

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



Date: 23 June 2017

Subject: **SEEC elections, appointments & nominations 2017-18**

Report of: Heather Bolton, SEEC Director

Recommendations:

- i) Members make nominations for the posts of Chairman, Deputy Chairman & Secretary/Treasurer
- ii) Members make group nominations for Vice Chairmen, Executive members and consider whether any additional ex officio posts are required
- iii) Members select SEEC representatives to serve on outside bodies
- iv) Members make all nominations to group leaders **by 10am on 23 June 2017.**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 SEEC's AGM is the opportunity for members to elect office holders for the year beginning June 2017 and select councillors to represent South East interests on outside bodies.
- 1.2 Nominations should be put forward to political group meetings on 23 June 2017 for: SEEC Chairman; Deputy Chairman; Secretary/Treasurer; Vice Chairmen; Executive Committee; and outside bodies. Group meetings will also consider the response to a targeted call for nominations for an ambulance service trustee.
- 1.3 To facilitate the nomination process, templates for completion will be provided for political group meetings on 23 June.

2. Elections

- 2.1 Elections will be held at SEEC's AGM on 23 June 2017 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 nominations

- 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** are allocated according to each party's vote share in local elections. Proposed allocations for 2017-18 are:
 - Conservative **13 seats** (including the chairman)
 - Labour **2 seats** (including the vice chairman)
 - Liberal Democrats **2 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 2).
- 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 Executive seats may be offered to the following if they are not otherwise elected to the Executive. Normally this is on condition that their council is in SEEC membership.
 - Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the South East Districts' group
 - Chairman or a senior councillor representing South East Strategic Leaders (SESL).

3.4 There is also potential to add up to three specific, additional ex-officio roles if required – for example spokespeople on specific topics.

4. Nominations to outside bodies

4.1 SEEC has received requests to appoint members to serve on the following organisations. Given specific requirements on geography and experience, a targeted call for nominations for the ambulance trust appointment was emailed to SEEC Leaders on 30 May 2017. Expressions of interest will be discussed by group meetings and a nomination put to the AGM for endorsement.

Organisation	Nature of request
LGA Executive Committee	1 SEEC representative to attend approximately six meetings a year (normally the SEEC Chairman)
Wider South East Political Steering Group	1 vacancy to fill for a SEEC representative to attend 3-4 meetings a year with London Mayor's office, London Councils and East of England on shared interests around infrastructure and housing. This follows Cllr Peter Martin stepping down from the group after becoming Chairman of Surrey CC. The nominee will join 4 existing SEEC nominees (see below)
South Central Ambulance Service Foundation Trust	1 vacancy to fill for a SEEC representative to attend approximately 6 evening meetings a year in Newbury. The nominee can be drawn from any tier of council in the areas of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire or Oxfordshire. The vacancy arises on 30 September at the end of a 3-year term for Cllr David Burbage from the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead.

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

Organisation	Nature of request	Name	Local authority
Wider South East Political Steering Group	5 representatives (NB currently 1 vacancy – see above)	Cllr Nicolas Heslop (Con) Cllr Paul Bettison (Con) Cllr Tony Page (Lab) Cllr Carole Paternoster (Con) 1 x vacancy	Tonbridge & Malling BC Bracknell Forest Council Reading BC Aylesbury Vale DC
South East Strategic Partnership for Migration	1 representative	Cllr Paul Watkins (Con)	Dover DC
South Central Ambulance Service Foundation Trust	3 representatives (NB currently 1 vacancy – see above)	Cllr Keith House (L-D) Cllr Jan Warwick (Con) 1 x vacancy	Eastleigh BC Winchester City Council