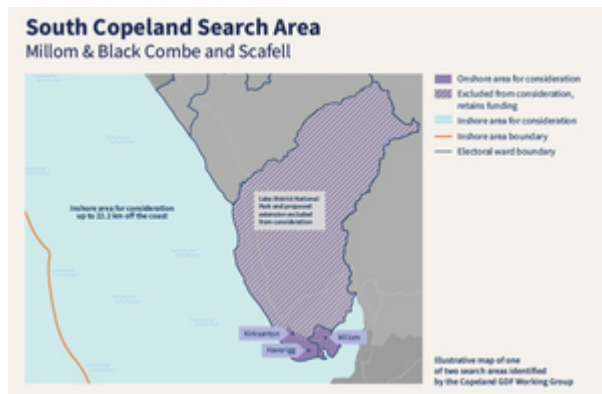


Second GDF Community Partnership forms in Cumbria

News story

Move unlocks £1 million local investment funding



The formation of a second Community Partnership in Copeland marks another step forward in the nationwide search to find a willing community and suitable site for a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) for the safe and secure disposal of higher-activity radioactive waste.

This follows formation of the [Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership](#) last month and completes the early engagement work undertaken by Copeland GDF Working Group over the last 12 months.

South Copeland GDF Community Partnership will now focus further engagement activities in a search area covering the electoral wards of Millom and Black Combe & Scafell.

Initially, RWM will explore the potential of deep geology beyond the coast for the underground elements of a GDF, as recommended by Copeland GDF Working Group. This would mean a land-based surface facility could provide access to a disposal area in rock deep below the seabed.

The Lake District National Park and proposed extension will not be considered.

RWM Chief Executive Karen Wheeler said:

We're delighted to see the formation of another Community Partnership in Copeland. It provides a platform to increase community engagement and trigger investment funding for projects that should really benefit the communities involved.

We look forward to continuing discussions and beginning investigations in these areas for a site that could be suitable for

a GDF.

Formation of the Community Partnership will unlock £1 million per year of community investment funding available for initiatives supporting economic development opportunities, improving community well-being, or enhancing the local environment, including cultural and natural heritage. This figure could rise to £2.5 million later in the process.

As well as Copeland Borough Council and RWM, membership, which should be reflective of the Search Area, also includes local councillors. One of the first tasks is to recruit more members from the community.

Further information is available from the website:

<https://southcopeland.workinginpartnership.org.uk/>

Learn more about geological disposal [here](#).

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