@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 466909
Dalton South	Ernie Wilson	Ernie.wilson@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 831517
Hawcoat	David Roberts	David.roberts@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 811994
Hindpool	Anne Burns	Anne.burns@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 471824
Newbarns & Parkside	Jane Murphy	Jane.murphy@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 07817694781
Old Barrow	John Murphy	John.murphy@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 473746
Ormsgill	William McEwan (Vice Chair)	William.mcewan@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 811421
Risedale	Kevin Hamilton (Chair)	Kevin.hamilton@cumbria.gov.uk 0754 3790997
Roosecote	Helen Wall	Helen.wall@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 829825
Walney North	Mel Worth	Mel.worth@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 07779 247957
Walney South	Mandy Telford	Mandy.telford@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 01229 438101

If you require this document in another format (eg CD, audio cassette, Braille or large type) or in another language, please telephone 01228 606060.

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如果您希望通过母语了解此信息，  
请致电 01228 606060

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skambinkite telefonu 01228 606060**

**W celu uzyskania informacji w Państwa języku proszę  
zatelefonować pod numer 01228 606060**

**Se quiser aceder a esta informação na sua língua,  
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