

Committee:	Standards Committee	Agenda Item No.:	8.
Date:	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	Category	
Subject:	RIPA – Authorising Officers	Status	Open
Report by:	Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer		
Other Officers involved:	N/A		
Director	N/A		

#### **RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS**

COMMUNITY SAFETY – Ensuring that communities are safe and secure

CUSTOMER FOCUSED SERVICES – Providing excellent customer focused services

ENVIRONMENT – Promoting and enhancing a clean and sustainable environment

By ensuring that covert surveillance (which is part of the enforcement process) is properly authorised in accordance with the legislative requirements.

#### **TARGETS**

N/A

#### **VALUE FOR MONEY**

N/A

#### **THE REPORT**

Attached is a copy of the press release showing the new Strategic Alliance Joint Directors.

There will be a large number of changes required as a result of this stage of the Strategic Alliance having been reached. For example a future report will have to deal with revision of the Council's Delegation Scheme and this will have to be done in conjunction with North East Derbyshire District Council.

In relation to RIPA, the Authorising Officers are the Directors. Accordingly the two new Directors need to be added to the list of Authorising Officers. The remaining two Directors need adjustment to their titles.

The two new Directors will need training prior to acting as Authorising Officers. This will be done in house, as necessary. Members are reminded that the Government intends to require local authorities to seek the approval of a magistrate rather than being able to have an internal approval system as now. This change is not in place yet.

### **ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

It is for Standards Committee to decide this under their terms of reference. The Regulation of Investigatory Powers is the Act which requires Covert Surveillance to be properly authorised before it's undertaken.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

Financial : None

Legal: The Council needs to have in place properly authorised Officers to consider RIPA applications in accordance with the legislation.

Human Resources : None

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 1) That the following become Authorising Officers under the Council's RIPA procedure.

**Paul Hackett**, Joint Director of Health and Wellbeing.

**Kevin Hopkinson**, Joint Director of Development.

**Bryan Mason**, Joint Director of Corporate Services.

**Stuart Tomlinson**, Joint Director of Neighbourhoods.

- 2) That suitable training is given in due course.

ATTACHMENT: **Y – press release**

FILE REFERENCE: ***none***

SOURCE DOCUMENT: ***press release***