

SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS
MINUTES OF THE ALL-MEMBER MEETING

Thursday 6 February 2014

Church House Conference Centre, Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3NZ



The numbering below reflects the fact that this meeting followed a joint SEEC-SESL session which covered agenda items 1-6, note available [here](#).

- 7. Apologies, declarations of substitutes and declarations of interest**
- 7.1 Meeting Chairman Cllr David Hodge welcomed members to the meeting and offered SEEC chairman Cllr Gordon Keymer CBE's apologies for being unable to attend. Other apologies and substitutes are in the attached attendance list. There were no declarations of interest.
- 8. Minutes of SEEC AGM, 11 July 2013 and matters arising**
- 8.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.
- 9. SEEC data dashboard spring 2014: New data trends across the South East**
- 9.1 Nick Woolfenden presented the draft Data Dashboard. It showed there is still critical need for investment and supportive policy from Government to maximise the South East's economic potential and tackle key challenges - especially relating to the large and ageing population. Member comments were invited on the Dashboard, in particular how the information might help support SEEC's work influencing key policy developments such as election manifestos, London's housing plans and the Care Bill.
ACTION 1: Members approved the Dashboard for SEEC to publish online and circulate to MPs, MEPs, Ministers, and asked that it also be sent to LEP chairmen.
- 10. Nomination to South Central Ambulance Trust**
- 10.1 The CVs of two candidates were presented to members and a ballot selected Cllr Steve Lacey (Conservative), from Wycombe DC, as SEEC's representative on the South Central Ambulance Trust. The other candidate was Cllr Bet Tickner (Labour), Reading BC.
- 10.2 Members requested attendance records for all SEEC representatives on the Trust.
ACTION 2: Nomination to be reported to the Ambulance Trust, and records of attendance for all SEEC representatives on the South Central Ambulance Trust to be provided to SEEC's AGM annually.
- 11. Member updates and links for information**
- 11.1 Heather Bolton drew members' attention to web-links to recent SEEC events and actions, including a letter to DCLG about short-term, illegal Gypsy and Traveller encampments. Members were advised Government had not yet replied.
- 11.2 SEEC's report on strategic transport investment priorities will shortly be finalised for submission to Ministers. SEEC is also in discussion with TfL to try to secure its support for key strategic transport schemes in the South East which would also benefit London. TfL has indicated prioritisation of the top 3-5 schemes would help it consider whether they should be included in its forthcoming Infrastructure 2050 plan. Members were asked whether it would be acceptable for SEEC to classify schemes as short, medium and long-term priorities, and they agreed to give this further consideration in April.
ACTION 3: SEEC to request a Government response on short term, illegal Gypsy & Traveller encampments.
ACTION 4: SEEC Executive to consider prioritisation of strategic transport schemes in April 2014.
- 12. Confirmed forward meeting dates**

- 4 April 2014 – SEEC Executive (10am)
- 3 July 2014 – SEEC AGM and All-Member meeting (shared date with SESL)
- 25 September 2014 – SEEC Executive (2pm) (shared date with SESL)

13. Any Other Business

13.1 The Chairman advised that SEEC had been approached by the South East Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport (SEDEEPT) suggesting a letter to Ministers asking for clarity on funding and implementation of sustainable drainage systems (SuDs). Members agreed this was an important issue and, subject to SEDEEPT clarification on a number of technical aspects, agreed to write to Ministers. Given recent flooding, members also asked that the letter request greater support from Ministers and the Environment Agency for councils who are being pressured to accept high-risk development in flood plains.

ACTION 5: SEEC to work with SEDEEPT on a letter to ministers, potentially jointly with SESL, requesting clarity on funding and implementation of SuDs.

13.2 Cllr Keith House (Lib Dem, Eastleigh BC) has been appointed by Government to co-chair an independent national review into how councils could use new or existing powers to improve the supply of social housing. Members were encouraged to respond to a call for evidence expected in March, and contribute local points to SEEC for a collective response. They requested more information on the review terms of reference and invited Cllr House to the SEEC Executive in April. Members raised the issue of managing waiting lists to remove duplication and help clarify demand.

ACTION 6: SEEC to circulate the housing review terms of reference to members and invite Cllr House to speak at the Executive meeting in April.

ACTION 7: Members to forward key points on social housing to SEEC to inform a collective response.

13.3 Cllr Myles Cullen urged SEEC to write to DCLG taking issue with guidance published in January which was critical of councils operating alternate-week refuse collections. Members emphasised Government should allow local discretion over the most appropriate local collection systems.

ACTION 8: SEEC to write to DCLG emphasising the need for local discretion over the most appropriate collection systems to meet local circumstances.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 15:00.

Signed:

Gordon Keymer CBE, Chairman

Date:

3 July 2014

SEEC ALL-MEMBER MEETING 6 February 2014: ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Organisation	Signature / Apologies / Substitute
Gillian Brown	Arun District Council	Apologies
Gerry Clarkson	Ashford Borough Council	Apologies
Carole Paternoster	Aylesbury Vale District Council	Yes
Clive Sanders	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council	Apologies
Paul Bettison	Bracknell Forest Council	Yes
Martin Tett	Buckinghamshire County Council	Yes
John Gilbey	Canterbury City Council	Apologies
Barry Wood	Cherwell District Council	Apologies
Myles Cullen	Chichester District Council	Yes
Nick Rose	Chiltern District Council	Apologies
Jeremy Kite	Dartford Borough Council	Apologies
Paul Watkins	Dover District Council	Sub – Susan Chandler
Richard Millard	East Hampshire District Council	Apologies
Gill Mattock	Eastbourne Borough Council	Apologies
Keith House	Eastleigh Borough Council	Yes
John O'Reilly	Elmbridge Borough Council	Apologies
Neil Dallen	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Apologies
John Burden	Gravesham Borough Council	Apologies
Stephen Mansbridge	Guildford Borough Council	Sub – Jenny Wicks
Roy Perry	Hampshire County Council	Yes
Ken Crookes	Hart District Council	Sub – Stephen Parker
Jeremy Birch	Hastings Borough Council	Apologies
Tony Briggs	Havant Borough Council	Apologies
Ray Dawe	Horsham District Council	Sub – Helena Croft
Paul Carter	Kent County Council	Yes
Elayne Merry	Lewes District Council	Apologies
Garry Wall	Mid Sussex District Council	Apologies
Chris Townsend	Mole Valley District Council	Sub – Vivienne Michael
Barry Rickman	New Forest District Council	Apologies
Van Coulter	Oxford City Council	Yes
Ian Hudspeth	Oxfordshire County Council	Yes
Tony Page	Reading Borough Council	Apologies
Graham Knight	Reigate & Banstead Borough Council	Apologies
Carl Maynard	Rother District Council	Apologies
David Burbage	RB of Windsor & Maidenhead	Yes
Geoffrey Woodger	Runnymede Borough Council	Apologies
Roland Dibbs	Rushmoor Borough Council	Apologies
Peter Fleming	Sevenoaks District Council	Yes
David Monk	Shepway District Council	Yes

Adrian Busby	South Bucks District Council	Apologies
Ann Ducker	South Oxfordshire District Council	Apologies
Robert Watts	Spelthorne Borough Council	Apologies
David Hodge	Surrey County Council	Yes – Meeting Chairman
Moira Gibson	Surrey Heath Borough Council	Apologies
Andrew Bowles	Swale Borough Council	Yes
Gordon Keymer, CBE	Tandridge District Council	Apologies
Ian Carr	Test Valley Borough Council	Apologies
Clive Hart	Thanet District Council	Apologies
Nicolas Heslop	Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	Apologies (attended District meeting)
David Jukes	Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	Apologies
Robert Knowles	Waverley Borough Council	Apologies
Bob Standley	Wealden District Council	Apologies
Gordon Lundie	West Berkshire Council	Apologies
Barry Norton	West Oxfordshire District Council	Apologies
Keith Wood	Winchester City Council	Apologies
John Kingsbury	Woking Borough Council	Apologies
David Lee	Wokingham Borough Council	Sub – Rob Stanton
Tony Green	Wycombe District Council	Yes

Speakers

Prof. Tony Travers	London School of Economics	
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Other Attendees

Chris Williams	Buckinghamshire County Council	
David Godfrey	Kent County Council	
Heather Bolton	SEEC	
Nick Woolfenden	SEEC	
Nathan Roach	SEEC / SESL	
Philippa Mellish	SESL	