

Appleby Fair Multi-Agency Strategic Co-ordinating Group
24 October 2025 at 1.00pm
Microsoft Teams
Minutes

Attendance: Steph Cordon, Westmorland & Furness Council (Chair);
Daniel St Quintin, Cumbria Constabulary;
Nick Wright, Westmorland & Furness Council;
Richard Scoffham, Westmorland & Furness Council;
Neil Buck, Westmorland & Furness Council;
Cllr Adrian Waite, Westmorland & Furness Council;
Cllr Graham Simpkins, Westmorland & Furness Council;
Lee Skelton, Cumbria Constabulary;
Neil Graham, Cumbria Constabulary;
Kate Oliver, Cumbria Constabulary;
Katie Jones, Cumbria Constabulary;
Philip Hall, Cumbria Constabulary;
Mo Bibby, Cumbria Constabulary;
Jan Wharton, North Cumbria Integrated Care;

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- Emma Brass, Westmorland and Furness Council;
- John Everingham, Westmorland and Furness Council;
- Jessica Sarjeant, Westmorland and Furness Council;
- Laura McClellan, Westmorland & Furness Council;
- Cllr Lorna Baker, Westmorland and Furness Council;
- Dave Love, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service;
- Owen McCarney, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service;
- Neil Aitkin, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service;
- Peter Kavanagh, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service;
- Caroline Stuart, North West Ambulance Service;
- Nicholas Griggs, North West Ambulance Service;
- Martina Rodrigues, National Highways;
- Billy Welch, Gypsy and Traveller Representative;
- Bill Lloyd, Gypsy and Traveller Representative;
- Rob Melloy, RSPCA.
- Leanne Plumtree, RSPCA
- Sue Gilbertson, Appleby Town Council.

2. Minutes of MASCG held on 16 June 2025

These were agreed as a true record of proceeding of the MASCG meeting held on 16 June 2025.

3. Scenario Planning

Representatives from Cumbria Constabulary confirmed that a multi-agency table-top exercise, similar to the one undertaken in advance of the 2025 Fair, would be run in advance of the 2026 Fair.

4. Operational Working Group Update

Nick Wright provided an update from the Operational Working Group, which last met on 16 October 2025. There were the following notable points:

- The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) consultation was to be reviewed.
- Engagement with local licence holders as early as possible to review arrangements in good time.
- It was noted that Phase 1 of the Fair seemed busier in 2025, and this would be picked up in terms of resourcing heading into the 2026 Fair.

5. Agency Updates

Steph Cordon asked for an update from the agencies represented on MASCG. There were the following significant updates:

Cumbria Police – An update was provided which pertained to strategic and operational matters related to the Fair, including confirmation of the Police's command structure for the 2026 Fair.

Westmorland and Furness Council – It was noted that there had been a couple of outbreaks of Avian Flu locally, and agencies agreed to keep abreast of developments in terms of risk to the public.

There was no significant update from the RSPCA; Environment Agency, North West ambulance Service, North Cumbria Integrated Care, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service, National Highways (including A66 development related to Appleby Horse Fair) and Appleby Town Council.

6. Communications and Engagement Update

An update was provided relating to Communications and Engagement. There were the following notable points:

- Westmorland and Furness Council's Environmental Health Team had been shortlisted for the inaugural Withnall Partnership Award at RSPCA PawPrints Awards, nominated for their pioneering partnership work with the RSPCA, in support of animal welfare at Appleby Horse Fair.

7. Any Other Business

There was no significant further business discussed.

- 8. Date and Time of Next Meeting** – Thursday 4 December 2025 (10.00am – 12.00 noon) - via Microsoft Teams.