



## **Corporate Governance Committee – 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

### **REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000**

#### **Report of LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER**

(This matter is the responsibility of Councillor Ross Henley, Leader of the Council)

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To note the new list of Authorising Officers in respect of RIPA.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 On the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010 a range of statutory instruments come into force and the rank of authorising officer was given further clarification in terms of the level of officer who are permitted to grant authorisations under RIPA.
- 2.2 These regulations stipulate that only the Chief Executive, Director, Head of Service or service manager or their equivalent are permitted to grant authorisations under this legislation.
- 2.3 Therefore following the Core Council Review the levels of posts were reviewed in order to ensure that the Council's policy complies with these regulations and to take into account those officers who had left the Council. Therefore attached at Appendix 1 is a list of those officers who will be the authorising officers for this Authority.

#### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 To note the new list of authorising officers in respect of RIPA.

For further information please contact Tonya Meers, Legal & Democratic Services Manager on 01823 356391 or [t.meers@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:t.meers@tauntondeane.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX 1

### List of Authorised Officer Posts

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY: KEVIN TOLLER, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR  
MONITORING OFFICER: TONYA MEERS, SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL  
LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES  
MANAGER

Authorising Officer's Name	Designation
Penny James	Chief Executive
Kevin Toller	Director
James Barrah	Theme Manager (Head of Service)
Tim Burton	Theme Manager (Head of Service)
Chris Gunn	Group Auditor (Head of Service)
Heather Tiso	Revenues and Benefits Manager (Service Manager)

### IMPORTANT NOTES

- A. Even if a post is identified in the above list the persons currently employed in such posts are not authorised to sign RIPA forms (including a renewal or cancellation) unless s/he has been certified by the Legal and Democratic Services Manager to do so by the issue of a Certificate of RIPA Eligibility.
- B. Only the Chief Executive and the Legal and Democratic Services Manager (Tonya Meers as of March 2009) are authorised to sign forms relating to Juvenile Sources and Vulnerable Individuals (see paragraph G of this document).
- C. Particular care should be taken in cases where the subject of the investigation or operation might reasonably expect a high degree of privacy, or where confidential information is involved. Confidential information consists of matters subject to legal privilege, confidential personal information or confidential journalistic material. In cases where through the use of surveillance it is likely that knowledge of confidential information will be acquired, the use of surveillance is subject to a higher level of authorization; such authorisations will only be given by the CEO or by Kevin Toller.
- D. If in doubt, ask the Legal and Democratic Services Manager before any directed surveillance and/or CHIS is authorised, renewed, rejected or cancelled.