



MINUTES OF THE SEEC ALL-MEMBER MEETING

Thursday 31 January 2019

Engineering Employers' Federation

Broadway House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NQ

- 1. Welcome, apologies, declarations of substitutes and declarations of interest**
 - 1.1 Cllr Roy Perry welcomed members. He declared an interest as his daughter is the Immigration Minister. Apologies and substitutes are on the attached attendance list.

- 2. External appointment vacancy: Wider South East Political Steering Group**
 - 2.1 Following two nominations for the vacancy from Surrey CC and Kent CC, members voted for Surrey's Cllr Colin Kemp to take the position on the Wider South East Political Steering Group.
ACTION 1: Heather Bolton to update the Wider South East Political Steering Group about Cllr Kemp's appointment.

- 3. SEEC subscriptions 2019-20**
 - 3.1 Members approved the Executive Committee's recommendation for membership subscriptions to be increased by 2% from 1 April 2019.
ACTION 2: 2% subscription increase to be included in membership invoices for 2019-20, which will be sent in April 2019.

- 4. Latest SEEC activity report and updates**
 - 4.1 **Draft SEEC Data Dashboard Spring 2019**

The Chairman highlighted the importance of the dashboard in supporting SEEC's case to Government on South East growth and infrastructure issues. Nick Woolfenden invited member views on inclusion of a new chart highlighting the South East's skills challenge, given the importance of this issue. This would replace a chart on deprivation, for which Government has not updated official data for several years. Deprivation data would still be included in the more detailed dashboard sheets. Members agreed the change. They also raised concern about the South East's higher than national average increases in unemployment, and the importance of sustaining South East economic success as this benefits the whole UK.
ACTION 3: Members to send Nick any comments by 11th February, prior to circulation of the Dashboard to MPs/members.
 - 4.2 **Meeting with Skills Minister Rt Hon Anne Milton MP**

Following a SEEC letter, a small group of members met with the Skills Minister Anne Milton MP in late January. Members reported that the Minister was supportive of the importance of councils helping shape skills provision locally. She also emphasized the importance of apprenticeships in addition to traditional academic learning routes. She encouraged councils not to wait to be asked but to be proactive in engaging with local training providers to shape provision to reflect local needs.
 - 4.3 **Wider South East work: Summit and London Plan Examination in Public**

Cllr Ralph Bagge updated members on a successful Wider South East Summit in January, at which he represented the South East in panel discussions alongside the Mayor of London. A key message from the Summit was the importance of strengthening the Wider South East's collective voice in representations to Government.
Cllr Bagge has also been representing SEEC at the ongoing London Plan Examination in Public. Key issues raised include seeking clarity from the Mayor about how any London housing shortfall is going to be addressed within the capital; what the Mayor will offer in return for any South East 'willing partners' who might want to explore helping him with housing/employment growth needs; how the Mayor can support mutually-beneficial South East infrastructure; and the need for the Mayor to consider Green Belt review to help meet London's unmet housing need.

4.4 **SEEC input to Government, including consultation responses on Permitted Development Rights and NPPG**

The Chairman confirmed a small group of SEEC members would meet Housing Minister Kit Malthouse MP in early February, following a SEEC [letter](#) on housing delivery and outstanding concerns about the new NPPF.

Heather Bolton highlighted that SEEC's [response](#) to the Government's Permitted Development Rights (PDR)/ High Street consultation was now on SEEC's website. This called for PDR to be scaled back to enhance local control and ensure all sites contribute to infrastructure funding needs. SEEC had also recently [written](#) to the Housing Minister whilst Government is preparing its response to Sir Oliver Letwin's review on improving housing delivery. In discussion members highlighted the importance of a mix of housing sizes for the South East's needs, not just building more small homes. However, the high price of land in the South East can make this challenging.

ACTION 4: Circulate links to SEEC's PDR and Letwin Review letters to members with the minutes of the meeting.

4.5 **SEEC November and December newsletters**

The Chairman confirmed that the newsletters are on SEEC's [website](#), highlighting recent work.

5. **Minutes and matters arising**

5.1 The minutes of the AGM & all-member meeting on 28 June 2018 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

6. **Any other business**

6.1 SEEC will respond to the Government's consultation on biodiversity net gains in the planning system. SEEC's leadership team will approve the response once drafted to meet the short deadline.

ACTION 5: Members to email any key issues to inform SEEC's response to Nick Woolfenden by 4th February, prior to leadership team approval of the submission.

6.2 The Chairman expressed his thanks to Heather who will be leaving SEEC in May. A job advert is being finalised. Members were asked to consider if anyone in their councils might be appropriate for this role as a secondment opportunity.

ACTION 6: SEEC director post to be advertised and details to be circulated to SEEC members. Members to contact Heather with any possible suggestions for secondees.

6.3 The Chairman updated members on his ongoing efforts to build stronger relationships with other South East organisations, including SESL and South East 7, to work better and more productively together. He and colleagues are exploring the possibility of a confederated approach to build a stronger and more united voice for the South East. He would update members at future meetings.

7. **Confirmed forward meeting dates:**

- 29th March 2019 (SEEC Executive)
- 27th June 2019 (SEEC AGM & All-Member Meeting)
- 20th September 2019 (SEEC Executive)

The meeting closed at 10:55 and was followed by a SEEC workshop on Brexit: Practical impacts for the South East. See [here](#) for workshop notes.

SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS**All-Member Meeting**

Thursday 31 January 2019

Engineering Employers' Federation,

Broadway House, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NQ



Authority	Name	Signature / Apologies / Substitute
Arun DC	Cllr Gillian Brown	Yes
Bracknell Forest Council	Cllr Peter Heydon	Apologies
Bracknell Forest Council	Timothy Wheadon	Yes
Cherwell DC	Daniel Rowan	Yes
Chichester DC	Cllr Eileen Lintill	Yes
Dover DC	Cllr Nigel Collor	Yes
Eastbourne BC	Cllr Stephen Holt	Apologies
Eastleigh BC	Cllr David Airey	Yes
Eastleigh BC	Natalie Wigman	Yes
Eastleigh BC	Andrew Trayer	Yes
Guildford BC	Cllr Matt Furniss	Apologies
Hampshire CC	Cllr Roy Perry	Yes
Hampshire CC	Joanna Richardson	Yes
Hastings BC	Cllr Peter Chowney	Yes
Hart DC	Cllr Stephen Parker	Yes
Mid Sussex DC	Cllr Garry Wall	Apologies
Mole Valley DC	Jasvir Chohan	Yes
Lewes DC	Peter Sharp	Yes
Reading BC	Cllr Tony Page	Yes
Reading BC	Cllr Jason Brock	Apologies
Rushmoor BC	Cllr Barbara Hurst	Yes
South Bucks DC	Cllr Ralph Bagge	Yes
Surrey CC	Cllr Denise Turner-Stewart	Yes
Surrey CC	Tom Pickup	Yes
Swale DC	Cllr Andrew Bowles	Yes
Swale BC	Mark Radford	Yes

Tonbridge and Malling BC	Cllr Nicolas Heslop	Apologies
Tonbridge and Malling BC	Mark Raymond	Yes
Wealden DC	Cllr Bob Standley	Yes
West Berkshire Council	Cllr Jeanette Clifford	Yes
West Berkshire Council	Andy Day	Yes
West Oxfordshire DC	Cllr James Mills	Yes
Winchester City Council	Cllr Lisa Griffiths	Yes
Winchester City Council	Simon Howson	Yes
Wokingham BC	Rhian Hayes	Apologies
Wycombe DC	Cllr Katrina Wood	Sub: (David Watson)
Wycombe DC	Cllr David Watson	Yes
Speakers / Staff / Observers		
DBEIS	Laura Parker-Tong	Yes
Essex CC	Cllr Kevin Bentley	Yes
Hampshire CC	Ian Hoult	Yes
Kent CC	Cllr Mike Whiting	Yes
LGA	Angela Kawa	Yes
LGA	Mona Sehgal	Yes
LGA	Will Brooks	Apologies
MHCLG	Louis Mayhew	Yes
MP	Gillian Keegan MP	Yes
Oxford University	Rob McNeil	Yes
Port of Southampton	Alastair Welch	Yes
SEEC	Heather Bolton	Yes
SEEC	Nick Woolfenden	Yes
SEEC	Emily Duddy	Yes
SEEC	Alice Rhoades	Yes
SESL	Neil Border	Yes
SESPM	Roy Millard	Yes
SESPM/SEEC	Rachael Coker	Yes