



Annual General Meeting

Minutes
20th June 2024

Version & Date	Comments
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**Minutes of the Authority Annual General Meeting
Exeter 20th June 2024**

Present:

Chair: Prof. Mike Williams

Vice Chair: Dr Pamela Buchan

Councillors: Phil Twiss (Devon County Council), Ron Peart (Devon County Council), Tony Williams (South Gloucestershire Council), Alistair Dewhirst (Devon County Council), Alan Preest (Gloucestershire County Council), Stuart Hughes (Devon County Council)

General/ Statutory Members: Dr Emma Bean, Felicity Sylvester, Wayne Thomas, Simon Toms (Environment Agency), Simon Thomas, Charlie Ziemann, Didi Alayli, Jasmine Rix (Natural England)

Officers: Jessica Maunder (Devon County Council Finance), Simon Excel (Gloucestershire County Council)

D&S IFCA Officers: Sarah Clark (Deputy Chief Officer – DCO), Mat Mander (Chief Officer – CO), Olga Pepper (Finance & Administration Manager – F&AM), Neil Townsend (Principal Policy Officer – PPO)

Presenting: Natasha Bradshaw

Public: No members of Public present.

Observing the meeting: Stephanie Shillitoe (Natural England)

Welcome

The Chair formally welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

Action Items:

1. Election of the Chair

Current Chair handed over this Agenda Item to CO Mander who invited the Members to put forward their nominations, in accordance with the Standing Orders. Cllr Hughes wished to nominate Prof. Mike Williams – the current Chair - upon the condition that Prof. Williams agrees to remain the Chair of the Authority. Cllr Dewhirst seconded the nomination. Prof. Mike Williams accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations.

That Prof. Mike Williams is elected as the Chair of the Authority

Proposed: Cllr Hughes Seconded: Cllr Dewhirst

In favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

2. Election of the Vice Chair

The Members were invited to put forward their nominations for the Vice Chair, in accordance with the Standing Orders. Dr Emma Bean nominated Dr Pamela Buchan – the current Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Dr Pamela Buchan accepted the nomination.

The Chair thanked Dr Pamela Buchan, as the Vice Chair of the Authority and Dr Emma Bean, as the Chair of the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC), as well as the D&S IFCA officers for their support and efforts on behalf of the Authority.

3. Apologies for absence

F&AM Pepper stated the following apologies had been received:

Jon Dornom, Dave Saunders, Tom Birbeck, David Morgan, Simon Bunn, Mark Day, Cllr McCarty, Cllr Waite, Neil Smith, Peter Lappin, Jessica Bishop.

4. Declarations of Interest

The Chair invited all to bring forward any declarations of interest. There were none. Members were reminded to review their declarations regularly. New Members were reminded to submit their declarations.

5. To consider and approve the Draft Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 21st March 2024

The draft minutes from 21st March 2024 were examined page by page. No corrections were suggested.

That the minutes from the Authority Meeting held on 21st March 2024 are a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Twiss Seconded: Cllr Peart

In favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

6. Matters Requiring Urgent Attention

The Chair wished to discuss an issue regarding the Authority's operations in terms of staffing. An Enforcement Officer had recently handed his notice due to career reasons. CO Mander set out the circumstances regarding D&S IFCA's staffing level and options for recruitment. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June 2023, the Members were informed that two officers had resigned. Taking into consideration the Authority's financial position at the time, it had been agreed to introduce a recruitment freeze. It was, in CO Mander's opinion, unclear whether the recruitment freeze was to apply only to the roles discussed at the time or any other role into the future. CO Mander presented to the Members two options:

- Option One – for the officers to continue work as usual with the remaining four Enforcement Officers over the summer season (summer months tend to be the busiest in the year) and then present to the Authority a report during the main Authority meeting in September this year, as part of the Enforcement Operational Strategy Report. CO Mander said that the Members could then decide how to proceed based on the information in the paper which will outline the advantages and disadvantages of filling the vacancy.
- Option Two – the Members could make the decision about filling the Enforcement vacancy now. The Authority operated with four officers until 2022 and six officers up until now following the Authority's decision for the increase.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and comments.

In Simon Thomas' opinion, it was important to fill the role as soon as possible, if it was financially possible, considering the large geographical area that the Authority covers and that the funding was currently in place for this position. Simon Excel advised that the recruitment freeze related only to the two posts discussed back in 2023. In Simon Excel's recollection, the decision was to freeze recruitment on the two posts specifically and that future posts should be discussed independently. Felicity Sylvester was interested to find out how much notice the Authority's officers had to give. CO Mander advised it is one month in case of the Enforcement Officers. Felicity Sylvester was supportive of replacing the Enforcement Officer with immediate effect. Emma Been agreed with Felicity Sylvester - due to the busy summer period together with the requirement to have three or four officers to operate the Authority's enforcement vessel. Cllr Twiss was also supportive of the immediate replacement as the relevant salary cost has been budgeted for the current year but advised that it would be beneficial to see the officers' report on the enforcement's operations in the September Authority meeting. Wayne Thomas agreed that recruitment should commence as soon as possible taking into consideration that it may take a long time to recruit and train a new officer. CO Mander summed up the Members' support to fill the role, as well as reiterating the fact that the cost of the post had been included in the running budget for year 2024/25.

Emma Bean wished to explore a possibility of extending the notice period for the enforcement officers to three months to decrease the period when the post is unfilled. CO Mander understood this point but explained that, taking into consideration the nature of the work it is suitable to keep the one month notice period. Emma Bean wished to add this aspect of recruitment to the report for the September's meeting. The Chair felt that there was support in the room for the immediate replacement of the enforcement officer.

Cllr Twiss proposed

That the Authority Members made the decision to, considering the circumstances, immediately start recruitment process to replace the Enforcement Officer who recently resigned

Proposed: Cllr Twiss Seconded: Cllr Peart

In Favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

7. Questions from the Public

The Chair briefly consulted with CO Mander, and it was established that there were no questions from the Public.

8. Terms of Reference for the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee

CO Mander introduced this Agenda Item. The Authority must review and approve the Terms of Reference for the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC) annually. There were no amendments suggested by the officers on this occasion. CO Mander encouraged the Members to approve the Terms of Reference as read unless there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

That the Terms of Reference for the B&PSC, as set out in the officers' paper, are agreed by the Authority.

Proposed: Cllr Peart Seconded: Wayne Thomas

In favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

9. Appointment of the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee

The Chair wished to clarify that there had been a change in the Elected Member representing Torbay Council. CO Mander advised that the current Elected Member for Torbay, Cllr Amil, had been in touch and gave an indication that following the recent election there was an intention to reappoint members to Outside Bodies which was likely to result in Cllr Amil being replaced as the Elected Member on the Authority.

CO Mander explained the role of the B&PSC and reminded the Members that all were welcome to join the Sub-Committee at any time. Any already existing members can, at whatever time, request to be removed. The Chair wished to invite any Elected Members to consider joining the Sub-Committee which has in past been described as the engine room of the Authority. Pamela Buchan suggested that the invitation should be extended to the Members not present at the meeting. The Chair made a point of thanking all Members of the B&PSC and praised the work of the B&PSC as the engine house of D&S IFCA.

That all existing Members of the B&PSC stand for a further twelve months and should therefore be re-appointed en bloc.

Proposed: Cllr Dewhirst Seconded: Felicity Sylvester

In favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

10. Appointment of the Governance Working Group (GWG) Chair and Vice Chair

CO Mander introduced this Agenda Item. The role of the Governance Working Group (GWG) is to support the work of the Authority and its officers by undertaking a range of broad tasks as set out in its Terms of Reference. Last year, the GWG was involved in assisting the officers in considering the result of the Job Evaluation exercise and ongoing and future workstreams include the reviews of the Communication Strategy and the Enforcement Compliance Strategy.

The Authority should appoint a Chair and Vice Chair of the GWG annually. The post of the Vice Chair is currently not filled. It is important that both Chair and Vice Chair roles are filled. PPO Townsend highlighted that the officers' paper incorrectly stated that the position of Vice Chair of the GWG could not be the Chair of the Authority. The Chair opened the floor to questions and comments.

Pamela Buchan, the current Chair of the GWG, reminded the Members of the character of the group – informal, interesting and flexible, with the GWG dealing with a wide range of topics. Pamela Buchan highlighted the need for a Vice Chair post to be filled to help share the workload. Cllr Peart wished to nominate Cllr Dewhirst to become the Vice Chair of the GWG. Cllr Dewhirst stated that regrettably he did not, at this time, have the available time to commit capacity to fulfil this to the role but he would be in attendance when any GWG meetings take place. Cllr Twiss reported that he was in a similar position, with his current workload not allowing him to take on any more responsibilities within the Authority. DCO Clark reminded the Members that the GWG meetings take place remotely. Pamela Buchan suggested that Members not present in today's meeting should be also invited to join the group. No Members came forward to join the GWG or to put their names forward as a Vice Chair.

That Authority appoints Dr Pamela Buchan as Chair of the Governance Working Group

Proposed: Cllr Dewhirst

Seconded: Cllr Peart

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

11. To approve the Outturn Statement of Accounts Report for 2023/2024

The Chair updated the Members regarding the recent communications from Defra, in reference to the Authority's funding structure review. Due to the pre-Election period, there would be no development until July 2024 when General Election will take place. The Chair confirmed to members that he will resume requesting Defra officials to provide further updates as soon as possible and will share any news with the Authority. The Chair opened the floor to questions and comments. Cllr Preest reported that, as an Elected Member representing Gloucestershire County Council, he welcomed the opportunity to engage with Defra as part of the consultation conducted during winter 2023 but found the process meaningless. In Cllr Preest's opinion, matters had not progressed since the meeting in 2022 when the D&S IFCA's funding Authorities met to discuss funding options and Defra attended as an observer. With no further questions or comments, Jessica Maunder from Devon County Council Finance Team introduced the officers' paper.

The final variance position for 2023/2024 outturn is a favourable £66,732. The main variances attributing to this favourable position we listed as

- £20,000 EMFF grant. The Authority has determined the risk of having to return the grant is low and therefore is shown as a credit in 2023/2024. The MMO EMFF manager has indicated it is unlikely the grant will need to be returned, along with the fact the grant term of 5 years has now passed.
- £20,000 Legal Fees which were an underspend due to there being less court cases than budgeted.
- £20,500 earned in Bank Interest which was higher than budgeted due to favourable base rates.

With the budgeted use of reserves of £2,400, there was a net transfer to General Reserves of £64,332 for year 2023/24 with the final position only possible due to the one-off Defra grant funding of £140,000

(budgeted at £150,000) for the Fisheries Management Plan Programme, MPA work and Marine Spatial Prioritisation Programme.

Jessica welcomed any questions and comments.

Cllr Dewhirst noted £10,000 underspend in the Research Budget and wished to know the reasons. DCO Clark provided a response and explained that the Environment team were not able to complete the underwater video survey work planned for an area off Salcombe using a vessel chartered from Cornwall IFCA, due to unfavourable weather (there being five named storms having occurred since October 2023). Cllr Dewhirst also highlighted that, by nature, the additional funding from Defra is not to last indefinitely which is a concern. CO Mander agreed and pointed out that this funding is presented as a volatile risk. Regarding the amount of the additional funding from Defra being decreased from £150,000 to £140,000 for year 2023/2024, CO Mander was able to confirm that this was the case for all the IFCAs. Pamela Buchan enquired about a possibility to carry any underspent funds to the following year's budget rather than paying it over to the General Reserve at the end of each tax year. Pamela Buchan believed it was reasonable that any funds which have been dedicated to a certain expenditure, should be available to use in the following year. Once paid into General Reserve, the funds may be difficult to retrieve. Jessica Maunder advised that this change to the financial management would have to be suggested by the Authority Members. Emma Bean suggested a creation of an additional account, temporary by nature, which could be used to hold the underspend funds ready to be used within the same expenditure code in the following year. CO Mander noted that the current budget management style allows for a year-on-year clarity and suggested that perhaps at the end of a financial year, a question could be put to the Members to decide whether any underspent funds should be added to the specific budget item for the following year. It was pointed out by Emma Bean and Pamela Buchan that the underspent funds have already been approved by the Authority to be dedicated to the budget item when the budget was approved at the start of any given financial year. CO Mander recommended to hold back any discussion about underspent management until financial year 2025/26 due to the additional Defra funding not being available then and that the true state of the Authority's finances will be easier to appreciate. Pamela Buchan was concerned that whilst General Reserves remained considerably higher than the 25% minimum, Defra was unlikely to acknowledge the urgency of D&S IFCA's financial position.

Cllr Twiss, who is the financial portfolio holder for the Devon County Council noted that an organisation's budget is a working tool, and the outturn report must be issued. He stated that the key to remember is that the outturn is balanced. He reminded the Members that Devon County Council applies ringfence/ grant protection as a method of protecting funds dedicated towards a certain project across financial years. The outturn paper was, in Cllr Twiss' opinion a useful tool.

The Chair suggested that CO Mander and Jessica Maunder discuss the matters further.

CO Mander continued with the explanation of certain aspects of the Outturn report, particularly the favourable variance. The £20,000 which would not need to be repaid by the Authority in reference to the IVMS funding received will simply not be taken out of the General Reserve fund where it was previously accounted for as expenditure. The funds to be received via FASS funding are less than previously estimated. The legal fees will incur smaller underspend than estimated because the invoices arrived late. CO Mander reminded the Members that it was decided in 2015 to annually set aside £10,000 from the General Reserve towards the Capital Replacement Programme. This has not been fulfilled. CO Mander said that, to recognise Members' decision making in June 2023 relating to D&S IFCA's Capital Asset Replacement Strategy, should the Authority need to replace one of its patrol vessels, this would only be possible provided external funding is available. Regarding the level of the Authority's General Reserve and the contributions from the Revenue Budget, CO Mander suggested that several aspects should be considered:

- Devon and Severn IFCA inherited £584,000 as General Reserve from the predecessor organisation, Devon Sea Fisheries, upon its creation in 2011.
- Despite selling several assets, including the patrol vessel (Drumbeat of Devon) and the research vessel (Blackjack), the current level of the Reserves is £593,000 the actual transfer totals at £9,000.
- The additional funding from Defra makes it difficult to have a clear picture of the Authority's financial situation.
- Balancing of the budget with the current level of funding will be challenging.
- The Medium-Term Financial Plan, presented in January 2024, demonstrated that significant amounts of reserves are likely be used from FY 2025/2026, with the potential that usable reserves will be exhausted in 2027/2028.

That members:

1. ***Note the outturn for 2023/24.***
2. ***Acknowledge Accounting Statement Appendix A.***

Proposed: Cllr Williams

Seconded: Cllr Peart

In favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

12. To approve D&S IFCA's Financial Probity and Administrative Regulations

CO Mander introduced this Agenda Item. The Authority must review and approve the D&S IFCA's Financial Probity and Financial and Administrative Regulations annually. Following the Member's decision in the Authority meeting on 25th of January 2024; an amendment was actioned to change the Regulations to remove the requirement to have a minimum balance of £200,000 in the bank as more active treasury management will maximise the interest earned in deposit accounts.

That the Financial Probity and Financial Administrative Regulations are approved with no amendments

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Simon Thomas

In favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

13. To approve D&S IFCA's Standing Orders

CO Mander introduced the Agena Item. Following the Authority meeting on the 21st of March 2024, the agreed change in the Standing Orders formally noted that Members with pecuniary interests in a matter could participate in the discussions but not take part in any vote. Some Elected Members felt that Members declaring a pecuniary interest should not participate in the discussions and should leave the room whilst the matter was discussed by other Members. It was agreed that the Chief Officer should explore the matter

further and engage with Devon County Council's Democratic Services. Following CO Mander's enquiry in this regard, with Karen Strahan from Devon County Council's Democratic Services, it is recommended by the Officer, as per paper that

All Authority Members or Members of a Sub-Committee, who are present at a meeting of the Authority or of the relevant Sub-Committee will be entitled to participate in the debate and vote, unless they have declared a pecuniary interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.

If a Member believes that they have a pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting, they shall contact the Chief Officer before the meeting if they wish to apply for a dispensation to participate in the discussions and to vote.

The Chief Officer will confirm whether a dispensation has been granted and whether the dispensation is limited to only participating in the discussion at the beginning of the Authority meeting.

The above would mean the public can have confidence in the Authority's processes and that these processes are reflected in the Standing Orders. The Clerk shall be the current Chief Officer of the Authority.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and comments.

The Chair recommended that, if approved, a reminder of these processes is included with the agenda and papers sent out prior to the Authority meetings. The Chair highlighted that it is important to be able to draw from the MMO Appointees' expertise during meetings, and it is not beneficial to the Authority's operations to exclude Members from discussions. Emma Bean was supportive of the recommendations, in principle, although according to Emma Bean, the wording of the second paragraph would benefit from an amendment to: "[...] **if they wish to apply for a dispensation to participate in the discussions and to vote or if they wish to apply for a dispensation to participate in the discussions OR to vote**".

CO Mander confirmed that Members are welcome to suggest amendments to the wording of any recommendations and that these suggestions will be taken on board when formulating a proposal.

Emma Bean proposed a recommendation as follows:

All Authority Members or Members of a Sub-Committee, who are present at a meeting of the Authority or of the relevant Sub-Committee will be entitled to participate in the debate and vote, unless they have declared a pecuniary interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.

If a Member believes that they have a pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting, they shall contact the Chief Officer before the meeting if they wish to apply for

- A) A dispensation to participate in the discussions and to vote.**
- B) A dispensation to participate in the discussions or to vote.**

The Chief Officer will confirm whether a dispensation has been granted and whether the dispensation is limited to only participating in the discussion at the beginning of the Authority meeting.

Proposed: Dr Emma Bean Seconded: Dr Pam Buchan

**In favour: 14
Against: 2
Abstain: 0**

Members took a 15-minute comfort break

14. To approve the Sale of D&S IFCA Patrol Vessel

CO Mander introduced this Agenda Item. Details regarding the Authority's fleet were mentioned in the 5 Year Capital Asset Replacement Strategy. FPV Enforcer has been in service for over 20 years. It was recently established that improvements needed to be implemented for the vessel to be able to comply with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's (MCA) coding requirements are going to cost approximately £20,000. Taking into consideration the Authority's current financial situation as well as the fact that FPV Enforcer has not been, in recent years, utilised as often as the Authority's main vessel – David Rowe, the officers' recommendation is to dispose of FPV Enforcer. Rather than replacing the vessel, the officers will turn to other solutions which allow monitoring of the fishing vessels in the District, for example, the use of REM or drones. A question was raised about the price that the vessel would raise to which CO Mander quoted approximately between £12,000 and £15,000 with any funds raised transferred back to the Capital Assets account.

The Chair opened the floor to questions and comments.

Emma Bean was interested to know what the officers' plan was for when FPV David Rowe was to be temporarily unavailable due to, for example, undergoing a service and how easy it was to arrange for a charter vessel. CO Mander set out that in terms of the charter vessels available for the Authority to use, there are two other IFCAs in operation on the Authority's borders (Cornwall IFCA and Southern IFCA). The Authority will be able to charter those IFCA's vessels at a relatively short notice and at attractive prices. Felicity Sylvester agreed to dispose of the vessel but wished to ensure that it was replaced as soon as the circumstances allow so that the Authority can fulfil its obligations in the North of the District. CO Mander explained that majority of the monitoring activities in the North of the District is conducted via use of information obtained through access to Inshore Vessel Monitoring System data. The Chair reminded the Members that it is a common misconception that there must be no fishing activity in the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Fishing activity is allowed as long as the MPA's features are not damaged. DCO Clark highlighted that the officers work closely with representatives of other Bodies, for example Lundy's Warden, and can rely on their reports. Wayne Thomas suggested use of citizen science for reports of any incidents. Those reports could support requests for more funding in terms of Enforcement. CO Mander added that updated incident reporting cards were being prepared and these would be shared with the manager of the Environment Agency's Voluntary Bailiff Scheme to improve information gathering. CO Mander highlighted that the Authority would be able to use the Environment Agency's vessel "Endeavour" although approval of this project has been delayed by Defra. Simon Thomas recommended to confirm the coding arrangements for RIBs with the MCA. CO Mander confirmed that the officers talked to relevant surveyors and are aware of any current regulations as well as any possibility of upcoming changes, for example the need for four people to be able to operate the vessels of the type used by the Authority (for boarding work), rather than three. CO Mander will liaise with the Senior Enforcement Officer Gavin Mayhew in terms of further developments in this respect. With no further questions or comments the Chair presented the Members with to choices

- 1) To consider the sale of the FPV Enforcer today
- 2) To defer the decision until the Authority meeting in September 2024

The members voted

That the Authority agrees to sell D&S IFCA Patrol Vessel 'Enforcer'

Proposed: Cllr Peart

Seconded: Cllr Twiss

In favour: 16
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Cllr Twiss and Cllr Williams left the meeting

15. To note the Health and Safety Audit and internal report

DCO Clark, the Health and Safety Duty Holder, introduced this Agenda Item. The Authority recognises its responsibilities for making appropriate provisions and sufficient funds for the Health and Safety of its employees by conducting its operations in such a manner so as to secure Health and Safety for its employees and to protect members of the public who may be affected. DCO Clark explained that in March 2023 an in-depth Health and Safety Audit was undertaken by an external provider – Peninsula. The Audit Report from the visit in 2023 showed that all aspects of the Health and Safety Management, documentation, policies, and procedures were satisfactory. The Auditors deemed the Health and Safety arrangements “impressive”. An Annual Visit in April 2024 reaffirmed that the Health and Safety policies and procedures of the Authority were all acceptable and in place. The Authority will undergo a six-monthly review of policies and DCO Clark will update policies, procedures and risk assessments as and when required. Aside from the preparation for the audits, DCO Clark ensures that the officers stay aware of any updates to the current policies based on their day-to-day tasks. DCO Clark highlighted, as an example, the recent addition to risk assessments where officers are required to check the capacity of a vessels’ life raft prior to undertaking surveys on-board fishing vessels. There were no questions. Pam Buchan congratulated DCO Clark on the audit result and the Chair gave his appreciation for the work undertaken.

16. To note the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee Report

The Chair introduced this Agenda Item by inviting all Members to consider joining the Byelaw and Permitting Sub-Committee (B&PSC). The Chair thanked Emma Bean for her contribution as the B&PSC’s Chair. The Chair also thanked PPO Townsend for his input in terms of preparation of the officer papers.

CO Mander informed Members that the most recent B&PSC meeting was held on 13th June 2024. The discussions at the June B&PSC meeting had focused on planning for the potential re-making of three permit-based byelaws: Netting Permit Byelaw, Potting Permit Byelaw and Diving Permit Byelaw (for specified species). CO Mander highlighted, that as part of that planning work, the B&PSC Members had discussed the byelaw making strategy and principles. CO Mander informed Members that the Size of Fishing Vessels Byelaw 2022 was confirmed by Defra, with a signed copy received on 7th May 2024. CO Mander explained that the Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw 2022 remained with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) as part of an on-going quality assurance phase.

The Chair informed the Members that in the light of the organisations being brought to prosecution, as seen recently through the Horizon scandal, the Chair was keen to ensure that the Authority’s procedures are sufficiently robust, in line with advice issued by the Law Society. The Chair felt reassured that these procedures are robust. The Chair wished to bring forward to the Authority meeting in September 2024 a paper to review the Authority’s processes in this regard.

There were no further questions or comments.

Agenda Items for information

The Chair suggested a change in the Agenda Items order. Due to the time available Agenda Item 18 will be taken before Agenda Item 17

18 To receive the AIFCA Report

CO Mander reminded the Members that, by nature, Agenda Items classed as “for information” are not to be discussed and no questions would be taken from the Members, although enquiries about the content of any Agenda Items of Information can be put forward to the officers with the possibility of adding any points to the following Authority meeting’s Agenda.

17 To receive a presentation by Natasha Bradshaw focusing on the Severn Estuary

Members watched a presentation prepared by Natasha Bradshaw and were able to provide comments and ask questions afterwards. The Chair thanked Natasha Bradshaw for attending and presenting, the presentation generating much interest with members.

19 Date of the next meeting – 19th September 2024

End.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr Williams.", is positioned to the right of the word "End.".