

CALL-IN OF CABINET DECISION – PROPOSED NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE JOINT LOCAL AUTHORITIES MEMBERS' STEERING GROUP

1. Introduction

1.1 On the 3 December 2003, Cabinet resolved as follows:-

(Minute 90 extract):

“(iv) That the Chairman of the Planning Development Control Committee, the Economy and Planning Portfolio Holder and the Leisure Portfolio Holder be appointed to a joint local authorities Members' Steering Group to oversee the work of the technical officers' group. In the event of a deputy being required, in the first instance, another member of the Cabinet should attend, or failing that, the Leader of the Opposition be asked to nominate a deputy to attend;”

1.2 This decision was called in by 2 members of the Panel, which, under the Constitution required that a special meeting of the Economy and Planning Review Panel be called. The stated reason for the call-in was given as follows:-

“To ask the Panel to consider and to advise the Cabinet on the most appropriate representation for the Council on the join local authorities Member Steering Group agreed to by the Cabinet on December 3rd, 2003.”

1.3 The Panel met on 17 December 2003. The Panel's recommendation to Cabinet, together with a brief outline of the key points discussed are set out below.

2. The Panel's Decision

2.1 The Panel were aware that the Joint Members' Steering Group was likely to be dealing with a range of different issues arising during the setting up of the National Park. It was therefore generally felt it would be useful and inclusive to create a pool of specialist members, from which the Council's 3 appropriate councillors would be drawn, depending on the content of each agenda.

2.2 In discussing the formulation of the Pool, it was the Panel's intention that, wherever possible, one member of the Opposition Group should have a regular opportunity to attend when Planning or Leisure issues were on the agenda.

2.3 The Economy and Planning Portfolio Holder pointed out that at least one member should attend all of the meetings, so as to ensure some continuity. The Panel accepted this point and felt this person should be the Economy and Planning Portfolio Holder, though it was accepted that this was a matter for Cabinet.

2.4 It was therefore resolved:-

2.5 That the Cabinet be requested to consider the following:

(i) That the District Council's Member attendance at meetings of the Joint Local Authorities Members' Steering Group be drawn from a pool consisting of the following Members:-

For Planning Issues:-

The Economy And Planning Portfolio Holder
The Chairman of Planning Development Control Committee (PDC)
The Shadow Portfolio Holder for Economy and Planning (or any Opposition Group member of PDC)

For Finance Issues:-

The Leader of the Council
The Finance and Support Portfolio Holder

For Leisure Issues:-

The Leisure Portfolio Holder
The Chairman of Leisure Review Panel or Cllr J Hutchins, given his Leisure background
An Opposition Member from the Leisure Review Panel

- (ii) That one of the above Members (preferably the Economy and Planning Portfolio Holder, but to be selected by Cabinet) should attend all meetings, so as to provide continuity.

3. Reconsideration by Cabinet

- 3.1 After reconsideration, the decision, whether amended or not, may be implemented immediately, and may not be called in for a second time.

4. Recommendation:

- 4.1 That the Cabinet receives the recommendation of the Economy and Planning Review Panel as set out above, and considers whether to review its original decision made on 3 December 2003.

Further Information:

Andy Rogers
Committee Administrator
Telephone: 023 8028 5437
E-mail: andy.rogers@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Published Documents

(cb070104)