

**EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON THE 7 JULY 2009**

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

4.00PM 7 JULY 2009

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
HOVE TOWN HALL**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillors Oxley (Chairman), Simpson (Deputy Chairman), Brown, Fallon-Khan, Mears, Mitchell, Randall, Simson, Watkins.

13 MEMBERSHIP OF SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS (SEEC)

- 13.1 The Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Strategy & Governance recommending that Brighton & Hove City Council joins the new regional body South East England Councils (SEEC) following the discontinuation of the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) at the end of March 2009. The Committee's approval was sought to appoint Councillor Mary Mears as Brighton & Hove City Council's representative, subject to Cabinet approval to join SEEC (for copy see minute book)
- 13.2 The Chairman explained that the report had come to the Committee to approve a representative prior to obtaining the approval of Cabinet to join SEEC; this was due to the timetabling of the meetings, with Cabinet taking place two days later.
- 13.3 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the recommendations and was supportive of the focus on regeneration monitoring and reporting at local level.
- 13.4 In response to a query from Councillor Randall regarding the absence of sustainability issues from the draft work programme the Acting Director of Strategy & Governance explained that this and other issues could be raised when SEEC meets.
- 13.5 In response to a query from Councillor Watkins the Acting Director of Strategy & Governance confirmed that the reference to the impact of a General Election had been included because officers needed to be aware of the potential for changes in policy that may result.
- 13.6 Councillor Mears made a commitment to ensure that regular updates on SEEC activities were reported to the Committee.
- 13.7 **RESOLVED** - That the Governance Committee approve Councillor Mary Mears as the representative for Brighton & Hove City Council, subject to the Cabinet giving its approval to join SEEC.

