

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS
ALL-MEMBER MEETING**

Date: 31 January 2019

Subject: **External appointment vacancy: Wider South East Political Steering Group**

Report of: Heather Bolton, SEEC Director

Recommendations:

- i) Members consider nominations to fill a vacant South East seat on the Wider South East Political Steering Group
 - ii) Members make nominations to group leaders **by 10am on 31 January 2019**
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 SEEC has five seats on the Wider South East Political Steering Group (PSG), which holds regular liaison meetings with London's Mayor, London Councils and East of England LGA.
- 1.2 Following changes in portfolios at Surrey County Council, there is now a vacancy on the group to fill the seat previously held by Cllr John Furey from Surrey CC. Group members need to represent a mix of tiers of local authorities and political parties from across the South East. The four remaining current members of the group are:
 - Cllr Paul Bettison (Con), Leader of Bracknell Forest Council (unitary)
 - Cllr Nicolas Heslop (Con), Leader of Tonbridge & Malling BC
 - Cllr Tony Page (Lab), Deputy Leader of Reading Council (unitary) and Deputy Chairman of Transport for the South East
 - Cllr Carole Paternoster (Con), Cabinet member at Aylesbury Vale DC.
- 1.3 To provide a balance of representation, members may wish to explore options for a county council nomination to replace Cllr Furey.
- 1.4 Members of the PSG must be from a SEEC member authority. Nominations should be put forward to political group leaders by 31 January 2019 for the groups to consider and then present preferred candidate(s) to the All-Member meeting for decision.
- 1.5 Members of the Political Steering Group will attend 3-4 meetings half day meeting per year with London Mayor's office, London Councils and East of England on shared interests around infrastructure, housing and the London Plan. The meetings are generally held in central London.