

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Council Meeting – 14 December 2010

### Councillor John Williams

#### New Executive Arrangements

A report was considered at the last meeting of Full Council concerning the provisions in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 regarding new Executive arrangements for Local Government.

This Act requires every Local Authority to reconsider its existing Executive arrangements and adopt one of only two specific Executive models.

Local Authorities are also required to pass a resolution by 31 December 2010 upon which one of the two Executive models will take effect three days after the next Local Government Elections on the 5 May 2011.

Taunton Deane currently operates an “old-style” Leader and Cabinet Executive which was one of three Executive models outlined in the Local Government Act 2000.

The 2007 Act now allows for only two Executive models:-

- Mayor and Cabinet, or
- Leader and Cabinet (the ‘Strong Leader’ model).

The ‘new’ Leader and Cabinet arrangements provide the closest match with the arrangements that the Council currently operates and would provide for an Executive consisting of:-

- a Leader elected by the Council; and
- two or more Councillors (with a maximum of nine) appointed to the Executive by the Leader.

Full Council has previously indicated that it would prefer to implement the Strong Leader and Cabinet model as the model that should be implemented. However, before taking a formal decision on this matter, a consultation exercise was required to be undertaken. The key dates of the process are set out in the table below:-

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
5 October 2010	Approval for procedure and consultation process
4 week consultation period	18 October – 19 November 2010
1 December 2010	Report to Executive with results of consultation process and recommendations on the two

	options
14 December 2010	Full Council resolution to adopt new arrangements
5 May 2011	Borough Council elections
9 May 2011	New Executive arrangements to take effect.

The consultation has now taken place which resulted in just one letter being received which supported the Strong Leader model.

At its meeting on 1 December 2010, the Executive decided to recommend the adoption of this model.

In the circumstances, it is **recommended** that:-

- (1) the Strong Leader and Cabinet model be adopted; and
- (2) the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution be approved.