

Broads Authority

26 January 2024

Agenda item number 15

Broadland Futures Initiative Elected Members Forum- appointment of deputy member

Report by Director of Strategic Services

Purpose

The Broadland Futures initiative (BFI) aims to agree a framework for future flood risk management that better considers our changing climate and rising sea level over approximately the next 100 years.

Broads Plan context

A1 - Prepare a long-term integrated flood risk strategy for the Broads, Great Yarmouth and interrelated coastal frontage and maintain current adaptive coastal, tidal and fluvial flood risk management approaches for the area.

Recommended decision

To appoint a deputy member to the BFI Elected Members Forum.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The BFI is a partnership that includes the key statutory bodies: the Environment Agency has lead responsibility and is working with Natural England, county and district councils, Internal Drainage Boards, Broads Authority, National Farmers Union, and voluntary bodies. The Broads Authority also has a key facilitatory role, providing staff support to the Initiative Project Team and governance.
- 1.2. The BFI Elected Members Forum (EMF) comprises one appointed representative from each local authority within the BFI area, to provide a strategic steer, receive advice and recommendations, review progress and reach agreements based on financial, environmental, and technical evidence.
- 1.3. The authorities represented are:
 - North Norfolk District Council
 - Great Yarmouth Borough Council
 - Broadland District Council
 - Norwich City Council
 - East Suffolk Council

- South Norfolk Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Suffolk County Council
- Broads Authority

2. Broads Authority membership

- 2.1. The Broads Authority membership to the EMF was agreed at the July 2023 AGM, and Matthew Shardlow was appointed as the Broads Authority representative for 2023/24. Matthew Shardlow presented an [update report](#) to the Authority at the November meeting. There was no deputy member appointed to the EMF in July 2023.
- 2.2. The BFI EMF terms of reference say that: *“This is a Member-driven Forum and it is expected that Councils will have a member representative at each meeting with an officer in support, if required. Forum members are expected to attend each meeting, supplying a deputy member if not available.”*
- 2.3. At the last EMF meeting on 15 January 2024, it was recommended for all deputy members to attend at least one EMF meeting as an observer, so that they are as prepared as possible if they should cover and attend a future EMF to represent their local authority. Matthew Shardlow was in attendance at that meeting.
- 2.4. The next meetings are the EMF are 22 April (online) and 8 July (face to face).
- 2.5. It is recommended to appoint a Broads Authority deputy member to the EMF until the July AGM on 26 July 2024, where the membership to the EMF (member and deputy member) for 2024/25 will be agreed.

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[Broads Plan](#) strategic objectives: A1