

Cumbria Sub-Regional Employment Sites Programme

Cumbria County Council / North West Development Agency



Brief

BE Group, with Aecom, was commissioned to identify a potential portfolio of sub-regional employment sites in locations with good market demand.

The study was an extension of the Cumbria Soft End Use Land Reclamation Programme, which has earmarked £10 million investment over a five year period.

The aim was to shortlist four or five sites from a baseline of 45-50 identified by stakeholders and partners from each of Cumbria's local authority areas.



Activities

Stage 1 Assessment included market attractiveness, ownership, physical constraints, development potential, economic impact, and cost and acceptability in planning terms.

Stage 2 Assessment addressed site values, access, ground conditions and remediation requirements, transport, infrastructure and environmental issues.

Indicative investment works and costs were provided, together with recommendations including options for delivery, funding and phasing.



Outcome

A potential portfolio of sites was identified at locations in Carlisle, Kendal and Ulverston, with NWDA agreeing to fund acquisitions by Carlisle City Council and Cumbria County Council.

BE Group re-appointed to negotiate the acquisition of identified sites, and to provide input to the masterplan for the regeneration of Durrhill Industrial Estate, Carlisle.

The first two sites, Border TV and Hewdens at Durrhill, now acquired on behalf of Carlisle City Council.

