

By: Paul Carter, Leader of the Council

Geoff Wild, Director of Law and Governance

To: Selection and Members Services Sub-Committee 13 October 2009

Subject: Invitation to Join SEERA Limited

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: The Committee is invited to agree that Kent County Council should become a Member of SEERA Limited.

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- (1) SEERA Limited was originally set up to manage the finances of the South East Regional Assembly (SEERA) but is now wholly owned by local authorities in the South East and the links with the Assembly were removed when that was dissolved last year. The Company holds reserves which can be used to promote “the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of all who live and work in the South East of England” and is currently the ‘accountable body’ for funding received from the Department of Communities and Local Government to cover the cost of this work.
- (2) SEERA Ltd is holding its Annual General Meeting on 16 October 2009, at which it will be considering revised Articles of Association and applications for membership from local authorities in the South East region. The AGM will also be considering raising the number of SEERA Ltd directors from three to six in order to give wider representation across all tiers of local government in the South East region.
- (3) Under the company’s Articles, directors must be an elected member of a local authority which has joined SEERA Ltd (joining fee £1). The position therefore is that should KCC wish to become a member of SEERA Ltd it must indicate its intentions before the AGM takes place on 16 October 2009. KCC also needs to nominate a member to be its representative on SEERA Ltd.

### **Recommendation**

- (a) that the County Council becomes a member of SEERA Ltd at an annual membership fee of £1,
- (b) the Leader of the County Council be nominated as its representative on SEERA Ltd; and,
- (c) the Director of Law and Governance be authorised on behalf of the County Council to sign the SEERA Ltd application form, which has to be executed as a deed.

NOTE: The South East Region comprises elected members of local authorities at county and district council level from within the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxford, Surrey and West Sussex

*Background documents:*

SEERA Limited Application Form and Articles of Association

**Contact**

Geoff Mills

Democratic Services

01622 694289

e-mail: [geoff.mills@kent.gov.uk](mailto:geoff.mills@kent.gov.uk)