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TRUDY HARRISON MP

Member of Parliament for Copeland



News

Broadband boost for Cumbria

We're connecting
60,000

*homes and businesses
across*

Cumbria

*to fast, reliable broadband
through a*

£108 million
contract

PROJECT GIGABIT

It's excellent news that around 60,000 rural premises in Cumbria are to benefit from lightning-fast broadband following a [£108 million government contract award](#).

This Project Gigabit investment will benefit hard-to-reach homes and businesses, and beyond delivering gigabit-capability, it is a huge boost for jobs and skills in Cumbria.

Fibrus – the firm awarded the contract – has committed to creating at least 90 apprenticeships following the government investment.

Deployment of the new infrastructure in our county has already started, and implementation will run until 2025 with the first connections anticipated in Spring 2023.

This is an important step in future-proofing Copeland's connectivity needs for future generations and creating opportunities, levelling up local communities.

SMR progress for Copeland

It was extremely exciting this month to host the launch of the new development company that will bring small modular reactors (SMRs) to Copeland.

The [Solway Community Power Company](#) – chaired by Paul Foster – has been formed with one mission; to bring Rolls-Royce SMRs to land adjacent to Sellafield. Two 470MW reactors are planned, and there is potential for more.

The company – based in Copeland – has been created as a direct request from myself and the local community to drive this project forward. We have the site, skills and supply chain – and the need for new, clean and reliable nuclear power is urgent. All the pieces of the jigsaw are there, and now we have the vehicle to pull them all together and make it happen.

This is a significant milestone for Copeland and I have absolute confidence – shared by the development company and Rolls-Royce SMR – that our SMR ambitions will be achieved and be on the bars by 2030.

Town Deal investment confirmed





It is truly fantastic news that both [Cleator Moor](#) and [Millom](#) have had their full Town Deal funding confirmed, which will bring a staggering £70.2m into our communities.

The announcement from the Government of £22.5m and £20.6m for Cleator Moor and Millom respectively – in addition to the £27.1m match-funding pledged – will be transformational for Copeland.

Eight exciting projects across both towns will now become a reality, bringing about significant benefits in employment, regeneration, highways, health, leisure and tourism – both now and for generations to come.

Milestone achievement for Wild Ennerdale

I am delighted that Natural England has declared [Wild Ennerdale as a National Nature Reserve](#), protecting over 3,000 hectares of beautiful landscape of water, forests and mountains.

Together we're helping to combat biodiversity loss and reconnecting people with the natural world.

Click [here](#) for the stunning Wild Ennerdale video package.

Funding secured for arts organisations

It's wonderful news that two arts and cultural organisations in the Copeland constituency will receive a share of [£446m Government funding](#) each year for the next three years.

Cumbria Theatre Trust, which operates Keswick Theatre by the Lake, will receive £615,182 per year and Rosehill Theatre will receive £208,523 per year – bringing the funding for Copeland to £823,705 per year and almost £2.5 million in total.

The funding has been delivered by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and Arts Council England.

Get-togethers for farming community

I'm pleased to invite members of Copeland's farming community to one of four upcoming get-togethers:

- Friday, January 27 in Lamplugh
- Friday, February 10 in Bootle
- Friday, February 24 in Keswick
- Date TBC in Gosforth

All run from 7.30pm to 10pm. Please [get in touch](#) to confirm your attendance and I look forward to welcoming everyone to share information and ideas.

Grant funding available

Cumbria Coastal Community Forest

A FOREST FOR THE COMMUNITY

Cumbria's Coastal Community Forest is an ambitious and exciting new initiative that will see thousands of new trees planted down the western coast of Cumbria and help bring people closer to nature.

THE CUMBRIA COASTAL COMMUNITY FOREST CAN PROVIDE:

- Grant funding to cover the costs of woodland creation
- Woodland creation, design, planning and planting advice from a professional woodland team
- Support for fences, gates, pathways, benches and more
- A funded ongoing maintenance plan to ensure success

England's
Community
Forests



Cumbria Coastal Community Forest

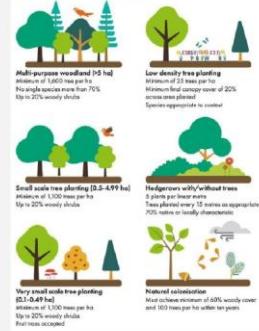
What are England's Community Forests?
For 90 years, England's Community Forests have been creating green infrastructure projects to deliver social, economic and environmental benefits for millions of people.

What is Trees for Climate?
Trees for Climate is a woodland creation fund focusing on the Community Forest areas. It is part of Defra's Nature for Climate scheme which is a national initiative for natural solutions to climate change.

What does Trees for Climate offer?
The grant is highly bespoke and designed to support a variety of planting schemes. The funding is available to those with land falling inside the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest area.

How much is the grant?
The grant will cover all agreed costs associated with woodland creation, as well as provide ongoing funding to support the maintenance of the trees. In certain situations, funding can also support the installation of woodland infrastructure and the creation of associated woodland habitats.

Woodland examples we can support



More Information
www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/CCCF



More Information
www.cumbriawoodlands.co.uk



Grant funding is available from [Cumbria County Council](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk) for tree-planting schemes which can range in size and include different types of planting – from single trees or hedgerows to large-scale woodland.

There is also funding available to support communities in accessing these green spaces, including footpaths, benches and interpretation boards.

The grants are available as part of the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest project, aimed to introduce more trees into the landscape along the western coast of Cumbria.

- The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) has [pledged £200,000 to the project](#), providing a lasting legacy to the people of Cumbria, its wildlife and the environment.

Get ready for winter...

Cumbria County Council has launched its [annual campaign](#), offering advice and support for the coming months.

Festive flair



I'm pleased to announce Stephen Leece as the winner of my Christmas card photo competition, and I'll proudly be sharing this striking image of Trough House Bridge, Eskdale, on the cover of my cards this year.

Thanks to Stephen, runners-up Chris Himsworth, Thomas Shaw, Ben Hobson, and everyone who entered.

And I'd like to wish all readers a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

In the community



It's been a pleasure to take part in a number of visits and meetings over the past month.

This has included an online session with Whitehaven Rainbows, as part of UK Parliament Week (*pictured top*), a visit to the [Above Derwent Community Land Trust's](#) first development, Pow Wood in Portinscale (*pictured bottom left*), and a tour of [Blomfields Ltd in Lowca](#) (*pictured bottom right*).

Grants and support

My website has a page dedicated to the various streams of [grants and support](#) that are available within the Copeland constituency.

Newsletters

I also offer a newsletter covering the nuclear sector that contain a wealth of news and information from myself and the industry.

Please view all editions of the newsletter at my [website](#), and I hope you find it interesting. To receive it directly, please email me on trudy.harrison.mp@parliament.uk



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