

## **Spotlight on the new Leader of Allerdale Borough Council transcript**

Councillor Tim Heslop has been appointed as the new Leader of Allerdale Borough Council.

In this short film he introduces himself and talks about some of the major issues in the borough at the moment, as well as his hopes for the future.

Councillor Tim Heslop said: "I am Timothy Heslop Leader of Allerdale Borough Council, I have represented Derwent Valley for the past eighteen years, so I have been on the council for quite some time.

"I have lived in the area for most of my life, farmed at High Dyke two miles outside Cockermouth all my working life. I like living in Allerdale because its one of the prettiest areas in the country and some of the western lakes are some of the most beautiful areas and then we have got the area of outstanding natural beauty on the solway coast.

"So you have got a lot of different rural life and then you have got the urban life in Workington, Maryport and those towns are coming on a pace so I think there is a lot to look forward to in Allerdale and with the energy coast its one of the most exciting times to be here.

"We are standing here in front of Derwent Forest, this is the largest brownfield site in the north west of England, huge potential and its got huge natural habitats, we are setting down, out on the road to look for bidders right across Europe its going out for tender in the autumn and we will have to wait and see what comes back from that but there are opportunities I think for housing, for leisure, sports activities which will be to the benefit of local people and hopefully to a much wider area.

“I expect there will be quite a lot of interest from parties both here and abroad possibly, so that opens up all sorts of possibilities for eco friendly developments. It’s a big natural nature reserve and we must maintain that but also gives us opportunities to do other things on this site.

“The other thing we mustn’t forget is Allerdale is part of the energy coast and there are huge potentials there not only in nuclear which are hoping for a power station in Copeland, if we get that there will be big opportunities for Allerdale to provide the construction materials and work people to construct the new power station.

“We have got the research capability at Lillyhall and the University of Cumbria and the big thing we must make most use of is the research potential in this area and we must encourage our youngsters to get qualified in the sciences so that they can take full advantage of the jobs that will be there in five or ten years time.”