

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET – 21 JULY, 2009

REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES SEVERN-TRENT REGIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

1.0 PURPOSE

To inform Cabinet of the proposed arrangements for shared representation on the Severn-Trent Regional Flood Defence Committee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the joint arrangements for representation on the Regional Flood Defence Committee, as outlined at paragraph 3.3, be endorsed;**
- 2.2 That the appointment of the Cabinet Member: Environment as Deputy Member to the Regional Flood Defence Committee until May 2011 be approved.**

3.0 INFORMATION

- 3.1** The Severn Trent Regional Flood Defence Committee (STRFDC) is a statutory executive Committee of the Environment Agency. Its main role is to support the Agency's Flood Risk Management programme in the Midlands Region. The Committee includes 11 local authority appointees from across the region.
- 3.2** Telford & Wrekin Council shares a seat on the STRFDC with Shropshire Council and Worcestershire Council. Provision is also made for a Deputy member to be appointed. Over the last three years, the seat has been taken by a Worcestershire Member, with the Deputy being from Shropshire County Council. A new four year term of office started on 1 June 2009, and the Environment Agency has requested the appointment of a Member for the shared seat.
- 3.3** The appointment process has been delayed because of recent elections to new Councils in both Shropshire and Worcestershire. However, discussions have taken place with officers at these authorities, and it has been suggested that the four year term of office be split into two 2 year terms. This would allow more frequent rotation of the seat on the STRFDC between the three Authorities. The Environment Agency has no objection to such an arrangement. Using

the principle that the Authority with the Deputy Member should subsequently have the full representation, the following arrangement is proposed for the next 4 years:

	<u>Lead Member</u>	<u>Deputy Member</u>
2009 to 2011	Shropshire	Telford & Wrekin
2011 to 2013	Telford & Wrekin	Worcestershire

Shropshire and Worcestershire Councils have both signified their agreement to this arrangement.

- 3.4 It therefore falls for the Council to appoint a Deputy Member to the STRFDC for the period up to May 2011. The Deputy Member is expected to substitute at meetings of the Committee if the lead Member is unable to attend, and to attend workshops/training events.

4.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

5.0 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

<u>AREA</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Equality & Diversity	Not applicable
Environmental Impact	Not applicable
Legal Implications	Not applicable
Opportunities & Risks	Not applicable
Financial Implications	Not applicable
Links with Corporate Priorities	Not applicable
Ward Implications	Not applicable

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