

# Copeland Borough Council

# PRESS RELEASE

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## PLEASANT IMPROVEMENTS MOUNT UP IN WHITEHAVEN

*Photo-call: TODAY at 3:45pm at Mt Pleasant (top of Mt Pleasant steps at the portakabin adjacent to Duke Pit fan house)*

A MAJOR programme to enhance part of Whitehaven town centre has now begun.

Work on the Mount Pleasant improvement scheme next to Whitehaven Harbour started on Monday 1 March, will be completed during June, and is set to transform this part of town.

The improvements will include spaces for outdoor arts activities, new lighting, signs for pedestrians and cyclists and a new planting scheme.

Councillor Cath Giel, portfolio holder for development at Copeland said, “I am pleased that work on the scheme has started to take place. Mount Pleasant is a prominent area of Whitehaven town centre, and an important link between the Whitehaven Coast and the town centre.

The project, which has largely been funded thanks to external investment, also shows the commitment our external bodies and our partners to Whitehaven and its future development. Indeed, the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme, and associated plans for regeneration investment in the area will have a major positive impact on Copeland.”

The investment is part of the Whitehaven Regeneration Programme to drive forward the regeneration of the area. The project is being supported financially by Copeland Borough Council, Britain’s Energy Coast West Cumbria, Nuclear Management Partners (on behalf of the Nuclear Funding Partners) and West Cumbria Development Fund

Brian Wilson, Chair of Britain's Energy Coast West Cumbria said, "Once completed Mount Pleasant will be a superb public space for people to enjoy, set against the backdrop of a stunning sea view. It has been a strong partnership effort to get this far and it will be finished just as the tourism season begins to take off. Britain's Energy Coast™ is much more than just energy and businesses; it is about making this area an energetic and thriving place to live, relax and visit as well as work."

Mount Pleasant links the historic town and harbour with the "Whitehaven Coast" area, which has received £1.6m of investment in the public areas at Haig and Saltom Pit.

Gary McKeating, Head of Socio Economics at NMP, said: "Along with our Funding Partners, NDA and Sellafield Ltd, we are delighted to be supporting this very worthwhile project. It is great to see an area like this being transformed into an excellent open space and a superb vantage point from which to admire Whitehaven and its beautiful coastline. We also very much support the use of local contractors on this project."

The physical improvements will cost £500,000 and local contractors Stobbarts have been appointed to carry out the works. A team led by Gillespies were commissioned to design the scheme.

***Ends***



### **Notes for Editors**

- The project has been funded by:
  - Nuclear Management Partners (*on behalf of the nuclear funding partners of Sellafield, Nuclear Management Partners and the Nuclear Decommissioning*

*Authority*) (£25,000)

- Copeland Borough Council (£10,000)
- West Cumbria Development Fund (£60,000)
- Britain's Energy Coast West Cumbria (£412,920)
- For media enquires, please contact Ian Curwen on 01946 598504 or Leila Cox on 01946 598315.
- Copeland Borough Council – leading the transformation of West Cumbria to a prosperous future.
- Copeland – the best place to live in Cumbria (Readers Digest survey, 2006), with the best view in England at Wasdale. (ITV, 2007).
- **Britain's Energy Coast West Cumbria**  
Britain's Energy Coast™ West Cumbria is the new single decision-making body for all regeneration activity across the boroughs of Copeland and Allerdale. Its primary role is to deliver Britain's Energy Coast™ projects in West Cumbria.  
[www.westlakesrenaissance.co.uk](http://www.westlakesrenaissance.co.uk)
- **About Britain's Energy Coast™**  
Britain's Energy Coast™ initiative aims to establish the boroughs of Copeland, Allerdale and Furness as major generators of low carbon and renewable energy, helping to transform the local economy while at the same time supporting Britain's response to the pressing challenges of climate change and energy security. The initiative includes not only the construction of a least one new nuclear power station but also improvements in grid transmission, infrastructure, education, hospitals, skills and R&D and enterprise as well as the development of other renewable and low carbon energy sources. Together these developments will transform the West Cumbrian economy whilst providing clean sustainable energy for the UK.  
[www.britainsenergycoast.com](http://www.britainsenergycoast.com)