

South Copeland GDF Community Partnership



Recruitment Pack



**South Copeland
GDF Community Partnership**

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Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in joining the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership.

The Community Partnership is a group made up of members including the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) developer, the local authority and community members. Its role includes taking forward discussions in South Copeland (including the electoral wards of Millom and Black Combe & Scafell), and ensuring that the community has the relevant information they need when considering the possibility of hosting a GDF. These discussions will take place over a number of years.

We are currently seeking new Community Partnership members (aged 18 or over) to join us from the following sectors and groups:

- Agriculture
- Business
- Landscape & Environment
- Tourism
- Seldom heard
- Youth

It is important that the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership is reflective of the community within the proposed Search Area. This is important as the Community Partnership will develop a 'Programme of Activities' which responds to, and addresses, local questions raised from all sections of the community across the Search Area.

As well as recruiting members of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership, we will be developing other opportunities for members of the community to become involved through subgroups and stakeholder forums. Our thinking on this is still in its early stages, and we hope to be able to provide further details in due course.



I look forward to receiving your application. In the meantime, if you have any questions, information can be found on our website www.southcopeland.workinginpartnership.org.uk or by getting in touch with the contact centre – the contact details are at the end of this recruitment pack.

Yours faithfully
Ged McGrath
Chair, South Copeland GDF Community Partnership

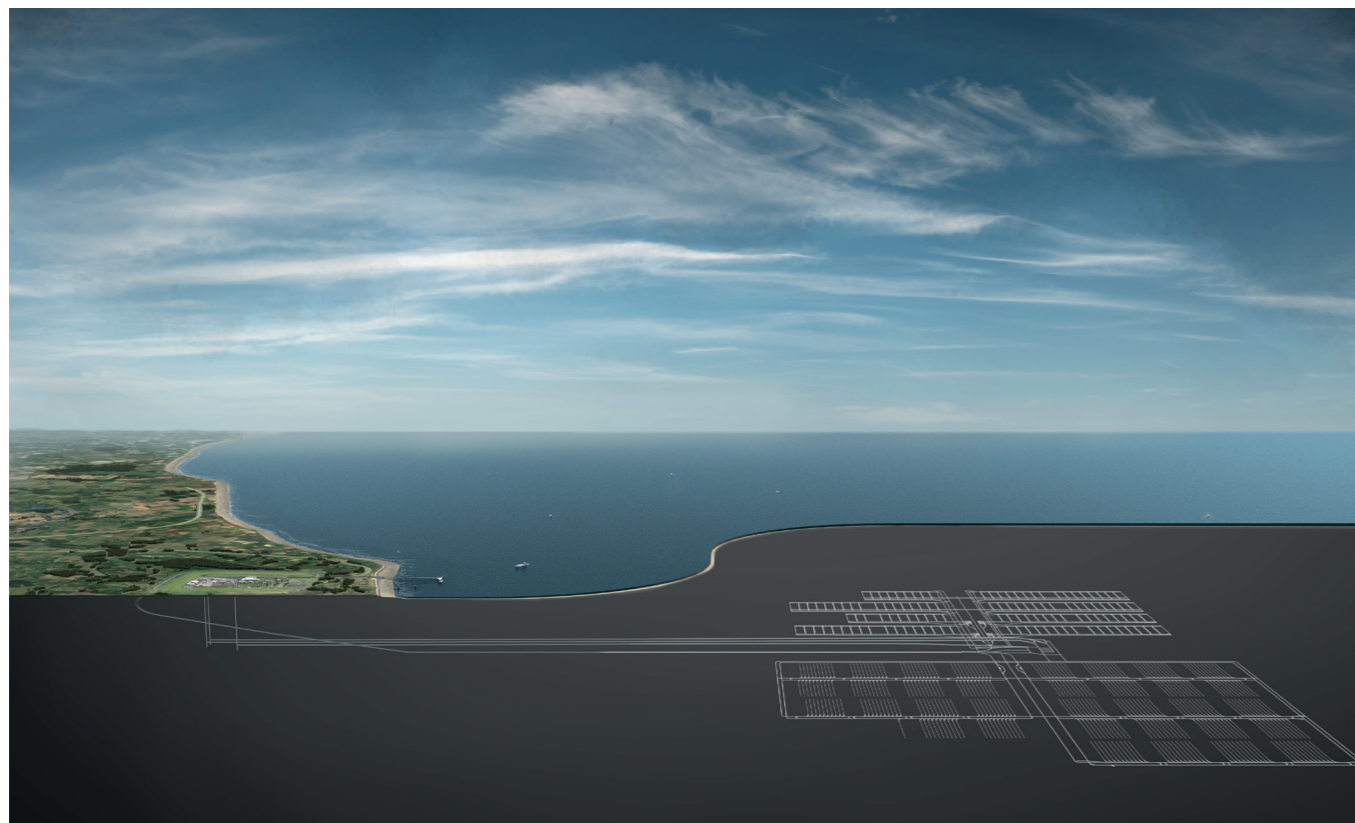
What is a Geological Disposal Facility?

A Geological Disposal Facility, or GDF, is an underground facility designed to safely and securely dispose of higher activity radioactive waste. It involves building a series of specially designed and engineered vaults and tunnels deep underground at a depth of between 200 and 1000 metres. It could potentially be as deep as England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike, is high. Once the waste is placed inside a GDF, the facility is sealed. By combining waste packaging, engineered barriers and the natural barrier of appropriate geology, a GDF designed to keep protecting people and the environment for hundreds of thousands of years, while the radioactivity fades away naturally.

What area is being considered for a GDF in Copeland?

The South Copeland Search Area includes the electoral wards of Millom and Black Combe & Scafell. The Search Areas identified (not including those areas that fall in the Lake District National Park and the proposed extension) plus up to 22km beyond the coast is the area within which NWS will seek to identify potentially suitable sites to host a GDF.

Illustrative graphic of the Geological Disposal Facility



South Copeland Search Area Millom & Black Combe and Scafell



Illustrative map of one of two search areas identified by the Copeland GDF Working Group

- Onshore area for consideration
- Excluded from consideration, retains funding
- Inshore area for consideration
- Inshore area boundary
- Electoral ward boundary

How have the views of local people been taken into consideration?

The Copeland GDF Working Group, which preceded the creation of the Community Partnership, had hundreds of conversations with local people. Those wide-ranging views were considered by the Working Group and fed into this very early part of the process. Now that the Community Partnership has been established, there will be further opportunities to continue those conversations.

Unlike other big infrastructure projects, the process of choosing a site for a GDF requires the explicit consent of a willing community. If a suitable site is found in Copeland – a decision which could take 10-15 years – a Test of Public Support to give people a direct say would be held with those living in the wards affected. Without public support the project would not go ahead.

What is the difference between Working Group and Community Partnership?

A Community Partnership is a larger, more enduring group which has taken over from the Working Group to consider the possibilities of GDF siting in more detail, including further public engagement and creating a 'Community Vision' for the long-term well-being of the community. It is a Partnership between members of the community in the Search Area, at least one relevant Principal Local Authority (either the District or County Council) and the GDF Developer.

What is a Community Partnership?

A Community Partnership is a group each made up of members including the GDF developer, the local authority and community members. A Community Partnership's role includes ensuring the community has the relevant information they need when considering the possibility of hosting a GDF. An outline of the full role and key responsibilities of a Community Partnership can be found from page 45 in the [Implementing Geological Disposal - Working With Communities Policy \(WWC Policy\)](#)

Who is part of the South Copeland GDF Community Partnership?

A Community Partnership must have at least one relevant Principal Local Authority, alongside the developer, members of the community and individuals. The aim is for the membership to be reflective of the local community in the Search Area. Community Partnerships should also seek to include representation from Parish and Town Councils. Further community members will be recruited to join the Partnership as it continues to evolve over time.

The initial South Copeland Community Partnership comprises:

- Ged McGrath** – Chair,
- Copeland Borough Council** – Represented by David Moore
- Cumbria Association of Local Councils** – Represented by David Savage
- Millom Town Council** – Represented by Dave Billing, deputy Denise Burness
- Millom Without Parish Council** – Represented by Carl Carrington, deputy Ian Lockwood
- Nuclear Waste Services** – Represented by Kelly Anderson
- Whicham Parish Council** – Represented by Maggie Cumming, deputy Lesley Cooper
- Doug Wilson** – Local councillor
- Felicity Wilson** – Local councillor

What is Community Investment Funding?

Progressing to the formation of a Community Partnership unlocked an initial sum of up to £1m a year funding for local projects, rising to up to £2.5m per year if deep borehole investigations to assess geology take place. The funding is available to projects that would benefit communities in the Search Areas covered by the Community Partnerships.

The grants can be used to fund projects, schemes or initiatives that:

- provide economic opportunities
- enhance the natural and built environment, or
- improve community wellbeing.

We're open to applications from community groups, public sector organisations and businesses that want to do something to benefit the community.



Attributes and Role Profile

It is important that the membership of the Community Partnership is diverse and reflective of the community within the Search Area. Priority will be given to candidates who can demonstrate that they reside and or work within the Search Area, alongside meeting the selection criteria for the Community Partnership. Candidates (aged 18 or over) must be able to demonstrate a strong connection to the Search Area/its community in the following sectors and/or groups:

- Agriculture
- Business
- Landscape & Environment
- Tourism
- Seldom heard
- Youth

They must also demonstrate:

Skills with the ability to:

- Act as a spokesperson for a local community/interest group/local stakeholder group
- Engage with people on difficult issues, including active listening
- Recruit volunteers for community/local stakeholder groups
- Make an active contribution to support delivery of the Partnership's Programme of Activities

Experience with the ability to:

- Demonstrate positive involvement in resolving matters of importance to the local community
- Demonstrate a strong connection to the Search Area/its community (lives and/or operates in the Search Area)
- Engage with stakeholders representing local business/local causes/local partnerships
- Work as a team member and/or in partnership with community organisations

Knowledge with an understanding of:

- Local government and how decisions are made
- Key issues that are relevant to part or all of the local community within the Search Area
- The siting process for a GDF
- Allocation and/or management of grant processes

Personal commitment to:

- Delivery of the Community Partnership's responsibilities as outlined below

- A schedule of meetings at a mutually agreeable time, and in a style to suit members of the Community Partnership
- Participate in subgroups/events/networks by agreement and personal relevance to ensure relevant information is gathered and exchanged
- Induction, on-boarding and personal development
- Adhere to Terms of Reference, Community Partnership Agreement, and other compliance policies and procedures that have been developed for the Community Partnership to operate safely, effectively, and efficiently
- Sharing skills, knowledge and experience with team members, taking lead roles as required

The Community Partnership working as a team will jointly be responsible for:

For more detail see [Working with Communities Policy \(WWC Policy\)](#)

- Commitment to exploring the possibility of the development of a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) in the identified Search Area, according to the requirements of the WWC Policy.
- Developing and refining the Community Partnership Agreement as required.
- Delivering the role and functions of the Community Partnership as identified in the WWC Policy.
- Understanding GDF development proposals to an appropriate level, including interaction with any specialists or advisors employed or contracted by NWS.
- Identifying and appointing additional or alternative members to the Community Partnership.
- Developing and regularly reviewing a Programme of Activities with clarity of outputs and outcomes to ensure timely delivery of each part of that programme.
- Ensuring people in or affected by the Search Area have the continued opportunity to get involved being mindful of engagement, media, and messages to ensure social inclusion.
- Ensuring networks, groupings and organisations represented by members are both informed, and their views reflected, whilst understanding confidentiality and GDPR requirements.
- Establishing a Community Investment Panel and criteria for allocation of funds in accordance with the WWC Policy.
- Ensuring there is a Community Vision in place that enables effective use of the Community Investment Funding and reflects the needs of people in the Search Area, including considering the part a GDF may play in that vision.
- Making recommendations to the relevant Principal Local Authority (ies) relating to the Test of Public Support and the Right of Withdrawal.
- Undertaking self-reflection to ensure efficient and effective delivery

Equality Statement

We value the unique differences that each of our members brings to the Community Partnership and are committed to creating an environment where everyone feels respected, included and able to perform at their best. We are committed to creating a partnership that is diverse and inclusive. We value the diversity of our members and actively seek to have a partnership that represents the rich diversity of South Copeland.

Disability Confident Proposal

The GDF developer is a member of the disability confident scheme; we guarantee to interview all candidates who have a disability who meet all of the essential criteria for the roles. In cases where we have a high volume of candidates who have a disability who meet all of the essential criteria, we will interview the best candidates from within that group.

How to apply

There is a short online application form for you to submit your interest, designed to capture your skills, knowledge and experience.

Go to: southcopeland.workinginpartnership.org.uk/get-involved/join-us/

If you would like a hard copy of the form, please contact us and we will arrange for it to be sent to you.

After the closing date, the selection panel will shortlist applicants. The selection panel is made up of the Chair of South Copeland GDF Community Partnership, a representative from Copeland Borough Council (one of the relevant principal local authorities), a representative from Nuclear Waste Services, and another Community Partnership member to represent the views of the community. They will use the roles and attributes outlined within this pack to help them with this.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview.

If you would like an informal conversation about the role prior to your application, please get in touch.



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**South Copeland
GDF Community Partnership**