

JOINT LIAISON WITH SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL AND CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates the Executive Board on progress and seeks agreement to the attached framework as a basis for joint liaison with the other two Authorities.

2 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

Background

- 2.1 In February 2007, Council agreed that the Authority should approach Southend Borough Council and Castle Point Borough Council with a view to establishing some form of joint liaison structure to discuss matters of mutual interest (Minute 52/2007).
- 2.2 Discussions have subsequently taken place between the Leaders of the three Authorities to discuss the possibility of creating such an arrangement and the format it should take.

Current Position

- 2.3 On the basis of the discussions which have taken place, a framework for joint liaison has now been drafted (a copy is attached as Appendix 1) and is put to the Executive Board for agreement. Similarly, it is being presented to Members in Southend and Castle Point. Subject to agreement by all three Authorities, it will then form the basis for formal joint liaison between the three Authorities.
- 2.4 In agreeing to the framework as set out, it should be noted that the Joint Liaison Group would have no decision-making powers as such. Any issues that require Council approval will be brought back to the Authority for a decision.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Other than Member and officer time, there are no specific resource implications in the liaison arrangements proposed.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Executive Board **RESOLVES** to agree the arrangements for Joint Liaison between Rochford District Council, Castle Point Borough Council and Southend Borough Council as set out in the appendix.

Paul Warren
Chief Executive

Background Papers:-

None.

For further information please contact Paul Warren on:-

Tel:- 01702 318199

E-Mail:- paul.warren@rochford.gov.uk

If you would like this report in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.

JOINT LIAISON GROUP BETWEEN ROCHFORD, CASTLE POINT AND SOUTHEND COUNCILS

Purpose

To foster the common interests and to shape the agenda of South East Essex at the highest strategic level for the mutual benefit of all three Authorities

Proposals

Membership – 2 members per authority at Leader/Deputy Leader level

Frequency of meetings – 4-6 times per year

Venue and secretarial support – rotate between the three Councils. Host authority provides administrative support for the meeting

Other attendees – ECC, PCT, the Police, TGSE, etc, as appropriate, depending on the subject matter.

Memorandum of Understanding

1. To share best practice and learning across the three authorities
2. To discuss matters of common interest around the emerging City Regions agenda and the role of South East Essex in the context of Thames Gateway
3. To consider the opportunities for promoting and safeguarding the interests of South East Essex in the context of sub-regional and regional structures and frameworks
4. To consider any cross boundary proposals and the service operations of those organisations whose remit covers South East Essex
5. To examine the opportunities to build capacity, improve services and reduce costs across the three Authorities to the benefit of all three Councils