

## **Public Question Time**

### **Question submitted by Mrs Mollie Howes**

What has changed, or what advice has the Chief Executive received since the 2009 Broads Act that says he may not change the name to the Broads National Park? I should make it clear that I was present in the House of Lords when they turned down the application.

### **Questions submitted by Mr Alan Mallett**

1. Will the Chairman confirm that The Chief Executive of the Authority for the time being is answerable to and responsible to the members of The Broads Authority and not the Members who are answerable to The Chief Executive.
2. Will the Chairman confirm that, when future vacancies arise in respect of Secretary of State appointees to The Broads Authority the submission of "desirable skills and experience" supplied to the Secretary of State to assist him in the selection of candidates will be compiled by members and not, as previously, without any form of Member consultation whatsoever.
3. Does the Chairman agree that it is totally improper for The Chief Executive to have a significant say in the appointment of those to whom he is ultimately answerable when the Members themselves have for the past 12 years and more never been consulted?
4. In view of the announcement last week that The Authority is seeking to effectively re-name itself and re-brand itself as The Broads National Park in direct conflict with Chapter I para 1 and Clause 1 (1) and 1(2) of the 2009 Broads Authority Act, which clearly state that the title of The Broads Authority is just that, and mindful of the very clear comments of the then Secretary of State that full National Park status and use of the description National Park without any form of qualification or limitation would not be permitted, and that The Broads Authority was only permitted to style itself as "A Member of The National Parks Family" will the Chief Executive and those Members of The Broads Authority who vote in favour of the proposed renaming and rebranding enter into a Joint and Several Indemnity to protect the Authority's funds, be they National Park or Navigation purposes, and re-imburse to the Authority any sums by way of legal costs or penalties which may arise in consequence of the breach of the provisions of the 1988 and 2009 Acts and consequent misrepresentation of the Authority's true status?

### **Questions submitted by Mr Peter Waller**

Following the recent Eastern Daily Press coverage on the branding of the Broads, it concerns me greatly that officers appear to be setting and driving Authority policy ahead of a Broads Authority decision.

1. My first question is does the Broads Authority support & encourage officers in making and driving policy ahead of Broads Authority decisions?

It also concerns me that the Broads is not and cannot be a national park under existing legislation therefore to call it one is a misleading statement. To encourage commercial concerns to misrepresent this point for commercial gain is, in my opinion, disgraceful.

2. My second question is does the Authority intend to encourage such misrepresentation by its officers and the Authority itself?

The Broads is The Broads, that is a fact. The Broads is not a national park, that also is a fact. Both these facts should be accepted by officers in particular and the Authority in general. Neither should be encouraged to make misleading statements.

The Authority's response will be reported at the meeting and read out by the Chairman.