

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ALL-MEMBER MEETING**

Date: 3 July 2014

Subject: **SEEC Elections and Appointments 2014-15
& Nominations to Outside Bodies**

Report of: Cllr Paul Watkins, SEEC Secretary & Treasurer



Recommendations:

- i) Members are invited to make nominations for the posts as Chairman, Deputy Chairman & Secretary/Treasurer
- ii) Members are asked to provide group appointments for Vice Chairmen and Executive Committee members and consider whether additional specific spokesmen roles are required
- iii) Members make all nominations to group leaders **by 12.45pm on 3 July 2014.**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 SEEC's AGM is the opportunity for members to elect SEEC office holders for the period July 2014 to July 2015 and select nominees to represent the interests of South East authorities on outside bodies.
- 1.2 Nominations for the posts as SEEC Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer and members of the Executive Committee should be put forward to political group meetings on 3 July 2014.
- 1.3 To facilitate the nomination process, templates for completion will be provided for political group meetings on 3 July.

2. Elections

- 2.1 Elections will be held at SEEC's AGM on 3 July 2014 for the following three most senior office holders:
 - i) **Chairman** of SEEC
 - ii) **Deputy Chairman** of SEEC
 - iii) **Secretary/Treasurer** of SEEC.
- 2.2 If there are two or more nominees for an elected post put forward to the main public meeting of SEEC, a ballot will be held. Members can choose to vote by a show of hands or to have a paper ballot using single transferable votes in line with the SEEC constitution.

3. Group appointments

- 3.1 Once the Chairman is elected, each remaining party or group holding more than 5% of council seats in the South East is entitled to appoint a vice chairman and members of the SEEC Executive. SEEC's Chairman and vice chairmen will act as group leaders and automatically gain one of their group's seats on the Executive.
- 3.2 The 19 seats on the **Executive committee** are allocated according to each party's vote share in local elections. Allocations for 2014-15 are:
 - Conservative **11 seats** (including the chairman)
 - Liberal Democrats **3 seats** (including the vice chairman)
 - Labour **3 seats** (including the vice chairman)
 - To be confirmed **2 seats** *Available to a potential formal alliance of two or more smaller parties who together hold more than 5% of South East councillor seats (see agenda item 5)*

- 3.3 Appointments to the Executive should aim to follow the proportions set out in the constitution as closely as possible. This allows for 7 county members, 8 district members and 4 unitary members. In addition ex-officio seats on the Executive may be offered to the following if they are not otherwise elected to the Executive:
- The Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the South East Districts' group
 - The Chairman of South East Strategic Leaders (SESL).

3.4 There is also potential to add spokesmen on specific topics as ex-officio Executive members if required. Members took the decision to streamline structures last year, so no spokesmen were appointed for 2013-14. If members wish to review this decision they could propose up to 3 spokesmen, choosing titles and remits to reflect SEEC priority work areas for the coming year.

4. Nominations to outside bodies

4.1 SEEC has received requests to appoint members to serve on the following:

Organisation	Nature of request
LGA Executive Committee	1 SEEC representative to attend six-weekly meetings (normally the SEEC Chairman)

4.2 Nominations made in previous years that are not yet due for review:

Organisation	Nature of request	Name	Local authority
Committee of the Regions**	6 South East representatives	Cllr Paula Baker Cllr Robert Bliss Cllr Linda Gillham Cllr Gordon Keymer Cllr David Shakespeare Cllr Cec Tallack	Basingstoke & Deane BC Shepway DC Runnymede BC Tandridge DC Buckinghamshire CC Milton Keynes Council
<i>** Nominations for Committee of the Regions 2015-2020 will be handled by the LGA</i>			
ERDF Local Management Committee	3 South East representatives	Cllr Helyn Clack Cllr Mark Dance Cllr Paul Watkins	Surrey CC Kent CC Dover DC
South East Strategic Partnership for Migration	1 representative	Cllr Paul Watkins	Dover DC
South Central Ambulance Service Foundation Trust	3 representatives	Cllr Alan Glass Cllr Keith House Cllr Steve Lacey	New Forest DC Eastleigh BC Wycombe DC

4.3 Nominations made in previous years that have now expired:
SEEC previously nominated two councillors to the LGA's Inland Flood Risk Management Group (Cllr Peter Gardiner, Lewes DC, and Cllr Geoffrey Woodger, Runnymede BC). This group was disbanded in 2013 so no further nominations will be required. The LGA continues to monitor flooding via its main Board structure and now offers an online information source for members and officers interested in the LGA's work in this area. Visit the LGA's FlowNet forum at <https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk/group/flownet>